

## **MAGNETIC DISK STACK HAVING LASER-BUMP IDENTIFIERS ON MAGNETIC DISKS**

### **ABSTRACT**

A magnetic disk with nonmagnetic information encoded is described along with the disk drive. The information may be stored as laser-written marks upon the surface(s) of each disk. The marks may be a series of laser bumps which serve as a landing zone for the slider and as encoded identifying information. During the manufacturing process for disk drives containing disks, each disk's identifier can be read using outboard equipment such as an HRF tester or by means contained in the drive itself. Each disk identifier can then be stored magnetically in a special region of the hard disk reserved for use by the drive and/or within the flash memory of the hard drive. The drive can then communicate the identifier(s) to a host computer using the conventional communication hardware and firmware. Thus information such as the origin, batch number etc. of any disk can be obtained when needed.

