



27 NOV 2002

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RETRIEVAL OF SERPENTINE PATTERN DATA USING A MEMORY DEVICE OF A TAPE CARTRIDGE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a data storage system for use with a tape cartridge (32, 50) storing data in a serpentine pattern on tape media, and having a memory device (35) for storing a device block map for the tape media. A tape drive (70, 100), or a loading mechanism, first positions the tape cartridge (32, 50) at memory interface (60) for transferring the device block map from the memory device (35) to a processor (90), and subsequently positions the tape media for reading and/or writing. The processor (90) processes the device block map from the memory device (35) for optimal retrieval of the serpentine pattern data of the tape media. The processing of the device block map occurs while the tape media is positioned for reading and/or writing, so that the processor (90) begins the retrieval reading process immediately upon the positioning of the tape media.

FIG 5A

