

ABSTRACT

PERPENDICULAR MAGNETIC HEAD HAVING THERMALLY ASSISTED RECORDING ELEMENT, AND METHOD OF FABRICATION THEREOF

5 A perpendicular magnetic head including a media heating element that is fabricated
within the magnetic head structure. The heating element is preferably fabricated above the first
magnetic pole layer close to the ABS surface of the head. In one embodiment, following the
fabrication of the heating element, a second magnetic pole probe layer that includes the second
magnetic pole tip is fabricated. In an alternative head embodiment, a second magnetic pole
10 shaping layer is fabricated upon the heating element, followed by the fabrication of the probe
layer that includes the second magnetic pole tip. The heating element is an electrically resistive
heating element that is preferably comprised of NiCr or NiFe.