

AbstractRemovable Disk Drive System

A disk drive system includes a disk drive and a removable cartridge. The
5 cartridge defines a first enclosed volume containing one or more disks, and
the disk drive defines a second enclosed volume. When it is desired to
perform a read/write operation on one of the disks, the enclosed volumes are
brought into communication with an enclosed chamber to form a joint
enclosed volume, within which the read/write operation is performed. Prior to
10 the read/write operation, the disk is removed from the cartridge to a location in
the disk drive where the read/write operation occurs. After the read/write
operation is complete, the disk is returned to the cartridge. The joint enclosed
volume is maintained at positive pressure.

[Fig. 1]