

HEAD-DISC ASSEMBLY WITH EMBEDDED PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION CODE

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 An apparatus and method for writing a product information code (PIC) to a head-disc assembly (HDA) of a disc drive data handling system to facilitate subsequent identification of the HDA. The PIC is configured as a sequence of n multi-bit encoded words. Servo data are written to a disc of the HDA as a number of p angularly spaced apart servo data fields, the servo data used by a servo control circuit to effect head
10 positional control. The n encoded words are distributed across a subset n of the p servo data fields so that the n encoded words replace at least a portion of the servo data in the n servo data fields. Preferably, the n encoded words are written to Gray code (track address) fields of the n servo data fields and are provided with error detection and correction capabilities.

FIG. 1