

A METHOD FOR CONTROLLING TAPE TRANSPORT VELOCITY**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A changing rate of the ratio of the respective winding radii of the magnetic tape wound around the supply reel and the take-up reel at the same time is detected. When the changing rate exceeds a predetermined value, it is determined that the magnetic tape is short. Then, the transport speed is reduced to a speed which permits the tape to be stopped quickly.

Figure 2