

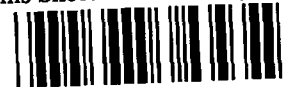
DISK DRIVE ENCLOSURE OPTIMIZED FOR MIXED SLIM AND HALF HIGH DRIVE SIZES

ABSTRACT

An enclosure (301) for disk drives into which mixed drive sizes, both "slim" and "half high", can be inserted in almost any order. The preferred enclosure (301) includes at least thirteen equi-spaced pairs of guide rails, wherein each pair of rails includes one rail (308) on one side panel (302) of the enclosure (301), and the other rail of the other side panel (303) of the enclosure (301). Each pair of guide rails defines a boundary of a "slot", such that twelve slots are defined between thirteen pairs of guide rails. Groups of slots are defined, wherein each group includes six contiguous slots. For each group of six slots, four connectors (307) are included on a back panel (304) of the enclosure (301). A removable back panel "shuttle" (304) is included, which can be replaced with a different shuttle to easily and inexpensively convert the enclosure (301) to receive a different type of disk drive.

FIG 3

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



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REPLACED