



TECHNICAL REPORT

Overview of Universal Archival Disk Format (UADF)

INTERNATIONAL
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INTRODUCTION

To date, many kinds of storage media and storage devices for digital data storage have been used. For example, flexible disks, optical disks, magnetic tape cartridges, secure digital (SD) cards, flash drives, hard disk drives (HDD), solid-state drives (SSD). Each of them has different characteristics in terms of volatility, mutability, accessibility, and addressability, where different management methods for recorded data files and different systemization technologies are applied. However, it is not easy to manipulate the characteristics properly, especially in personal, home and small office environments. As a result, many files recorded on storage media in the past cannot be recovered due to media age, digital rights management (DRM), compatibility between PC and drive interfaces, drives and media, operation systems (OS) and file systems, applications and file formats, and so on, making storage media unusable. This situation will continue for future generations.

This document describes the significant perspectives to solve the problems of file system compatibility and also the age of the media and DRM by specifying a volume and file structure for interchanging files in a data archive system capable of preserving data for the long term.

OVERVIEW OF UNIVERSAL ARCHIVE DISK FORMAT (UADF)

1 Scope

This document describes a universal volume and file format for interchanging files on archive storages in personal computing and home entertainment environments.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.