

4. Format the drive

The drive has been *low level* formatted at the factory. You do not need to perform another low level format on this drive unless you decide to perform certain diagnostics through the host adapter. If you do decide to perform a low level format, do not abort the format as this is likely to make the drive inoperable. A low level format, with verify turned on, will typically take four hours.

Protect against power failure or other power interruptions during the format.

- a. Turn on DC power to the host system.
- b. Boot the system from a system floppy, CD, or from a previously installed hard disc drive if there is one.
- c. Format the drive.

Caution. Formatting a drive erases all user data. Be sure that you understand this principle before formatting any hard disc drive. It is not necessary to format a drive that previously has been used to store data, unless your intention is to erase all user data. Seagate is not responsible for lost user data.

Cheetah disc drives are designed to operate with a variety of operating systems. Please refer to your system or Fibre Channel host adapter (controller) manual for information about formatting and setting up the drive for use with your particular operating system.

Hot plugging the drive

This drive features hot plugging capabilities which allows you to insert and remove the drive without powering down the host system. Any time a drive is inserted or removed from a Fibre Channel loop, a short loop interruption occurs and the loop resynchronizes automatically to accommodate the added (or removed) drive.

Drive startup options

The drive's motor will start spinning the discs based on the status of two signals set by the host adapter. These two signals are called Start_1 and Start_2. There are four options as described below.

Option Start_2 Start_1 Motor spin function

- 1 Low Low Motor spins up at DC power on.
- 2 High Low Motor spins up when the host adapter sends the SCSI Start command.
- 3 Low High Motor spins up after a delay of 12 seconds times the physical address of the drive.
- 4 High High The drive will not spin up.

Most systems that host only a couple of drives use option 1 to enable all of the drives to start up immediately when power is applied to the drives. Systems hosting larger numbers of drives may be configured to start drives at various times to avoid overloading the capabilities of the host system's power supply.

If you want to change the startup option for the drive, please refer to the documentation provided with your Fibre Channel host adapter or host system.

Troubleshooting

- **Drive does not spin up.** Remove and then reinsert the drive into the drive bay on the host-supplied carrier or tray. Make sure the drive makes firm contact with the host's FC backpanel connector.
- **Computer does not seem to recognize the drive.** Verify that the drive is enabled by the FC host adapter setup utility.

Seagate support services

For online information about Seagate products, visit www.seagate.com or e-mail your disc questions to DiscSupport@Seagate.com

If you need help installing your drive, consult your dealer first. If you need additional help, call a Seagate technical support specialist. Before calling, note your system configuration and drive model number (*ST173404FC/FCV*).

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Warranty. Contact your place of purchase or our web site (above).

Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA). Before returning the drive, verify that it is defective. Seagate Worldwide customer service centers are the only facilities authorized to service Seagate drives. Contact nearest center for return procedures and trade regulations.

Shipping the drive

Caution. Back up the data before shipping. Seagate assumes no responsibility for data lost during shipping or service. Shipping drive in an unapproved container voids the warranty. Pack the drive with original box and packing materials. Use no other materials. This prevents electrical and physical damage in transit.

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