

Full-function 9-track in a brief-case

It may sound impossible, but M4's 9906 range of auto-loading 9-track tape drives, designed for data interchange and backup in an office environment, are of much the same size as a briefcase. At last, the 9-track tape drive matches the shrinking physical size of computers.

The 9906 is now the smallest auto-loading, self-threading, full-function, 9-track drive that you can get. It occupies only one third of the volume and around three-quarters of the width of a traditional drive, so it can be conveniently set next to PCs and workstations, and on top of desk-side computers, with minimal intrusion. With its versatile and powerful software, the 9906 gives you the complete solution in a small but effective package.

Built to satisfy the most discerning

Despite its small size, there has been no compromise in the standard of its design and construction. The 9906 reads and writes all reel sizes and all lengths of tape at speeds of up to 100 ips. It has been engineered to meet the stringent OEM requirements of the leading multi-national computer makers, but at an affordable price. Rest assured that the 9906 will run, and keep on running, even when the going gets tough.

Simple to use

The 9906 really is very user friendly. The operator simply slips a tape spool into a front-panel slot and the machine loads itself automatically. As pioneered by M4, and as now universally expected by discerning users, the 9906 also has an alpha-numeric front-panel display to guide the operator, indicate drive status and to provide an extensive diagnostic capability. For additional reassurance the spool is always visible through the front window.

Data transfer rate performance

Tape speed is up to 100 ips, and at 6250 bpi that's 37.5 MB/mm. - reducing the length of time taken to write or recover data on all but the slowest of host computers. Yet M4 Data, once again taking a no-compromise route, still offers reposition times comparable to those of larger, more expensive drives, and

the option of buffered or non-buffered interfaces allows the 9906 to be configured to your exact needs. The high-performance SCSI and Pertec interfaces have been well proven on M4s earlier systems and remain compatible with most existing tape drives.

A tape path that cossets your tapes

You can rely on the 9906 to give years of accurate tape handling, even in a typical knock-about office environment.

The tape path assembly is mounted on a *super-stable precision aluminium casting*, with four tape guidance elements that gently funnel the tape onto the head stack with minimum stress. All guidance elements are made from precision, polished ceramics and metals, and none touch the delicate recording surface of your tapes. All elements work in harmony to ensure positive tape-to-head alignment, minimal skew and long life.

Unlike some other suppliers, M4 ensures a consistent 9 oz. tape tension, to guarantee the degree of head-to-tape contact needed to write tapes thoroughly and to read them after long storage.

Connectivity

The 9906 connects to IBM RS/6000, AS/400, PCs, Sun, HP, DEC, CL, Unisys, Silicon Graphics and Motorola, as well as to many other hosts, via the industry interface standard (Pertec! Cipher) or SCSI (1 or 2) interface.

Contact your supplier for further details.

Software

Easily installed software handles a wide range of tasks, including:
IBM/ANSI data interchange, file conversion, record select/reject
Tape copy and duplicate
Disk backup and restore
Long block seismic data handling Unix tar - MSDOS file conversion
 Plus many specialist application options.

Full warranty & support

M4 provides first-class field support through a standard two-year warranty and a world-wide network of factory-trained service specialists.

Technical summary

Format/Speeds

9906-5 6250 bpi GCR & 1600 bpi PE at 100 ips.
 9906-2 1600 bpi at 100 ips & 3200 bpi at 50 ips.

All formats are ANSI/ECMA compatible and are front panel or host-selectable.

Tape size

6.0, 7.0, 8.5 or 10.5 in. (including 1.0 mil).

Interface

Cipher/Pertec

With optional 1 MB cache and upto 1.2 MB/s data rate.

Standard SCSI

2.5 MB/s synchronous; 2 MB/s asynchronous.
 Single-ended or differential, 512 K buffer.
 Full arbitration, disconnect/reconnect.
 Command set includes copy, write/read buffer, send/receive diagnostics.

Super SCSI (SCSI-2)

As Standard SCSI but with up to 2 MB buffer.
 FAST SCSI implementation:
 10 MB/s synchronous
 7 MB/s asynchronous.

Block size

No restriction.

MTBF

> 25,000 hours

MTTR

. <20 minutes

Power

100/1 20 V, 220/240 V ac.
 -15 ±10%, 48-62 Hz, 200 VA (50 VA standby)
 48 V d.c. (optional).

Dimensions

H134 mm x W326 mm x D552 mm (5.25 in. x 12.8 in. x 21.7 in.).

Weight

28 kg (62 lb).

Configuration

Desktop, with optional 19 in.

**M4 Data
 A World Leader
 In Tape Technology**

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