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Hard Drives: Reformatting a Degaussed (Demagnetized) Drive

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TOPIC -----

I have three Apple HD40 SC hard drives that were degaussed to remove all traces of information. I've tried to reformat them using both HD SC Setup and a third-party formatter, but neither program will access these drives.

DISCUSSION -----

By degaussing (demagnetizing) these drives, you erased the Defect Map (vendor map) and Servo Tracks. There is no facility to regenerate these features in the field. To guarantee the integrity of the drives, they must be returned to the manufacturer to be re-written and tested.

The software and/or procedure to regenerate these drives is proprietary to the vendor. Even if the manufacturer provided this capability to the field, Apple Service and Engineering would not recommend this because the quality of the drives would be suspect.

To obtain the highest quality, the drives must be recycled through the entire manufacturing process.

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