OPERATOR INTERFACE PRODUCTS APPLICATION NOTE

Subject: 4100 - SSD   AN# 1014A
Date: 7/16/96
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Page: 1 of 2

Description: Formatting a 4100 - SSD as a bootable C: drive.

IMPORTANT: Before attempting any of these procedures, it is a good idea to have a back up of your hard drive(s) and any of the hard drive settings in the CMOS setup menu(s).

You will need a DOS bootable diskette with the programs FDISK and FORMAT copied onto it. See your DOS manual for info. on how to make a bootable disk or copying files.
Set up the 4100 - SSD jumpers and switches according to the manual. Jumper J25 must be in the A position.
Install the SSD into a 16 bit ISA slot, taking care to observe static protection. Disconnect your current hard drives, by removing the data/control cable from the hard drive controller.

Turn the computer on, during boot you should see a reference to Xycom Solid State Disk BIOS version 1.3 or greater. Enter your computer's CMOS setup menus (most Xycom computers this is done by holding CTRL-ALT-S all at the same time). Write down your hard drive settings. Change the hard drive settings to NONE or OFF and save this setup. Install the DOS bootable diskette into drive A: and reboot your computer. You will be asked for the Date and Time (because, no Autoexec is present you ar prompted), just hit enter.

Remove the bootable disk and insert the 4100 -SSD utility diskette into the A:. Type SSDUTIL to run the utility. A menu will appear, choose the first choice - Initialize Solid State Disk by typing ENTER. It will ask if you really want to do this, type Y, for yes. After a few seconds, you should see a message that states the SSD has been initialized. Hit ESC to clear message. Optionally perform a battery test and Non-Destructive RAM test. It is a good idea to test these, as they test functionality of the board that may be used later. Exit the Utility. Replace the DOS boot disk in place of the 4100-SSD utilities disk.

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From the A:\> prompt, type FDISK. Choose 1. Create DOS partition or Logical DOS drive. Then choose 1. Create Primary DOS Partition. It will prompt you if you want to create the partition as large as possible, answer (Y)es to this question. When done, FDISK will prompt you to restart the computer by typing ENTER, make sure the bootable floppy diskette is still in drive A: then hit the ENTER key.

After the system reboots, at the A:\> prompt type: FORMAT C: /S. This will prompt you that it will destroy all data on the drive, accept this by typing Y. When the format is done you may type in a label, this is optional, but you may want to type in something that lets you distinguish the SSD from another drive.

Now you should be able to remove the floppy, reboot the system and have it boot from the SSD. If you want to boot from the SSD but make your other hard drive the D: drive, change the setup from NONE or OFF back to the type that was previously selected, power the system off, reconnect the cable, and power the unit back on. Now the SSD should function as C: and the real hard drive should function as D:. If you want to swap these around, move jumper J25 to the B position.