



# TECHNICAL MANUAL



**Operating and Maintenance  
Instructions  
for**

**DATAGONE  
HARD DRIVE DEGAUSSER**

ZZ001203 / ZZ001204

**VS SECURITY PRODUCTS LTD**

**DATAGONE**  
Hard drive degausser

**OPERATING MANUAL**

PRODUCTION STANDARD

ZZ001203 – 230V 50Hz  
ZZ001204 – 110V 60Hz



**WARNING**

TO AVOID ELECTRIC SHOCK HAZARDS, THE COVER SHOULD ONLY BE REMOVED BY AUTHORISED PERSONNEL

**CAUTION**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT MAGNETIC STORAGE MEDIA IS KEPT AT LEAST 1 METRES FROM THE DEGAUSSER

**IMPORTANT**

THE POWER ON/OFF SWITCH USED ON THIS EQUIPMENT IS NOT AN ISOLATING SWITCH. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THIS EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE OPERATED FROM A SEPARATE SWITCHED ISOLATOR.

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**This document refers to DATAGONE degausser  
Part No ZZ001203 240/220volts 50Hz  
ZZ001204 110volts 60Hz**

# 1. SPECIFICATION

## MEDIA HANDLING

3½", 2½" & 1.8" hard drives. Longitude & perpendicular, DLT, S-DLT, LTO1, 2, 3, 4 & 5; 3480/3490/3490e, 3590, 9840 & T9940 tape; Ultrium & Redwood SD-3 tape & cartridges; Mammoth 1 & 2, 8mm, AIT1 & 2, M2 tape; DDS 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5, DD-2 & DFT-1 & 2

## SLOT DIMENSIONS

1.1" x 4.3" (28mm x 110mm)

## THROUGHPUT

200 hard drives in one continuous session or up to 275 Hard Drives per hour.

## DUTY CYCLE CYCLE TIME

50% (Dependant on ambient temperature)  
8 seconds typical

## OPERATING VOLTAGE

230v (50Hz) or 115v (60Hz) – unit dependant

## CURRENT

5 amps typical 230 V 50 Hz  
9 amps typical 115 V 60 Hz

## TEMPERATURE

5°C (41°F) to 40°C (104°F)

## HUMIDITY

10% to 80% non-condensing

## MOUNTING

Free standing table top

## DIMENSIONS

14.3" x 19.2" x 14.3" (W x H x D)  
36cm x 48cm x 36cm

## DIMENSIONS (PACKED)

19.5" x 29.1" x 19.5" (W x H x D)  
50cm x 74cm x 50cm

## WEIGHT

64 lbs (29kg)

## PACKED WEIGHT

75 lbs (34kg)



### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Waste electrical products should not be thrown away with household waste.  
Please recycle where facilities exist.

Check with your local authority or retailer for recycling advice.

VS Security Products reserves the right to amend or modify the specifications and design criteria applying to these products

## 2. INTRODUCTION TO THE DATAGONE DEGAUSSER

The **DATAGONE** is a high energy, hard drive eraser designed to offer complete and secure erasure of magnetic media including perpendicular recording hard drives. The DATAGONE is also capable of erasing data storage media including DLT, LTO, 8mm, DDS and more.

### **Performance**

The DATAGONE generates one of the strongest erasure fields of any degausser on the market. Where security is of the utmost importance, users can quickly sanitise their media without the need for disassembly.

### **Operation**

The DATAGONE is a bench mounted, chamber degausser, making operation safe, effective and simple for anyone. Operators simply “post” the media into the aperture on one side of the unit and wait for the media to exit the aperture on the opposing side of the degausser. The powerful degaussing magnetic field is automatically activated by internal sensors detecting the presence of media which, when the degauss field has decayed, is then released to exit the degausser. The entire process takes just 8 seconds. The processor controlled DATAGONE continuously monitors the operation ensuring that the erasure cycle is completed. The operator is immediately alerted to any interruptions in the erasure cycle on the LCD control panel.

After degaussing hard drives should not be reused as they are stressed in the erasure process and parts can be damaged.

Backup tapes cannot be used after erasure as the control track may be erased in the degaussing process

### **3. INSTALLATION**

**Care should be taken when moving/handling the DATAGONE. It is a heavy unit and it should not be moved without adequate manpower or lifting aids in place.**

#### **3.1 Unpacking**

The DATAGONE is shipped inside a cardboard packing case mounted on a pallet.

Unpack the degausser carefully by disassembling the packing case and inspect it for signs of physical damage. If damage is apparent, a claim should be filed with the carrier immediately.

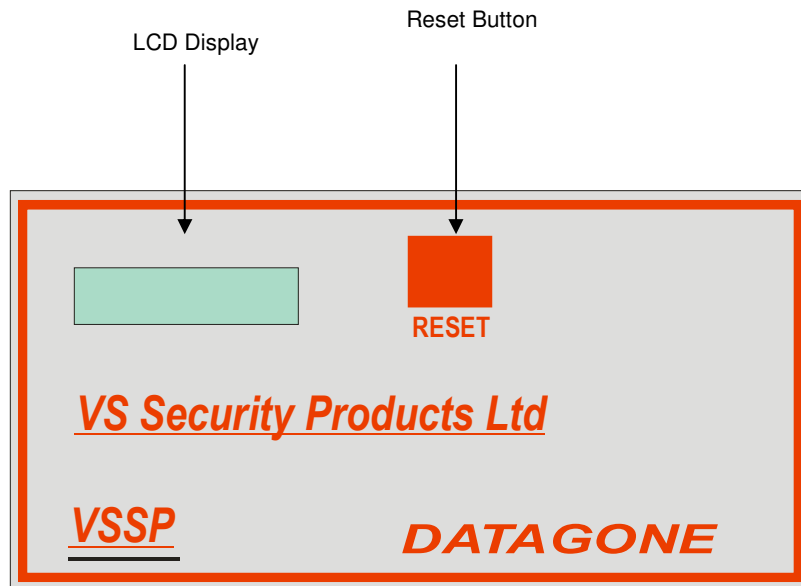
Once you have exposed the DATAGONE degausser, you should consider using lifting aids to help manoeuvre the unit into its final resting position.

#### **3.2 Power Wiring**

Power connection is made to the DATAGONE degausser in the form of a IEC type electrical lead (supplied). The user should ensure that their power supply meets those outlined on page four.

8 amps typical 230 V 50 Hz  
10 amps typical 115 V 60 Hz

## 4. CONTROL PANEL



## 5. USING THE CONTROL PANEL

The DATAGONE degausser has been carefully engineered for convenience and simplicity of operation. As such an LCD and push button are all that is required. The features provided are outlined below:

### 5.2 Power Indicator

The LCD is used as a power indicator and will illuminate whenever power is applied. The power switch is part of the IEC power connector module mounted on the rear panel.

### 5.3 Reset Button

Once you have placed media in the unit the degauss cycle will automatically start. If the degauss cycle is interrupted and the media fails to eject the reset button should be used to eject the media and reset the degauss cycle. The user should then attempt a repeat erasure. The LCD panel will display the progress, completion of the cycle and total number of degauss cycles completed.

If the LCD repeatedly indicates a failure you should contact your nearest VS Security Products support department for further assistance.

## 6.0 OPERATION GUIDE

### 6.1 Operation

#### 6.1.1 Erasure of Half Height (5/8") Hard Drives and Large Backup tapes LTO, DLT, 3480 series.

1. Connect the unit to the power supply
2. Activate the power button on the rear of the unit.
3. Once the unit is ready, gently slide the hard drive into the aperture on the left hand side of the degausser.

**NOTE; Hard drives are manufactured with the disc mounted at one end of the assembly and it is this end that should be leading when inserted into the degausser. This ensures the hard drive is perfectly positioned in the degauss field.**

4. Once the degauss cycle is complete, the hard drive will emerge from the degausser on the right hand side.

#### 6.1.2 Erasure of 2.5" & 1.8" Hard Drives and small media 4 and 4mm cassettes etc

1. To erase small hard drives 2.5" & 1.8" and also small media 8mm cassettes etc. they should be placed in the Small Media Carrier supplied with your DATAGONE.
2. Connect the unit to the power supply
3. Once the unit is ready, gently slide the Small Media Carrier into the aperture on the left hand side of the degausser.
4. Once the degauss cycle is complete, the Small Media Carrier with the hard drive will emerge from the degausser on the right hand side.



## **7. ERROR MESSAGES**

If the DATAGONE is not performing correctly the following error messages may be displayed.

To validate the message switch the unit off and the on again using the power switch on the rear of the unit.

### **7.1 'START UP ERROR'**

#### **'EXIT SENSOR TRUE'**

If this message is displayed the Input optical sensor may be contaminated with dust or dirt. To resolve this problem the Input sensor will need to be cleaned. Please refer to maintenance section 8.1.

### **7.2 'EJECT ERROR'**

#### **'SENSOR 1 JAMMED'**

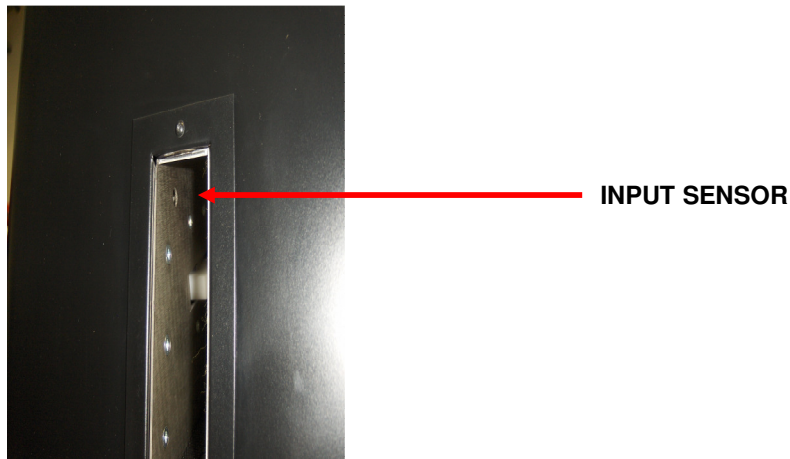
If this message is displayed the output optical sensor may be contaminated with dust or dirt. To resolve this problem the sensors will need to be cleared. Please refer to maintenance section 8.2.

## 8. MAINTENANCE

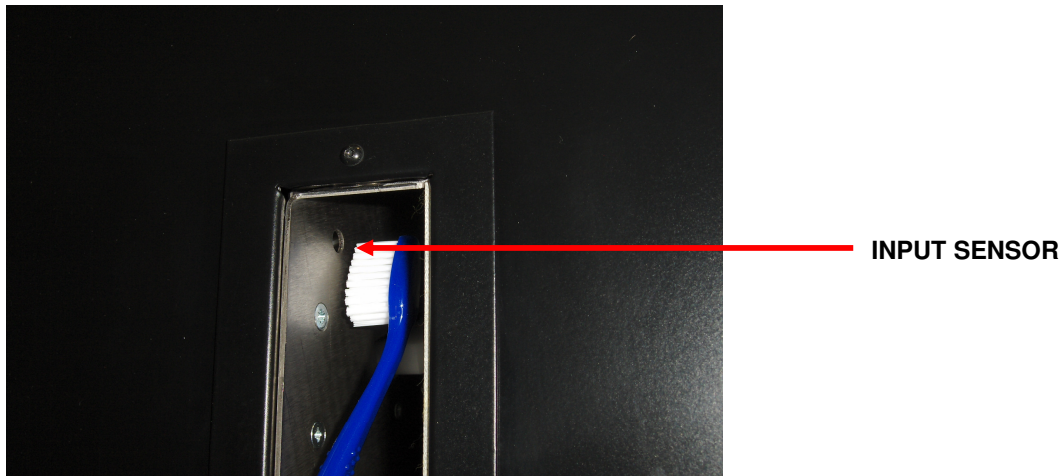
The DATAGONE Degausser contains extremely high electrical voltages and currents. For safety reasons, VS Security Products Ltd does not recommend that the covers be removed by anyone other than trained VS Security Products technicians.

### 8.1 Cleaning the Input Optical Sensor

The Input Sensor is an optical device that looks across the degauss chute to detect the media when it enters the unit. If the media is dusty or the unit is used in a dusty environment the sensor can become contaminated and not see the media. This will result in the unit exhibiting a fault and the message 'START UP ERROR EXIT SENSOR TRUE' being displayed on the LCD.



The sensor is recessed 5mm (0.2") so a small brush will be required to clean it. A tooth brush is an ideal for this purpose. Press the brush over the hole so some of the bristles go through the hole shown above and clean the sensor. The other half of the sensor is on the side of the chute directly opposite the one shown in the Photograph above and should be cleaned in the same way.



## 8.2 Cleaning the Output Optical Sensor

The Output Sensor is an optical device that looks across the degauss chute to detect the media when it exits the unit. If the media is dusty or the unit is used in a dusty environment the sensor can become contaminated and not see the media. This will result in the unit exhibiting a fault and the message 'EJECT ERROR SENSOR 1 JAMMED' being displayed on the LCD.



The sensor is recessed 5mm (0.2") so a small brush will be required to clean it. A tooth brush is an ideal for this purpose. Press the brush over the hole so some of the bristles go through the hole shown above and clean the sensor. The other half of the sensor is on the side of the chute directly opposite the one shown in the Photograph above and should be cleaned in the same way.

## 8.3 Cleaning the Degauss Chute

Media and hard drives that are dusty should be brushed off to remove loose dust and dirt before they are inserted into the Datagone.

If the degauss chute becomes very dirty the drives may become stuck and not release after the degausser has fired. Under these circumstances the chute should be cleaned.

**Note: Before cleaning takes place the unit must be unplugged from the mains supply**

The chute should be cleaned using a soft cloth or paper hand towel. If the dirt is sticky then a small amount of a cleaning agent such as Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) can be used on the cloth or paper towel. A brush with a long handle can be used to clean the chute but care must be taken not to damage the plastic gate inside the chute that stops the Hard Drive.

#### **8.4 Resetting the Circuit Breaker**

The DATAGONE Degasser is not equipped with any on-board fuses that require replacement. All the systems within the unit are protected by the circuit breaker which is located on the rear of the unit – this can be manually reset by the user.

If the unit fails in any way, the user should verify the condition of the circuit breaker prior to contacting support.

#### **9. SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

**It is recommended that people with any form of heart pace-makers or implants etc. avoid close proximity to any equipment of this type without first seeking appropriate medical advice.**

**Operators of the DATAGONE Degausser should ensure they remove any wrist watches prior to using the unit, and that any credit cards or other magnetic devices are placed out of range.**

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