

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
HAYSTACK OBSERVATORY

12 May 2000

TO : Mark IIIA Users & Mark IV Development Group  
FROM : Hans Hinteregger, Alan Rogers, & Dan Smythe  
SUBJECT : Revised Head Block Design

Please replace Fig. 2.17 on p. 23 in your Mark IIIA Tape Density Upgrade Manual with the enclosed drawing. A  $10^\circ$  slope has been added to the top of the head block to reduce the forces causing the tape to fly away from the head at speeds above 160 ips. This modification is required to insure reliable recording and playback at 320 ips with the Mark IV Recorders and Playback Units, and is part of the upgrade to Mark IV capability. Old parts can be modified to conform to the new design by removing material to form the  $10^\circ$  slope. We do not recommend modifying old assemblies already in the field (except as part of a Mark IV upgrade, but we do recommended that any new assemblies use this new design.