

A Publication of the Materials Research Society

Volume 21, Number 9 ISSN: 0883-7694 CODEN: MRSBEA

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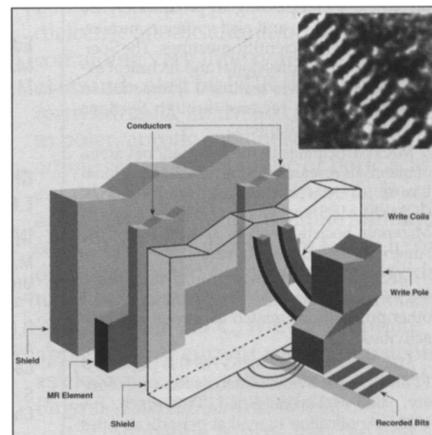
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ON THE COVER: Geometry of a dual gap magnetoresistive recording head. The top shield of the read element also serves as the bottom pole of the write element. For more information, see "Magnetic Recording Head Materials" by James A. Brug, Thomas C. Anthony, and Janice H. Nickel on page 23.

Inset: A magnetic force microscope image of $0.7 \mu\text{m}$ track width transitions recorded at a density of 6,000 flux changes per millimeter in a 2,500 Oe coercivity hard disk, using a FeAlN thin-film head. From W.P. Jayasekara, A. Roesler, and M.H. Kryder, in *IEEE Trans. Magn.* (Intermag'96, Seattle) in press.

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MRS Bulletin (ISSN: 0883-7694) is published 12 times a year by the Materials Research Society, 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Application to mail at periodicals rates has been approved at Pittsburgh, PA and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *MRS Bulletin* in care of the Materials Research Society, at the address listed; phone (412) 367-3003; fax (412) 367-4373. Printed in the U.S.A.

Additional copies of articles in *MRS Bulletin* may be made at \$2.50 per article. This fee can be paid to the Materials Research Society through the Copyright Clearance Center, Inc., 27 Congress Street, Salem, MA 01970.

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MRS Bulletin is included in *Current Contents/Engineering, Computing, and Technology*; *Current Contents/Physical, Chemical, and Earth Sciences*, the *SciSearch* online database, *Research Alert*, *Science Citation Index*, and the *Materials Science Citation Index*. Back volumes of *MRS Bulletin* are available in 16mm microfilm, 35mm microfilm, or 105mm microfiche through University Microfilms Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.

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