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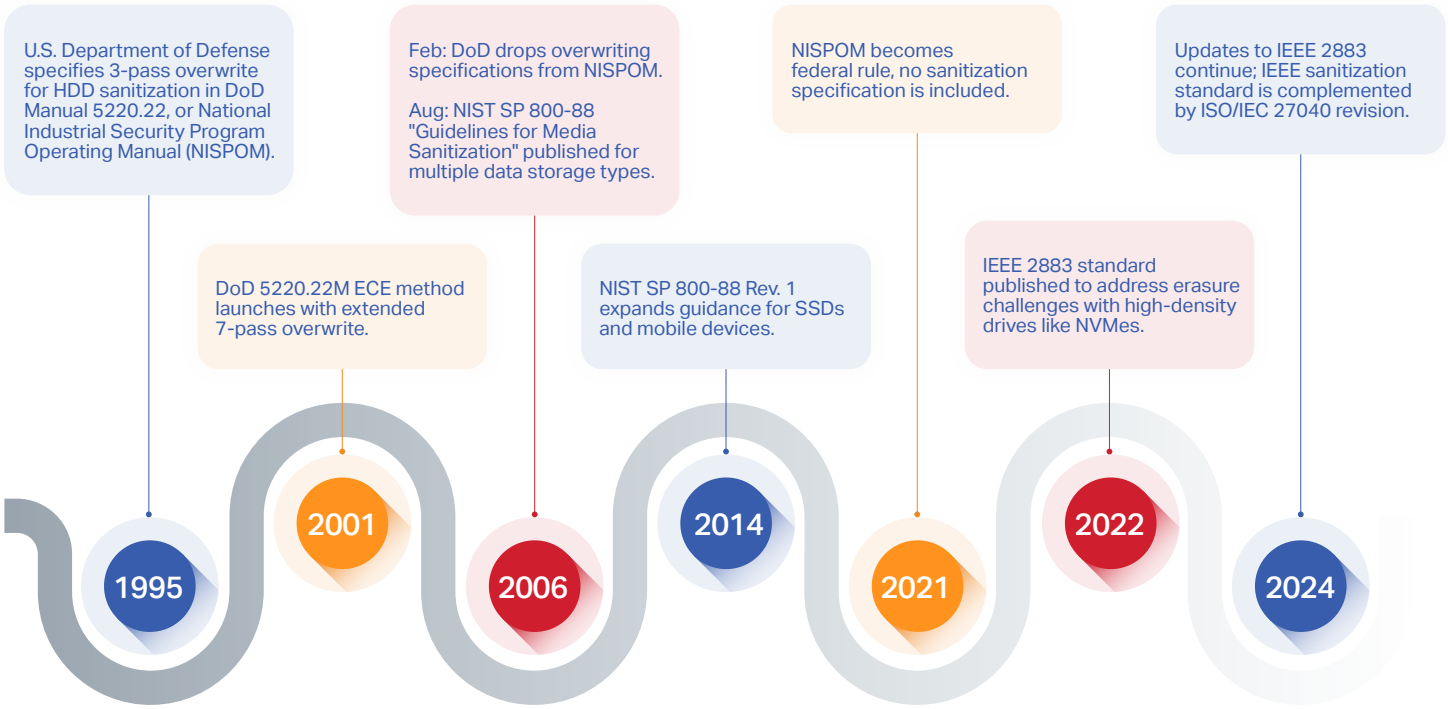
Moving Beyond DoD 5220.22

It's Time to Upgrade Your Data Sanitization

If you're still using DoD 5220.22 for data erasure, you're missing out on 20 years of data sanitization innovation.



The DoD 5220.22 wiping standard once set the bar for secure data erasure, but its limitations in handling modern storage devices like SSDs and NVMes mean it's time to look to NIST SP 800-88 and IEEE 2883 for robust data sanitization solutions.

> It's time to pass on three-pass methods.
>
> DoD 5220.22 has passed from military standard to 'standard practice,' often wasting time and money. You should reevaluate your use of three passes for data erasure.[1]
>
> Richard Stiennon, Founder and Chief Research Analyst, IT-Harvest

1. "Everything You Need to Know About the DoD 5220.22-M Disk Wiping Standard & Its Applications Today." www.blancco.com/resources/blog-dod-5220-22-m-wiping-standard-method

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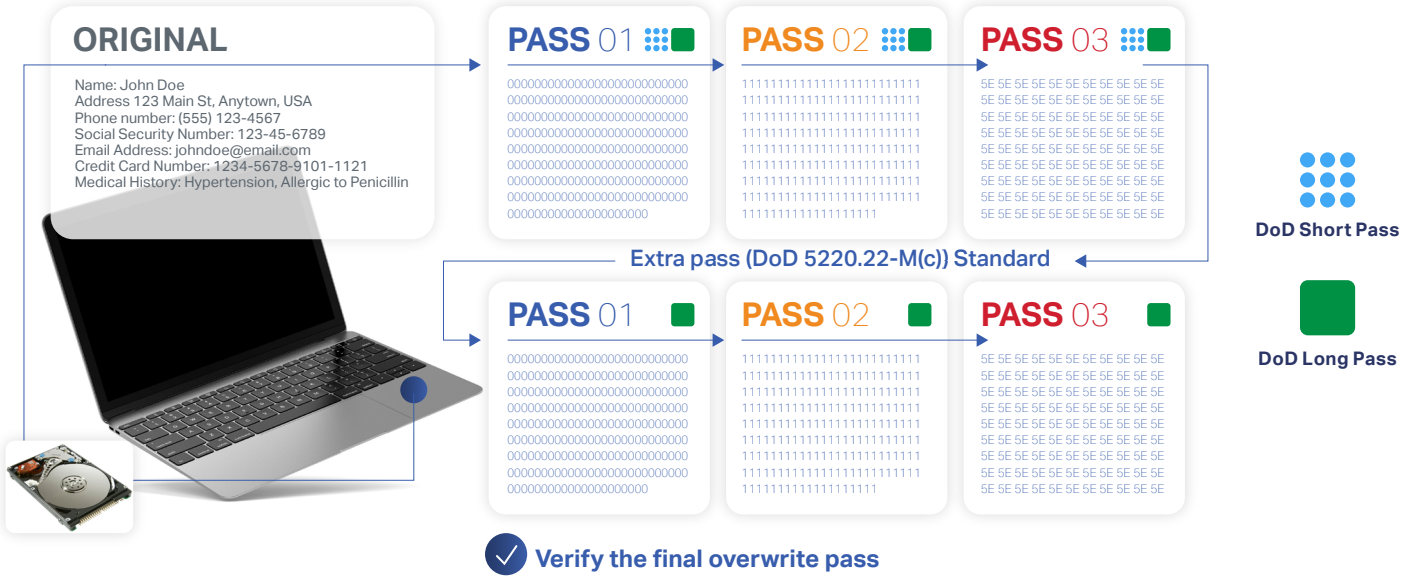
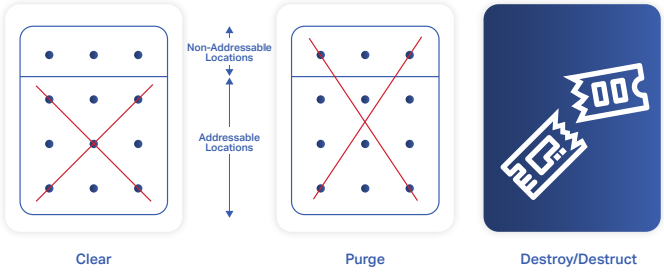


- ✗ 3-pass and 7-pass wipes were designed for HDDs—not SSDs or modern storage.
- ✗ Longer erasures = fewer processed devices per day = lost efficiency.
- ✗ More advanced drives in tech stacks → Higher demand for updated erasure standards.

Sticking with DoD only delays the inevitable—rising demand will force a switch to modern standards.

NIST and IEEE are the future

NIST SP 800-88 improves on outdated DoD methods with three sanitization levels: **Clear**, which removes data from addressable locations, **Purge**, which eliminates data from both addressable and non-addressable locations, and **Destroy**, which renders the device permanently unusable.[2] IEEE 2883 refines these standards for modern storage, including NVMes, with its own Clear, Purge, and Destruct categories.



- ✓ NIST and IEEE standards ensure effective sanitization for both HDDs and SSDs.
- ✓ More devices processed = higher efficiency.
- ✓ Adopting NIST and IEEE now → Future-proofed compliance, security, and trust.

Ready to move beyond relying solely on DoD? Blancco Drive Eraser supports IEEE 2883 Clear and Purge, as well as NIST 800-88, in addition to the DoD standard—ensuring secure, compliant data erasure across drive-based storage, including SSDs and NVMe drives. Whatever your preferred standard, we deliver certified solutions for complete data sanitization.

Request a trial

2. "What Is NIST 800-88 Media Sanitization?" www.blancco.com/resources/blog-what-is-nist-800-88-media-sanitization