

Accredited Standards Committee
 NCITS, National Committee for Information Technology Standards

Doc: T11/00-373v0
 Date: June 6, 2000
 Project: AL-3
 Ref Doc.:
 Reply to: John Scheible

To: T11.3 Membership
 From: John Scheible
 Subject: AL-3 WG minutes 06/06/2000

1. Opening remarks and Introductions

John Scheible called the meeting to order at 8:00. Hewlett-Packard was thanked for hosting the meeting and introductions were made.

Attendance at working group meetings does not count toward minimum attendance requirements for T11 membership. Working group meetings are open to any person or organization directly and materially affected by T11's scope of work. The following attendees signed up as attending the meeting. If any of this information is incorrect, please contact George Penokie to update the T11.3 database. The attendance list contained the following names.

Company Represented	First Name	Last Name	Email
Agilent Technologies	Matt	Wakeley	matt_wakeley@agilent.com
Brocade	Robert N.	Snively	rsnively@brocade.com
Compaq	Carl	Zeitler	carl.zeitler@compaq.com
Connectivity Solutions	Robert W.	Kembel	kembel@compuserve.com
Crossroads Systems	Neil	Wanamaker	ntw@crossroads.com
ENDL	Dal	Allen	
ENDL	Ralph	Weber	roweber@acm.org
Fujitsu	Mike	Fitzpatrick	mfitzpatrick@fcpa.fujitsu.com
IBM	George	Penokie	gop@us.ibm.com
IBM	John	Scheible	jpscheible@aol.com
Interphase	Pak	Seto	pseto@iphase.com
JNI	Craig	Stuber	cstuber@jni.com
LSI Logic	Charles	Binford	charles.binford@lsil.com
LSI Logic	John	Lohmeyer	lohmeier@t10.org
LSI Logic	Mark	Miquelin	
LSI Logic	Curt	Ridgeway	
Seagate	James	Coomes	jim_coomes@notes.seagate.com
Seagate	Gene	Milligan	gene_milligan@notes.seagate.com
Solution Technology	Robert	Crawford	
Sun Microsystems	Ken	Moe	Kenneth_moe@sum.com
True Focus	Horst L.	Trustedt	Hotruess@attglobal.net

2. Call for changes to minutes and report

A call was made for changes to any of the following documents, and since none were made, they should be considered approved.

- AL-3 minutes - 04/03/00 00-227v0 John Scheible
- AL-3 report to T11.3 - 04/03/99 00-228v0 John Scheible

3. Approval of the agenda (00-346v1)

The agenda was approved with the addition of "Treatment of Old Port Mode" by Bob Snively as unscheduled new business.

4. Review of old AL-3 action items:

- 1) Will write a proposal to show how a second FL_Port or a new FL_Port will be detected so that an F/NL_Port can retire from its fabric functions. **[Horst Truedstedt] Carryover, he presented his plans, but it was not in a format of what changes in the document.**
- 2) Report on the status of the framemaker AL-2 and AL-3 documents. Specifically, is there a framemaker document (without MCM) equivalent to AL-2? **[George Penokie] Closed (answer: Yes, but will take some work).**
- 3) Review the AL-3 minutes to determine all proposals approved for inclusion in AL-3. **[John Scheible] Closed (see 00-225v0)**
- 4) Request Jeff Stai (T11.3 chair) get an AL-3 editor (assign a volunteer or call for volunteers) **[John Scheible] Closed, two volunteers exist, Jeff Stai to assign.**
- 5) Generate a project proposal for AL-2R and request reflector feedback. **[Dal Allen] Closed (see 00-344v0)**
- 6) Add agenda items for AL-2R consideration and AL-3 withdrawal for the next meeting **[John Scheible] Closed (see this agenda)**

5. Old AL-3 Business: (none)

6. Scheduled New Business FC-AL-3

6.1 When an FL_Port detected, how does F/NL Port retire?

Horst Truedstedt discussed various cases where an F/NL port takes the 00 address, then either an FL_Port is added, or two loop segments with FL ports or F/NL ports are joined. The original AL-2 document did not consider hubs (or considered them transparent) and this problem related to how to retire F/NL ports was overlooked. Horst has solutions (except one case where this is the least of your problems) and will upload his presentation. He will also write up this work in a "changes to the document" format.

6.2 AL-3 Approved items (00-255v0)

In response to an FS action item, John Scheible reviewed the past AL-3 minutes, and the only approved proposal (that was not rescinded) was:

- Invalid Ordered Set Checking (99-717v0).

There was additional unapproved work on...

- AL-2 Description does not cover Broadcast and Replicate,
- Add AL-2 model,
- Add AL-2 word flow figure,
- Errors were found in the state tables, but never documented (were to be rolled into AL-3),
- General F/NL issues, and NL port detection issues (No proposals to date),
- Speed negotiation (believed to only affect FC-FS, work ongoing),
- Three changes proposed by Horst Truedstedt.

6.3 AL-2R Project Proposal (00-344v0)

Dal Allen discussed the AL-2R project proposal. John Scheible stated that AL-2R implies a strong level of compatibility with AL-2, but AL-3 does not. Dal placed the proposal on the reflector over a month ago, and only received one comment. That comment from John Scheible was that the AL-2R proposal should require compatibility in writing with AL-2 to help the facilitator control the content of the AL-2R document to better match the intent of the group. Dal stated the project proposal is vague on purpose to allow maximum flexibility.

There was discussion that marketing concerns were raised that AL-3 is confusing the marketplace. John Scheible requested input from the FCIA (AL-3 only, AL-3 and AL-2R, AL-2R only, or neither), and got back only one FCIA response that they would chose to withdrawal AL-3 and approve AL-2R. Gene Milligan responded that the project proposal is AL-2R, but the document will be called AL-2.

Dal stated that due to history (AL to AL-2) there were interoperability problems with AL that AL-2 fixed. There was the possibility of confusion that AL-3 was the interoperability fix for AL-2. There was a discussion on why not use an amendment process, but an amendment cannot make technical changes and therefore does not meet out needs.

There was discussion that the completion date was too far out. There was discussion about once a year versions of the document (or once/2 years). The completion date was not changed.

6.4 Motion to recommend T11.3 forward AL-2R to NCITS for approval

There was discussion on the T11.3 rules when Jeff Stai stated that the two-week rule was not met because the AL-2R project proposal was not on the web site two weeks prior to the meeting (only 13 days). Dal countered that the project proposal was on the reflector over a month before and has not been modified. *Note: After the meeting, Jeff Stai raised the concern that the reflector is not guaranteed delivery.* Dal was concerned that the rules between T10 and T11.3 were different, and that the T10 rules were documented and the T11.3 were not. John Loymeyer stated that recently, T10 has forwarded project proposals that both met and missed the two-week rule.

Dal Allen made the following motion and Curtis Ridgeway seconded it to "The FC-AL-3 Working Group recommends to T11.3 that 00-344v0 be accepted and the FC-AL-2R project be forwarded to NCITS for approval". The vote was 5:6:0 (5 in favor, 6 opposed, and 0 abstain).

6.5 Motion to recommend withdrawal of AL-3

Due to the outcome of this vote, it was decided not to make the planned motion to withdrawal ALUnscheduled new AL-3 business (none)

6.6 Treatment of Old Port mode

Bob Snively presented a proposal where expanding where you can place a port in the Old Port state when only two AL_Ports are connected (effectively point to point). Previously, you had to be in Monitoring mode. There was no strong objection, and Bob will upload what he presented, then generate a proposal in the "changed to the document" format.

7. Review of AL-3 action items

- 1) Will write a proposal to show how a second FL_Port or a new FL_Port will be detected so that an F/NL_Port can retire from its fabric functions. **[Horst Truededt]**
- 2) Upload Horst Truededt proposal presented at the meeting (When an FL_Port detected, how does F/NL Port retire?) **[Horst Truededt]**
- 3) Upload Bob Snively proposal presented at the meeting (Treatment of Old Port state?) **[Bob Snively]**

8. Future meeting plans

No meeting time was requested in July at the T10 meetings. At least 1 hour was requested for the August T11 meeting week in Seattle. There was a desire to combine the AL-3 and FS meetings into a single meeting. John Scheible, who facilitates both meetings, has no objections but will maintain separate minutes.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07.

Sincerely,

John Scheible

Email: jpscheible@aol.com