

Accredited Standards Committee^{*}
INCITS, Information Technology

Doc. Number: 06-770v0
Date: 10/19/06
Project: FC-BaseT
Reply to: Claudio DeSanti

TO: MEMBERSHIP of T11.2 and T11.3
FROM: Claudio DeSanti, Chair
SUBJECT: Draft minutes from FC-BaseT WG call

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-----|---|-------------------|
| 1. | Opening remarks and introductions | DeSanti (Cisco) |
| 2. | Meeting Policies | DeSanti (Cisco) |
| 3. | Administrivia | |
| 4. | Review of old FC-BaseT action items | DeSanti (Cisco) |
| 5. | Scheduled FC-BaseT business | |
| 5.1 | FC-BaseT Host Synchronization
06-722v0 | DeSanti (Cisco) |
| 5.2 | Scott Powell's Action Items
06-763v0 | Powell (Broadcom) |
| 6. | Unscheduled FC-BaseT business | |
| 7. | Review of FC-BaseT action items | DeSanti (Cisco) |
| 8. | Next meeting schedule | DeSanti (Cisco) |
| 9. | Adjournment | |

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RESULTS OF MEETING

1. Opening remarks and introductions

Chairperson Claudio DeSanti led the conference call. He started the meeting at 3:05 PM. He led a round of introductions.

3. Meeting Policies

3.1 Attendance and Membership

Claudio DeSanti stated that all persons present are considered members of this meeting and may vote on questions, limited to one vote per company present. Attendance at this meeting does not count toward attendance at the plenaries of T11 and its task groups (i.e., being here will not get you out or keep you out of membership jeopardy).

3.2 Patents

Claudio DeSanti indicated that among the rules and policies under which this working group operates are the INCITS patent policies. He requested persons wishing to make statements or ask questions relevant to this policy not to do so at this work group meeting, but instead to do so at the T11.2, T11.3 or T11 plenary meeting. The INCITS patent policies are specified in subclause 8.4 of RD-1, "Policies and Guidelines", available at http://www.incits.org/sd9_rev1c.htm#p8-4

3.3 Antitrust

Claudio DeSanti indicated that among the rules and policies under which this working group operates are the INCITS Antitrust Guidelines. Any member of the meeting is responsible for objecting if he believes discussion in the meeting violates those guidelines. If such discussion is not immediately terminated, it is the chairperson's responsibility to terminate the meeting. The INCITS Antitrust Guidelines are available at <http://www.incits.org/inatrust.htm>

3. Administrivia

No formal agenda was posted. Two documents were reviewed.

4. Review of old FC-BaseT action items

None.

5. Scheduled FC-BaseT business

5.1 FC-BaseT Host Synchronization, 06-722v0, Claudio DeSanti

Claudio observed that the method currently in the draft to synchronize a host to the speed selected by an FC-BaseT PHY suffers of a big problem: it is not transparent. The PHY has to generate something and send it to the host at the speed auto-negotiated with the remote PHY. But if the PHY sends something to the host, then it needs some knowledge of the state machines of the host. No other PHY does such a thing. FC optical PHYs are transparent (i.e., they send to the host only what the remote host sent to them); they do not generate traffic by themselves. Also 1000Base-T PHYs are transparent. A non transparent PHY is more complex (because it needs to implement some pieces of the upper layer protocols) and is subject to obsolescence (e.g., if something changes at the upper layer, the PHY does not work anymore). Mixing layers is never a good idea.

Claudio stated that FC-BaseT PHYs need to be transparent (i.e., completely independent from the upper layer protocols), as all other PHYs are. He also noted that the FC speed negotiation algorithm is optional. Given that FC-BaseT Auto-Negotiation already takes care of the determination of the link operating speed, the simplest thing to do is to not use the FC speed negotiation algorithm with FC-BaseT. The host may read from a PHY register the negotiated speed when Auto-Negotiation is completed, and then program its serdes to operate at that speed. RX_LOS may be used to indicate completion of auto-Negotiation and availability of transparent operation from the PHY. Claudio also proposed to define a new Ordered Set, Idle2, to be used between FC-BaseT PHYs only, in order to facilitate the link bring-up process. The usage of such an Ordered Set was originally proposed by Ali Ghiasi.

At this point Claudio walked through the steps of the resulting startup procedure. The resulting procedure is much simpler for the PHYs. There was significant discussion on this startup procedure, but everybody agreed that this method will not break anything. Therefore there were no objections to adopting this method. A more detailed and formal proposal will be reviewed further.

5.2 Scott Powell's Action Items, 06-763v0, Scott Powell

Scott presented some proposals to close some action items he got at the last comments resolution session. On the Block_Synch state diagram, it was noted that the proposed diagram behaves differently than the FC port state machine. This is probably ok, but Scott will review it again.

6. Unscheduled FC-BaseT business

None.

7. Review of FC-BaseT action items

None.

8. Next meeting schedule

Next meeting is on December 4, 9am to 4pm, during the T11 Plenary in Indian Wells, CA.

9. Motion to adjourn

Adjourned at 4:10 PM.

10. Attendance

The following 6 people attended this meeting:

Company	Name
AGERE	Carl Murray
BROADCOM	Scott Powell
BROADCOM	Ali Ghiasi
CISCO SYSTEMS	Claudio DeSanti
EMULEX	Hossein Hashemi
EMULEX	William Martin