

Project Proposal For A New INCITS Technical Report Fibre Channel - Simplified Configurations and Management

(FC-SCM)

T11/05-655v1

1 Source of the Proposed Project

1.1 Title

Fibre Channel - Simplified Configurations and Management (FC-SCM).

1.2 Date

6 December 2005.

1.3 Proposer(s)

INCITS TC T11, with a current membership of 55.

2 Process Description for Proposed Project

2.1 Project Type (Development or Revision)

Type D (Development done within INCITS TC T11).

2.2 Type of Document

Technical Report.

2.3 Definition of Concepts and Special Terms

None.

2.4 Expected Relationship with Approved Reference Models, Frameworks, Architectures, etc.

All Fibre Channel standards are intended for use in closed systems.

2.5 Recommended INCITS Development Technical Committee (Existing or New)

It is recommended that this project be assigned to TC T11, in order that the project be coordinated with work on other Fibre Channel standards.

2.6 Anticipated Frequency and Duration of Meetings

This project will make use of the regularly-scheduled bimonthly T11 plenary meetings. Informal Working Groups will be organized on an ad-hoc basis.

2.7 Target Date for Initial Public Review (Milestone 4)

April 2007.

2.8 Estimated Useful Life of Standard or Technical Report

It is anticipated that this standard will have a useful life of over 10 years.

3 Business Case for Developing the Proposed Standard or Technical Report

3.1 Description

This project proposal recommends the development of a Fibre Channel profile oriented towards configurations requiring simple installation, management, and operation (e.g., the Small and Medium Business market). Devices compliant to this profile will provide streamlined functionality, be interoperable by default, and require little or no management. The goal of this profile is to be more constraining than the FC-MI-2 and FC-DA profiles. The scope of this project includes defining the level of support required for:

- a) Arbitrated Loop operations;
- b) ELSs and SW_ILSs;
- c) Zoning;
- d) Distributed Services;
- e) Management Service;
- f) Directory Service;
- g) Security;
- h) Configuration restrictions; and
- i) Any other item as deemed necessary during the development.

3.2 Existing Practice and the Need for a Technical Report

Today, Fibre Channel is the dominant technology used as the interconnect for enterprise Storage Area Networks (SANs). However there is a growing need to build smaller scale SANs (e.g., in small and medium businesses, and in departmental applications). In such areas Fibre Channel is not as successful as in the large enterprise space, because only a subset of the features provided by current enterprise Fibre Channel products is needed. The current large set of features makes a Fibre Channel solution too expensive for smaller scale SANs, in terms of both acquisition and management costs. A new technical report is needed to define the appropriate streamlined functionality.

3.3 Implementation Impacts of the Proposed Technical Report

3.3.1 Development Costs

This technical report will be developed through the voluntary and cooperative efforts of T11 Task Committee members. No significant development costs are anticipated.

3.3.2 Impact on Existing or Potential Markets

The proposed technical report will provide an upward growth path that complements and enhances existing supplier products and support schemes. The proposed technical report will result in expanded applications for existing and conceived products in both the channel and network markets.

3.3.3 Costs and Methods for Conformity Assessment

The committee will consider the results of testing provided to the committee through the voluntary efforts of the participants in T11. With this method all costs are borne by the organizations of the various participants and have for the most part been mainly an adjunct of their normal development costs.

3.3.4 Return on Investment

The return on investment for this development is expected to be high, due to the commonality of effort directed to a singular method of providing the services covered by the proposed technical report.

3.4 Legal Considerations

3.4.1 Patent Assertions

Calls will be made to identify assertions of patent rights in accordance with the relevant INCITS, ANSI and ISO/IEC policies and procedures. T11 is aware of patent assertions that have been made and letters indicating compliance with INCITS policies have been received.

3.4.2 Dissemination of the Standard or Technical Report

Drafts of this document will be disseminated electronically. Dissemination of the final technical report will be restricted as the document becomes the property of INCITS, ANSI, or ISO/IEC.

4 Related Standards Activities

4.1 Existing Standards and Technical Reports

ANSI INCITS 373-2003, *Fibre Channel - Framing and Signaling Interface (FC-FS)*

ANSI INCITS 332-1999, *Fibre Channel - Arbitrated Loop (FC-AL-2)*

ANSI INCITS 384-2004, *Fibre Channel - Switch Fabric - 3 (FC-SW-3)*

ANSI INCITS 387-2004, *Fibre Channel - Generic Services - 4 (FC-GS-4)*

INCITS TR-39-2005, *Fibre Channel - Methodologies for Interconnects - 2 (FC-MI-2)*

INCITS TR-36-2003, *Fibre Channel - Device Attach (FC-DA)*.

4.2 Related Standards Activity

T11/Project 1619-D, *Fibre Channel - Framing and Signaling - 2 (FC-FS-2)*

T11/Project 1620-D, *Fibre Channel - Link Services (FC-LS)*

T11/Project 1674-D, *Fibre Channel - Switch Fabric - 4 (FC-SW-4)*

T11/Project 1677-D, *Fibre Channel - Generic Services - 5 (FC-GS-5)*

T11/Project 1570-D, *Fibre Channel - Security Protocols (FC-SP)*

4.3 Recommendations for Close Liaison

None.

5 Units of Measurement used in the Technical Report

Système Internationale d'Unités (International System of Units).