

Accredited Standards Committee
NCITS, National Committee for Information Technology Standards

Doc: FCW/98w101r0
Date: January 31, 1998
Project:
Ref Doc.:
Reply to: Dal Allan

To: T11 Membership
From: Dal Allan

Subject: January 1998 FCW meeting minutes

The working group was held 1/13-15 at the Hilton in Sunnyvale instead of the scheduled location at the Sheraton in Milpitas. Norm Harris apologized for the confusion which caused the relocation.

Horst Truedstedt had completed Rev 5.9 of FC-AL-2.

Unfinished business from the last working group included a decision on how many bits had to be checked on an ARB primitive. The ARB is used to make a decision on forwarding and to win arbitration.

To forward, it was agreed that only 30 bits have to be checked. A poll of 13:4 recommended a footnote that byte 3 should be priority and that byte 4 may be used for some purpose other than serving as a duplicate in a future standard.

Matt Wakeley had encountered a situation in which the third and fourth bytes were different, and caused a false winning of arbitration. A poll of 17:1 decided that 40 bits had to be checked to win arbitration.

An extended debate on the merits or otherwise of allowing bytes 3 and 4 to be different at some time in the future led to a poll of 7:6 in favor.

THIS ISSUE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE FEBRUARY WORKING GROUP AND A DECISION MADE AT THE PLENARY.

Horst provided copies of his responses to comments from the letter ballot and the rest of the working group time was spent covering these. The review was not completed, because several improvements were made to the language of FC-AL-2 based on the comments and the responses. Although this matter occupied most of the working group time, a comment by comment description in not included in these minutes. Detailed information on the decisions made can be found in the document prepared by Horst on comment resolutions.

Brian Smith presented his view of the decision matrix that existed for tape in the private and public loop, generic fabric and with/without command queueing. He expressed confidence that the approach documented by Crossroads for the private loop can be expanded to fabrics and command queueing.

Dave Peterson had prepared three sets of documentation, two Class 3 (Crossroads and his own) plus one on Class 2. The Class 2 copies were mislaid by the airline so this approach was not discussed.

Dave's summary of the differences between the three proposals involved discussion of what was needed to come up with a single approach. Rob Basham insisted that if the FCP_CONF in Dave's proposal was integrated into the Crossroads proposal that this would solve all known PLDA issues.

Agreement was reached that PLDA-2 will be based on:

- The Crossroads Class 3 proposal
- The addition of FCP_CONF as defined by Dave Peterson

- The use of FCP_CONF will be negotiated at Process Login

Suggestions that Class 3 can be extended to cross fabrics met resistance from Dave, who felt Class 2 is essential. The issue raised in the plenary by Jeff Stai that PLDA-2 be expanded to include public operation was discussed.

A poll found everyone present agreeing that completion of a standard is essential to the tape industry, and if PLDA-2 it is to be completed quickly. it cannot define public operation. Dave indicated his willingness to edit whatever was needed next and issues of public operation will continue to be discussed in the working groups.

Attendees:

D. Allan	ENDL
D. Baldwin	Emulex
R. Basham	IBM
C. Binford	Symbios Logic
J. Coomes	Seagate
R. Cummings	DPT
N. Harris	Adaptec
E. Kohlwey	Ancor
B. Martin	Gadzoox
E. Moyle	Cypress Semi
J. Nelson	Northrop Grumman
D. Peterson	Network Systems
J. Scheible	IBM
P. Seto	Quantum
B. Smith	Crossroads
R. Snively	Sun Microsystems
J. Stai	Brocade
A. Stone	Unisys
R. Taborek	G2 Networks
H. Truedstedt	ENDL
M. Wakeley	Hewlett Packard
N. Wanamaker	Crossroads
G. Weston-Lewis	Symbios Logic
S. Wyatt	Hewlett Packard
D. Ybarra	Adaptec

Sincerely,

Dal Allan