

T11.1 Plenary Meeting Minutes

April 5th, 2000

San Diego, CA

1.0 Opening remarks and introductions

The T11.1 Chairman, Roger Ronald of Power Micro Research, opened this meeting at 5 PM and thanked Kumar Malavalli and Brocade for hosting this meeting.

These minutes are separate from both the HIPPI Working Group minutes and the HIPPI Optical Working Group minutes. Roger volunteered to record and produce these minutes.

Roger lead a round of introductions. The list of attendees is at the end of these minutes.

2.0 Review / modify the draft agenda

Draft agendas were distributed via the web site (www.hippi.org) before the meeting.

There were no changes.

These minutes reflect the approved agenda.

3.0 Attendance and membership

The membership and voting rules were reviewed. See the web page at <http://www.ncits.org/>, look under Standing Documents, then SD2, for our operating procedures including a detailed explanation of the membership rules.

3.1 Roll call of members in jeopardy

T11.1 started this meeting with 12 member organizations.

Tensolite was in jeopardy of losing membership at this meeting due to lack of attendance.

Tensolite was present and retained their membership.

The number of member organizations remains at 12.

3.2 Membership changes

Tera Computer announced a name change to Cray, Inc.

4.0 Document distribution

Roger described the HIPPI web page at www.hippi.org. Meeting documents will be placed there and people are encouraged to pick up the documents before the meeting as extra documents are generally not available at the meeting.

5.0 Review minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the February 16th, 2000 T11.1 Plenary meeting in Huntington Beach, CA, were reviewed.

Bob Willard moved and Craig Davidson seconded, to approve the December, 1999 T11.1 Plenary minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

6.0 Review action items

The action items from the February 16th meeting were reviewed.

1. Roger Ronald to produce the minutes for the February, 2000 meeting. (**done**)
2. Anyone with a proposed change to HIPPI-6400-PH to present a written proposal to T11.1, or its working groups, by the April T11.1 Plenary. (**carryover**)
3. Roger Ronald to notify T11 to forward Scheduled Transfer, revision 3.6, to NCITS for further processing. (**done**)
4. Roger Ronald to forward HIPPI-6400-OPT, revision 1.7 (along with the letter ballot comment responses), to T11 for further processing. (**done**)
5. Roger Ronald to forward HIPPI-LE, revision 3.8, to T11 for further processing. (**done**)

6. Roger Ronald to issue a warning notice to Tensolite regarding their attendance. **(done)**

7.0 Liaison Reports

7.1 T11 LIAISON REPORT- April, 2000

Kumar Malavalli presented the T11 liaison report.

T11 membership

- At the end of the meeting at Huntington Beach, CA, in February 2000, the membership stood at 69.
- Gain of 2 members and loss of 4 members

T11 Actions related to Task Groups

- Roger Ronald, on behalf of T11.1, requested a letter ballot on HIPPI-6400-LE, Version 3.8.
- Roger Ronald, on behalf of T11.1, moved to forward HIPPI-6400-OPT, Version 1.7 to NCITS for further processing, and to accept the response to the Letter Ballot comments. Motion carried meeting two-thirds rule.
- Shelto Van Doorn, on behalf of T11.2, moved to forward the new revision of SM-LL-V to NCITS for further processing, and to accept the response to the Letter Ballot comments. The motion carried meeting two-thirds rule.

T11 actions: General

- Motion to authorize the chair to send a letter to IEEE Fellowship committee indicating T11 support for the sponsorship for an IEEE Fellowship for Al Widmer of IBM in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the computing industry. The motion carried by acclamation.
- Motion to approve the US delegation to SC-25 meeting/2000 in Norway: Gene Milligan and Kumar Malavalli. The motion carried unanimously.
- Motion to forward FC-AL-2 for a new work item proposal to ISO/IEC JTC1, and to provide FC-AL-2 as draft to contribution for a simultaneous CD Letter Ballot. Motion carried meeting two-thirds rule.
- NCITS requirement for 5-year maintenance; Decision to send a note on the T11 reflector on proposed withdrawal of Enhanced IPI Disk standard (IPI-2 Disk: X3.236: 1995).

T11 actions post February, 1999 T11 meeting:

- Conducted Letter Ballot for HIPPI-6400-LE to T11 for further processing. The ballot passed with Y50-N00-A09-DNV14 (1 Yes included comments).
- Forwarded ST to NCITS for further processing.
- Forwarded HIPPI-6400-OPT to NCITS for further processing.
- Sent letter to IEEE indicating T11 support for the sponsorship of Al Widmer to IEEE Fellowship.
- Sent a note on T11 reflector indicating, recommendation to NCITS of the proposed withdrawal of IPI-2 Disk standard.

7.2 HNF

Don Woelz reported on HNF activities.

The former chair of the marketing committee, Joe Gervis, has left SGI and has resigned. John Freisinger has now been elected to this post.

John Freisinger held his first marketing committee meeting and plans have been tentatively made to hold a series of meetings, sponsored by computer vendors, to provide technical information about GSN and ST. Compaq has volunteered to host the first one in the Northeast US area.

Another demonstration is planned for CERN on September 18th.

7.3 ISO report

There was no ISO news to report.

7.4 Other liaison reports

None.

8.0 Call for patents

Roger issued a call for disclosure of the existence of patents required to implement the results of any and all HIPPI standards. It is necessary for the patent holders to agree to license those patents in conformance with the ANSI patent policy if the project on which they apply is to proceed. T11 and its Task Groups are not involved in this process at all other than to issue the call and forward paperwork.

The contact at ANSI is the General Counsel, Ms. Amy Marasco - (212) 642-4954 or amarasco@ansi.org. A patent policy description is at www.ansi.org/proctbl.html, section 1.2.11.

No new claims were made at this meeting.

9.0 Review and act on projects in ANSI development phase

9.1 ST-API

The working group had previously decided that progress on this standard was too slow and that an alternative approach was needed. Since Jim Pinkerton had a SGI specific ST-API document, the group requested that this information be edited and passed on. That document was loaded onto the web site (www.hippi.org) on 12/15/99.

At the February meeting, a few minor changes were proposed. Jim had promised an early update, but the group did not receive it until this meeting. A new hardcopy version was brought by Aman Singla of SGI. There were only a few, fairly minor changes.

9.2 HIPPI-6400-PH - Amendment

HIPPI-6400-PH Rev 2.3 was approved as ANSI standard "ANSI NCITS 323-1998, Information Technology - High-Performance Parallel Interface - 6400 Mbit/s Physical Layer (HIPPI-6400-PH)" on November 20, 1998. It has now also been published and can be purchased from ANSI.

At the September, 1998 working meeting Greg Chesson reported that the pin assignments in HIPPI-6400-PH did not match the SuMAC implementation. At that meeting we agreed to change the document, but to continue processing the present document, albeit incorrect, as an American National Standard before making the changes. The changes to match the SuMAC were reviewed at the November ad hoc meeting and accepted.

A Project Proposal for an amendment to NCITS 323-1998 was drafted and approved at the February 1999 meeting, both by this group and by T11.

The pinout change is the reason for the amendment, but other changes were needed to support passing the RFI/EMI testing required for commercial products and to make sure that the cabling system is compatible with PCI form factors.

A new connector arrangement has been proposed by SGI to allow passing FCC tests in shippable configurations and the group agreed to add this revised configuration. A different configuration is also needed for PCI and it will be some period of time before this new connector is specified and tested.

SGI and FCI are testing components and systems for RFI shielding effectiveness. Both companies provided reports on their progress during the working group meetings.

9.3 SCSI on ST

This document is in good shape. Although there is a desire to improve documentation by adding some additional figures and ST-RTP formatted tables, there was consensus that the document might be ready for forwarding by October.

9.4 ST Reliable Transport Profile

The project proposal for ST-RTP was approved by T11.1 in October and by T11 on December 9. A project number has been received from NCITS (1418-D).

The fourth version of this document was reviewed. The number of changes continues to decline.

10.0 Review projects in approval phase

10.1 HIPPI-6400-SC Public Review status

HIPPI-6400-SC Rev 2.5 has been approved as ANSI standard NCITS 324:1999. It will no longer be covered in future meetings until its renewal date.

10.2 Scheduled Transfer Protocol

Revision 3.6 was forwarded to T11 for further processing at the December T11.1 Plenary. A letter ballot completed on 1/21/00. The ballot passed (57 - Y, 0 - N, 6 Ab, 8 NV) with no comments.

The chair completed an action item to notify T11 that the document should be sent to NCITS for further processing. ST starts public review on April 21 and completes on June 5, 2000.

10.3 HIPPI-6400-OPT (T11.2 - Physical Variant) activity

Revision 1.5 was forwarded to T11 for further processing at the December T11.1 Plenary. A letter ballot completed on 1/21/00. The ballot passed (57 - Y, 0 - N, 6 Ab, 8 NV) with comments by three companies.

Version 1.7 has been forwarded to NCITS for further processing and public review.

Both CERN and PMR are moving forward to do optical testing per the draft standard. However, the belief is that the SuMAC cannot operate at the speed required for success. Preliminary results also indicate that another approach, with the Infinion DC mode part will work.

HIPPI-6400-OPT starts public review on April 21 and completes on June 5, 2000.

The committee assigned an action item to the chair to submit the following comments on HIPPI-6400-OPT during the public review:

- Remove JIS C5973 from the normative references list since it is not used in the document body.
- Available HIPPI-6400-PH components appear unlikely to meet the operational speed requirements stated in this document. Thus, optical solutions as described in the HIPPI-6400-OPT specification cannot be readily implemented. Alternative approaches, involving lower speeds and/or different modes of operation should be included to allow for implementation using current technology.

10.4 HIPPI-LE

HIPPI-LE, version 3.8 was approved at the February T11.1 plenary and sent to T11 for further processing. T11 initiated a letter ballot that closed on 4/1/00 with no "real" comments (there was a submitted comment that was a request for updating an email address, but this was not a comment on the document).

The chair accepted an action item to request that T11 forward the document to NCITS for further processing and public review.

11.0 Review other HIPPI-related items

11.1 Bridging to HIPPI-800

At the December, 1999 meeting, Brad Allen lead a review of the text that had been provided by Nicolas Droux.

There was no new version of the document at this meeting.

It was reported that implementation is proceeding and that this real-world experience should help in producing a viable high-quality standard.

11.2 ARP over IP Broadcast over HIPPI-800

We are still waiting on an RFC number. We hope to get one in the next few months.

11.3 IP and ARP over HIPPI-6400

Previously, Jean-Michel Pittet had convinced the group to wait for implementation of the HARP server and bridging devices before making any further changes in this protocol.

However, during the February meeting, Jeff Young proposed a packet format change and the group generally concurred that this would be a good idea. Jeff also agreed to take over editing duties on the RFC.

Jeff provided a new document during this meeting. Several changes were proposed, but these were scaled back when the group reiterated its desire to stick with the Ethernet packet format for HIPPI-6400 HARP.

11.4 HIPPI-MIBs

PMR and Essential have started to cooperate on MIB development, having responded to a T11.1 request to coordinate their work. Nothing new was reported at this meeting.

12.0 New business and new technical items

None.

13.0 Administrative matters

13.1 Interim meeting authorizations

The T11.1 Chairman, Roger Ronald authorized the following T11.1 interim working meetings for all topics and will chair these meetings.

- June 6-7 Boise, ID

Note that the SCSI on ST work is authorized by T10 instead of T11, thus the SCSI on ST topic will be covered at a specific time (9 AM on June 7th to allow T10 members the chance to easily attend at a fixed scheduled moment in time.

14.0 Future meeting schedule

14.1 June 7, 2000, Boise, ID

The next T11.1 plenary meeting will be held June 7th from 5-8 PM (during the Plenary week in Boise, Idaho). The hotel information is posted at the www.hippi.org web site.

14.2 Future meeting dates and locations

The Optical working group will continue to meet on Tuesday morning during the T11 Plenary week, prior to the HIPPI working meetings. Working group meetings are Tuesday afternoons (starting at 1 PM) and Wednesdays from 9AM till 5 PM.

2000

Jun 5-9	Boise, ID	HP
Aug 7-11	Seattle, WA	Vixel
Oct 2-6	Manchester, NH	Hitachi
Dec 4-8	Austin, TX	Crossroads

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Feb 5-9	Huntington Beach, CA	Qlogic
Apr 5-9	San Diego, CA	Brocade
Jun 4-8	Chicago, IL	Ancor
Aug 6-10	Honolulu, HI	Solution Tech
Oct 8-12	San Diego, CA	JNI
Dec 3-7	Austin, TX	Crossroads

15.0 Review action items

The following action items were carryovers or were added at this meeting.

1. Roger Ronald to produce the minutes for this (April, 2000) meeting.
2. Anyone with a proposed change to HIPPI-6400-PH to present a written proposal to T11.1, or its working groups, by the June T11.1 Plenary.
3. Roger Ronald to issue a warning notice to Tensolite regarding their attendance (although they attended this meeting, they missed in December and February).
4. Roger Ronald to submit the following comments regarding HIPPI-6400-OPT to NCITS during the public review period

Remove JIS C5973 from the normative references list since it is not used in the document body.

Available HIPPI-6400-PH components appear unlikely to meet the operational speed requirements stated in this document. Thus, optical solutions as described in the HIPPI-6400-OPT specification cannot be readily implemented. Alternative approaches, involving lower speeds and/or different modes of operation should be included to allow for implementation using current technology.

5. Roger Ronald to request that T11 forward HIPPI-LE revised to NCITS for further processing and public review.
6. Roger Ronald to have T11 list the SCSI over ST session separately.

16.0 Adjournment

Sean Rieb moved and Craig Davidson seconded to adjourn at 5:29 PM on April 5th. There were no objections.

Attendance

Name	Status	Company	Phone	E_mail
Roger Cummings	P	Adaptec	407-830-5322 x348	cummings_roger@dpt.com
Kumar Malavalli	O	Brocade Communications	408-487-8156	kumar@brocade.com
Bob Willard	P	Compaq Computer Corp.	508-467-5875	bob.willard@compaq.com
Sean M Rieb	P	Cray, Inc	206-701-2164	srieb@cray.com
Brad Allen	P	Essential / ODS	505-344-0408	ballen@esscom.com
Ed Cady	P	FCI-Berg	503-359-4556	edcady@aol.com
Donald Woelz	P	Genroco, Inc.	414-644-2505	don@genroco.com
Tan Truong	P	IBM	512-838-7813	truongtm@us.ibm.com
Jeff Hay	A	Los Alamos National Lab	505-665-4953	jrhay@lanl.gov
Roger Ronald	P	Power Micro Research	972-437-9461	rronald@pmr.com
Craig Davidson	A	Raytheon Systems Co.	972-205-4166	davidson@esy.com
Christopher Lindahl	P	SGI	715-726-8309	lindahl@sgi.com
Aman Singla	A	SGI	650-933-7637	aman@sgi.com
Albert F. Kelley	P	Tensolite Co.	904-829-5600 x281	akelley@tensolite.com