

A working group to accelerate the formulation of an OFC mechanism for HIPPI 6400 met on 4 Nov 1997. The meeting was chaired and hosted by Dan Schwartz of Motorola at a Motorola facility in Chandler AZ.

In attendance were :

Ervin Mueller Dan Brown	AMP
Steve Joiner Lisa Buckman Justin Chang	HP
Schelto van Doorn	Siemens
Daniel Schwartz Glenn Raskin Michael Reed Steve Shook Ray Soderstrom Bernie Weir	Motorola

The meeting opened with three presentations. The first, a tutorial on the OFC used in FC-PH 4.3 was presented by Justin Chang. Dan Schwartz then presented a modification of Motorola's original OFC proposal that incorporated the pulse mode of operation used in FC-PH 4.3. Finally, Lisa Buckman presented several different ways to implement OFC, one of which was similar to the Motorola proposal.

Briefly, the OFC mechanism which emerged relies on handshaking using a single bi-directional channel of a bi-directional parallel link to enable the operation of the full link. Signalling will be accomplished by the exchange of digital symbols at a the baud rate of the clock divided by four, 250 Mbd. The symbol design will be driven by the combination of the expected characteristics of the opto-electronic receiver, a reliability target, and goal of minimizing the complexity of the digital logic. The signaling channel will be made class 1 eye safe by enabling it periodically with a low duty cycle, similar to FC-PH 4.3. With this mode of operation, the launch power into the fiber can easily exceed 0 dbm.

All of the involved companies agreed that this was an acceptable approach to implementing OFC when required. HP and Motorola agreed to further develop the proposal by resolving some open questions.