

Automation Drive Interface (ADI) Working Group Report (formerly known as Media Changer / Data Transfer Element Interface)

In a well attended meeting on November 6, 2001, a full complement of tape drive vendors, library manufacturers and others interested in drive and library management met to discuss the potential for standardizing drive to library or changer communication. Currently these interfaces are non-standard and require implementation changes between library vendors and tape drive vendors when new products are considered for inclusion into libraries and changers.

Most of these interfaces are serial in nature; yet routinely encapsulate some form of SCSI handling for the drives and interfaces, utilizing the internal understanding of command processing of these devices, yet piping them over divergent serial or proprietary interfaces. This day long meeting was successful in determining that the members want to continue under the moniker of T10, that at a minimum one project proposal should be generated for the January 2002 Plenary, and that work to develop these standards should continue between now and that January meeting.

Members of this workgroup elected the following persons to WG functional responsibilities:

Paul Shuler, WG Chair
Paul Entzel, Secretary
Bob Griswold, Document Editor

The workgroup was presented specifications from HP and Seagate, covering their current implementations, as a starting point for development of this work. The ADI workgroup request that the T10 allow the workgroup to continue to use the T10 reflector as means for discussing this work, prior to any official project proposal being approved, and encourage other members to respond to this pre-project regarding any aspects of this initiative.

ADI Work Group