1 Overview

The following are all issues relating to the NOTIFY primitive that need to be addressed in either SAS or SAS 1.1. My preference is SAS since it is going to have to go through another public review.

1.1 SAS Target NOTIFY Detection

SAS currently has no statement or requirement for a target to detect the Notify primitive. This could lead to inter-operability problems if the device sending the Notify assumes the target will detect every Notify transmitted. It is impossible to guarantee the detection of a single primitive as it could be morphed in transmission causing a disparity error.

I would recommend the following be placed in section 7.2.5.9 NOTIFY:

SAS initiator devices and expander devices shall not assume that a SAS target device detects every transmitted NOTIFY.

1.2 NOTIFY Detected vs. NOTIFY Received

Section 10.2.8.1.7.2 Transition SA_PC_5:Active_Wait to SA_PC_1:Active should be changed from:

This transition shall occur if:
  a) a NOTIFY (ENABLE SPINUP) is received; or
  b) the SAS device does not consume additional power as a result of the transition to SA_PC_1:Active.

to:

This transition shall occur if:
  a) a NOTIFY (ENABLE SPINUP) is detected; or
  b) the SAS device does not consume additional power as a result of the transition to SA_PC_1:Active.

The term ‘received’ implies that any NOTIFY received will cause the transition to occur. This may not be the case if the NOTIFY gets tossed out for elasticity reason. The term ‘detected’ is more accurate in this case.

1.3 START/STOP UNIT IMMED bit

Section 10.2.8.1.7.5 Transition SA_PC_5:Active_Wait to SA_PC_6:Idle_Wait should be changed from:

This transition shall occur if:
  a) a START STOP UNIT command with the POWER CONDITION field set to IDLE is received;
  b) a START STOP UNIT command with the POWER CONDITION field set to FORCE_IDLE_0 is received;
  c) the Power Condition mode page idle condition timer expires.

For transitions based on a START STOP UNIT command, the command shall not complete with GOOD status until this state machine reaches the SA_PC_2:Idle state.

to:

This transition shall occur if:
  a) a START STOP UNIT command with the POWER CONDITION field set to IDLE is received;
  b) a START STOP UNIT command with the POWER CONDITION field set to FORCE_IDLE_0 is received;
  c) the Power Condition mode page idle condition timer expires.
For transitions based on a START STOP UNIT command, *if the IMMED bit is set to zero*, the command shall not complete with GOOD status until this state machine reaches the SA_PC_2:Idle state. *For transitions based on a START STOP UNIT command, if the IMMED bit is set to one the command may complete with GOOD status before this state machine reaches the SA_PC_2:Idle state.*

This change makes it clear that the waiting for NOTIFY should do nothing except delay the spinup until the NOTIFY is received.

**1.4 NOTIFYs replacing ALIGNS**

4-Section 7.2.5.9 NOTIFY the statement:

A specific NOTIFY shall not be transmitted a second time until at least three ALIGNS or different NOTIFYs have been transmitted.

Allows NOTIFYs to completely replace aligns. This is OK as long as the same NOTIFY is not the only NOTIFY being transmitted. To prevent this the wording should be changed to:

A specific NOTIFY shall not be transmitted a second time until at least three ALIGNS or three different NOTIFYs have been transmitted.