**Project Proposal
for a new
INCITS Standard**

**SCSI Architecture Model - 4
(SAM-4)**

March 12, 2004

1.   Source of Proposed Project

1.1 Title: SCSI Architecture Model - 4.

1.2 Date Submitted: March 12, 2004.

1.3 Proposing Group: T10.

2.   Process Description for the Proposed Project

2.1 Project Type: D - Development.

2.2 Type of Document: Standard.

2.3 Definitions of Concepts and Special Terms: none.

2.4 Expected Relationship with Approved Reference Models, Frameworks, Architectures, etc.

None, it is expected that this standard will be used in closed systems.

2.5 Recommended INCITS Development Technical Committee: T10.

2.6 Anticipated Frequency and Duration of Meetings

Technical Committee T10 meets on a regularly scheduled basis (see http://www.t10.org for the current meeting schedule). Specific task ad hoc groups are called as required between the regular meetings but their results are not binding.

2.7 Target Date for Initial Public Review (Milestone 4): November 2006.

2.8 Estimated Useful Life of Standard or Technical Report: 5 Years.

3.   Business Case for Developing the Proposed Standard or Technical Report

3.1 Description

The SCSI Architecture Model - 4 standard will be based on the SCSI Architecture Model - 3 standard that defines an abstract layered model specifying those common characteristics of a SCSI domain that must be exhibited by all SCSI transport protocols, SCSI command sets, and implementations to ensure compatibility with device drivers and applications regardless of underlying interconnect technology. SAM-4 will maintain a high degree of compatibility with the present SAM-3 standard, which is nearing completion of its development cycle.

The following items should be considered for inclusion into SAM-4:
1) replacement of the architecture hierarchy with equivalent UML (Unified Modeling Language) definitions; and
2) other capabilities that may fit within the general application scope of this project.

3.2 Existing Practice and the Need for a Standard

The proposed project involves a compatible evolution of the present SCSI architecture model to use a standard modeling construct. In addition, the evolution of SCSI as an interface creates an ongoing need to enhance and revise the SCSI architecture model.

3.3 Implementation Impacts of the Proposed Standard

3.3.1   Development Costs

Members of T10 will provide the necessary resources. The T10 members will host the required meetings for development, provide for the necessary lab experiments, and provide the Technical Editor for the project.

3.3.2   Impact on Existing or Potential Markets

The nature of the proposed project is to provide for growth in the SCSI products industry. This ensures that current investments in SCSI devices will have a stable managed migration path in the face of technological developments.

3.3.3   Costs and Methods for Conformity Assessment

The committee will consider the results of testing that may be available to the committee through the voluntary efforts of the various participants in T10. With this method, all costs are borne by the organizations of the various participants and have for the most part been mainly an adjunct of their normal development costs.

3.3.4   Return on Investment

ROI information is considered proprietary data by the member organizations, but members have stated that the ROI is expected to be large.

3.4 Legal Considerations

3.4.1   Patent Assertions

Calls will be made to identify assertions of patent rights in accordance with the relevant INCITS, ANSI, and ISO/IEC policies and procedures.

3.4.2   Dissemination of the Standard or Technical Report

Drafts of this document will be disseminated electronically. Dissemination of the final standard will be restricted, as the document becomes property of INCITS, ANSI, and/or ISO/IEC.

4.   Related Standards Activities

4.1 Existing Standards:

ID Number	Title
INCITS.366:2003	SCSI Architecture Model - 2 (SAM-2)
NCITS.351:2001	SCSI-3 Primary Commands - 2 (SPC-2)

4.2 Related Standards Activity

ID Number	Title
T10/1561-D	SCSI Architecture Model - 3 (SAM-3)
T10/1416-D	SCSI Primary Commands - 3 (SPC-3)

4.3 Corresponding ISO projects

ID Number	Title
ISO/IEC 14776	Multipart SCSI standard

4.4 Recommendations for Close Liaison

Technical Committee T11.

5. Units of Measurement used in the Standard

Not Measurement Sensitive.