Introduction

• Technology transitions
  - Times for new challenges and opportunities
  - Technologies and ecosystems change

• 6G-3G link aggregation is the major crossroad
  - Handle with care
  - Keep competition in mind
    • Avoid introducing complexities and confusion
    • Avoid forcing higher costs
  - Leave the door open for future progress
    • Keep future usage models in mind
    • Consider long-term needs
    • Allow each SAS element to evolve independently
6G-3G SAS

• One proposal on the table
  – Alters initiator and expander PHYs
  – Increases costs for initiators and expanders
  – Threatens adoption of SAS on motherboard
    • Will OEMs pay more for SAS controllers?
    • SAS on motherboard is NOT a FRU
  – Impact on Applications or OS?

• Intel will submit a new proposal
  – Targeted date before March 2006 meetings
  – Proposes link aggregations in expanders
  – Increase cost of some expanders
    • Current expanders costs are not affected
    • Increases costs of ink aggregating expanders
  – Does not impact other ecosystem component
Moving Forward

- Don’t rush into multiplexing
  - Allow 6 months for new proposals
  - Consider all options before making decisions
  - How about SAS 2.1 for multiplexing?

- Revisit the hard drives issues
  - If 6G tape will make it, why not hard drives?
  - What can be done to help accelerate hard drives availability?

- Commission a customer survey
  - Will customers pay more for 6G SAS?
  - Do customers want 6G SAS without faster hard drives?
  - Other customers’ concerns?