To: T10 Technical Committee
From: Rob Elliott, HP (elliott@hp.com)
Date: 2 January 2008
Subject: 08-041r0 SAS-2 Use American numbering convention

Revision history
Revision 0 (2 January 2008) First revision

Related documents
sas2r13 - Serial Attached SCSI - 2 (SAS-2) revision 13
T11/07-410v1 Rules for decimal demarcations for T11 standards (Bob Snively, Brocade)
Wikipedia article on “Decimal separator” at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decimal_separator

Overview

SAS-2 should use the American style numbering convention - separate the integral part from the decimal part of a number with periods rather than commas (and avoid commas altogether). Incorporation of the 6 Gbps physical layer specification is a good time to make the transition, as that clause contains the most numbers. This is in line with other committees:

a) T11 (Fibre Channel) recently decided to adopt the American style (see 07-410v1).
b) T13 (ATA) uses American style.
c) Serial ATA uses American style.
d) SFF specifications referenced by SAS use a mix:
   A) Mini SAS connectors (SFF-8086, 8087, 8088) use American style
   B) SAS 4i connector (SFF-8484) and 4x (SFF-8470) use American style
   C) SAS Drive connector (SFF-8482) uses American style
   D) Form factors (SFF-8223, 8323, 8523) use American style
   E) Serial GPIO (SFF-8485) uses ISO style, but is open for revision right now

Suggested changes

3.4 Editorial conventions

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This standard uses the ~~ISO~~American convention for representing decimal numbers (e.g., the thousands and higher multiples are separated by a space, and a comma is used as the decimal point). Table 1 shows some examples of decimal numbers using the ISO and American numbering conventions.

Table 1 — ISO and American numbering conventions

ISO	American
0,6	0.6
3,141 592 65	3.14159265
1 000	~~1,000~~ 1 000
1 323 462,95	~~1,323,462.95~~ 1 323 462.95

A decimal number represented in this standard with an overline over one or more digits following the decimal point is a number where the overlined digits are infinitely repeating (e.g., 666,$\overline{6}$ means 666,666 666... or 666 2/3, and 12.$\overline{142\ 857}$ means 12.142 857 142 857... or 12 1/7).

Editor’s Note 1: Change all text and figures in the standard to follow this convention. Most numbers appear in clause 5 (Physical layer).
