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To: John Lohmeyer
               NCITS Technical Committee T10

From: Bob Snively

Subject: Obsoleting the flag bit in the control byte

As part of the development of FCP-2, SPI-2, and SAM-2, the Flag bit has been identified as a function that is now obsolete. I propose that we formally make the flag bit obsolete.

In FCP-2, the control bit is implicitly included in section 7.1.3 which describes the CDB and in section 4.2 and Annex A section A.1.6 which describe command linking. FCP-2 will explicitly say that the Flag bit in the CDB control field shall be obsolete in FCP-2 implementations.

In SAM-2, section 5.1.2, the Flag bit in the CDB control field shall be made obsolete. This requires the following changes to be made:

Bit 0 of Table 12 is made obsolete.

The flag bit shall be removed from the list in the second paragraph of 5.1.2. The following additional text shall be placed at the end of that paragraph:

"Bit 0 provides an obsolete way to request interrupts between linked commands. If Bit 0 is equal to one, device servers not implementing the obsolete capability shall terminate the command with CHECK CONDITION status and the sense key shall be set to ILLEGAL REQUEST."

All additional descriptions of the Flag bit and of the protocols enabled by the Flag bit shall be removed.

All descriptions and occurrences of the service response LINKED COMMAND COMPLETE (WITH FLAG) shall be removed. These occur in 3.1.15, 3.4, 5.0, 5.1.2, 5.2, 5.4, and 5.5.2.

In SPI-3, the following changes must be made.

Section 12.7.3.4 shall be rewritten, as it describes the LINKED COMMAND COMPLETE (WITH FLAG) message. The following text is suggested as a guide to the technical editor:

12.7.3.4 (Obsolete)
The code "0B"h provides an obsolete way to indicate the completion of a linked command that will cause an interrupt. The code shall not be solicited by application clients that do not support the obsolete function.

The line containing code 0Bh in Table 62 of section 12.7.3 shall have the Message Name changed to "obsolete" and the fields other than the code field made blank.