To: **T10 Membership**
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Subject: **CONTINUE TASK Message**
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This proposal presents a modified definition of the CONTINUE TASK message for use in conjunction with an initiator sent DISCONNECT message. This definition allows an initiator to request a queued I/O process become current following an initial reconnect from the target. It also suggests added wording for the DISCONNECT message to improve bus efficiency in packet mode.

CONTINUE TASK Message

The CONTINUE TASK message is sent from the initiator to the target to reconnect to a task. This message shall be sent as a part of a message set within the L_Q information unit. The message set consists of the IDENTIFY, task attribute (if any), and CONTINUE TASK messages.

The purpose of the CONTINUE TASK message is to distinguish a valid initiator attempt at a reconnection from an incorrect initiator reconnection.

If the target expects a significant delay before it is ready to continue processing the reconnected task, it may send a DISCONNECT message to the initiator. The initiator may reject the disconnection by responding with MESSAGE REJECT message.

If the CONTINUE TASK message occurs on an initial connection then the target shall switch to a BUS FREE phase.

If the CONTINUE TASK message occurs on a subsequent reconnection then the target may either treat this as a dynamic head-of-queue request or it may reject the message with a MESSAGE REJECT message. The initiator that receives the MESSAGE REJECT message should assert the ATN signal and send an ABORT TAG message on the resulting MESSAGE OUT phase. Otherwise, the target may treat the reconnection as an incorrect initiator connection (see 11.7.2).

Initiators should avoid sending this message to targets that have not implemented this message. An application client may determine whether a device server implements this message by examining the CTenabled bit in the standard INQUIRY data (see SCSI Primary Commands-2 Standard).

Initiator DISCONNECT

If packet protocol is enabled, the target is not required to enter the MESSAGE OUT phase; the initiator treats this as a normal packet protocol disconnect and the target may proceed to any phase allowed for packet protocol transfer.

The above statement allows the bus to operate in an effecent manner with out the delay of a bus turnaround. This is possible because packet protocol defines when the pointers are saved and an explicit SAVE DATA POINTERS message is not needed.