

Compaq position on items for SPI-4 standard as of October 13, 1999

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The following items should/should not be defined as part of SPI-4

- Skew compensation required
- ISI compensation required
- Timing margin needed beyond that caused by the SCSI signals (system noise margin)
- Fastest signals = 1ns (20% to 80%)
- Use cable media built to SPI-3 specifications / add cable assembly requirements to SPI-4
- Signal specifications include signals with ISI compensation (T&R)
- Margining calibration and control required (command values and what they mean)
- Must know what data phase speed is being used (no open ended upper or lower limits, no self setting speeds without informing upper layers of changes) DMTF?
- Must retain multimode
- No extended addressing should be included

Partial list of items needing further discussion to determine if they should be part of SPI-4:

- Free running clock
- Out of band communications, topology discovery and control, imbedded addressing
- Micro packets
- Flow control

Partial list of required items needing further definition:

- Training sequence details
- Performance impact on training (at what number of training bits does the performance become affected noticeably)
- Mechanisms to make the receiver output visible (e.g. validation of skew compensation)