

SATA-IO / T13 Copyright and IP Issues

To: T13 Technical committee
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Change History:

R0: 121/13/2004 Initial proposal

1 Introduction

First, the goal of this proposal is not to undermine T13, but to avoid producing conflicting materials and requirements.

There have recently been several proposals for T13's "D1697 - SerialTransport (ATA8-ST)" project regarding Serial ATA devices.

These either attempt to

- a) define new behaviors that have not previously been defined by the Serial ATA International Organization (SATA-IO), or
- b) update T13's project D1697 with material from SATA-IO publications for which T13 has no copyright release, by carefully phrasing or referring to (not quoting) the SATA-IO material.

This activity is almost certainly going to cause a diversion into two competing Serial ATA standards.

In addition, the material that is being attempted to be imported into T13 is soon to be obsoleted by SATA-IO, as multiple documents are merged into a single standards document. This means that T13 documents that even 'refer' to a current SATA-IO document will refer to obsolete information.

T13 has had a long successful history of producing standards that apply broadly to devices and behaviors of many types. That is it's strength.

2 Proposal

I propose that (for ATA8) the T13 committee establish a policy regarding serial ATA –specific devices and behaviors, such that T13:

- a) refer such proposals to the SATA-IO organization for disposition., and
- b) does not accept any proposals to incorporate any material from a non-T13 source for which T13 does not have the appropriate copyright release.