TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

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MEMORANDUM

28 Dec 1987

TO: John Lohmeyer, Chairman X3T9.2

FROM: Bill Spence, Texas Instruments

SUBJECT: MSG PARITY ERROR Msg Clarification

In our review of our error recovery paths, our people have encountered what we think is a fuzzy area (p 5-20 of SCSI-2, Rev 3). If inbound messages are only single-byte, there is no problem. But for the general case, part of the language indicates that in the case of a parity error in any byte, the initiator would wait until the end of the message before raising ATN ("...one OR MORE bytes ... had a parity error."). Part of the language suggests that the ATN signal is raised immediately ("...prior to its release of ACK for THE...hand-shake..."--this language seems mainly applicable to single-byte messages). The general trend of recent X3T9.2 discussions and actions re messages suggest that message bytes are parity-checked and accepted or rejected one at a time, without regard to how they relate to one another, and this seems to us to represent the desirable way for the message protocol to be implemented. Depending on which byte had the parity error, the initiator may not know when one message ends and another starts.

PROPOSAL

Make the first sentence of the first paragraph of MESSAGE PARITY ERROR read:

". . . to indicate that the last message byte it received had a parity error."

In the second paragraph, in lines 3 and 4, insert the word "byte" after the word "message" in each line.

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