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Ms. Lynn Barra
CBEMA (X3 Secretariat)
311 First St NE, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20001-2178

Dear Ms. Barra,


As a X3T9.2 member, 3M supports the release of the ANSI SCSI-II specification. We will support the continued global evolution of new interconnect standards that provide sound functional solutions to this evolving interconnect challenge. We are, however, experiencing mixed customer and manufacturer acceptance to the proposed connector and cable design standards as specified. It is obvious to us, and we agree, that the industry is still widely divided on those issues. We are concerned that this diversity, driven by OEM hardware manufacturers from Japan and their preference for ribbon-style connectors, will create U.S. and European market confusion. We do concur with the X3 policy and guidelines statement, that a useful standard "not inhibit technological innovation and progress."

A significant segment of the industry determined that this O.U.S. evolution of the higher performance systems utilize a connector that will not intermate with the existing systems. There are now more than five leading global connector vendors including 3M, that would support a "double spring connector system for the intermateability requirements of this evolving worldwide standard." (Ribbon contact type)

We recognize and support the evolution of this unsatisfied industry segment and recommend the urgent development of an ANSI SCSI-III standard. This in turn would offer the end user a choice of ANSI recommended solutions to meet their particular needs.

Sincerely,


Robert E. Pflieg
Business Unit Manager


Robert C. Herron
X3T9.2 Representative

cc: ANSI Board of Standards Review
1430 Broadway
New York, NY 10018

John Lohmeyer
(X3T9 Chairman)
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