Advanced Vision Research

To: John Lohmeyer, Chairman, X3T9.2 (SCSI)  (via FAX 316-636-8889)
From: George Tharakan (AVR)
Date: March 7, 1991
Subject: SCSI-3 CCS for scanner devices

The SCSI-2 CCS for scanners does not facilitate a host’s ability to acquire scan data from scanners manufactured by different vendors in spite of the fact that all of these different scanners comply with the SCSI-2 CCS for scanners. This is because the SCSI-2 CCS does not provide a way for the host to determine the capabilities of a scanner and communicate accordingly. Also, the Window Descriptor in the SCSI-2 CCS is fairly deficient with respect to accommodating the capabilities of most of the scanners to be found on the market today.

I propose to rectify this with the SCSI-3 CCS for scanners. The new scanner CCS should:

a) Include specific Page Codes to inquire the scanners capabilities.

b) Enhance the Window Descriptor to accommodate most of the current scanners' capabilities as standard, non vendor specific fields.

c) Include sufficient reserved expansion capability in the Window Descriptor as well as scanner related Pages to incorporate future features as standard fields in later releases of the CCS rather than increased use of vendor specific fields.

These general issues should be addressed at the scanner working group meeting on April 24th. I would be more than willing to act as the collection point for proposals dealing with how these issues should be resolved in the SCSI-3 CCS. I will be bringing a number of them to the meeting myself.