Minutes of SAS PHY working group meeting, November 8, 2005

1.0 The meeting opened at 9:00 am and participants introduced themselves.

2.0 Attendance:

Mr. Bernhard Laschinsky Agere Systems **Agilent Technologies** Mr. Rick Hernandez Ms. Pat Thaler **Agilent Technologies** Mr. Paul von Stamwitz AMCC Mr. Greg Vaupotic Amphenol/Spectra-Strip Mr. Stillman Gates Broadcom Mr. Ron Roberts Broadcom Corp. Mr. Dan Crain Dell Mr. Minchuan Wang Dell Mr. Kevin Marks Dell, Inc. Mr. Douglas Wagner FCI Mr. Elwood Parsons **Foxconn Electronics** Mr. Pak Chan Hewlett Packard Mr. Rob Elliott Hewlett Packard Co. Dr. William Ham Hewlett Packard Co. Mr. Barry Olawsky Hewlett Packard Co. Mr. Dan Colegrove Hitachi Global Storage Tech. Mr. James Rockrohr IBM IBM / Tivoli Systems Mr. George O. Penokie Mr. Schelto van Doorn Intel Corp Intel Corp. Dr. Mark Seidel KnowledgeTek, Inc. Mr. Dennis Moore Mr. Michael Jenkins LSI Logic Corp. Marvell Semiconductor, Inc. Mr. David Geddes Mr. Richard Uber Maxtor Corp. Meritec Mr. Edward Cady Mr. Galen Fromm Molex Inc. Mr. Jay Neer Molex Inc. Mr. Hock Seow **NEC Electronics America, Inc** Mr. Michael Hopgood Nvidia Corp. Mr. Yuriy Greshishchev PMC-Sierra Mr. Tim Symons PMC-Sierra Mr. Alvin Cox Seagate Technology Mr. Gerald Houlder Seagate Technology Mr. Robert Kando **Texas Instruments** Mr. Doug Loree Toshiba Ms. Ashlie Fan **TycoElectronics TycoElectronics** Mr. Dan Gorenc Vitesse Semiconductor Mr. Kevin Witt Vitesse Semiconductor Mr. Michael Yeager Mr. Jeff Williams Xiotech Corp.

41 People Present

3.0 SAS PHY working group agenda:

3.1 Review posted channel models

3.1.1 Touchstone (s-parameter) file for TCTF (<u>05-355r1</u>) [Jenkins] http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-355r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-355r0</u>.zip

3.1.2 <u>05-384r0</u> SAS-2 Channel Models (3-Connector, Board-to-Board) Barry Olawsky http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-384r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-384r0</u>.zip

3.1.3 <u>05-389r0</u> SAS-2 Channel Models (4-Connector, Board-to-Board) Barry Olawsky http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-389r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-389r0</u>.zip

3.1.4 <u>05-390r0</u> SAS-2 Channel Models (3-Connector, Board/Cable/Backplane/Drive) Barry Olawsky http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-390r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-390r0</u>.zip

3.1.5 SAS-2 Multilane Cable Assembly Models (<u>05-398r1</u>) [Fromm] http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-398r0</u>.pdf

3.1.6 <u>05-401r0</u> SAS-2 Multilane Cable Assembly Model, one-half meter Galen Fromm http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-401r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/05-401r0.zip

3.1.7 <u>05-402r0</u> SAS-2 Multilane Cable Assembly Model, one meter Galen Fromm http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-402r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-402r0</u>.zip

3.1.8 <u>05-403r0</u> SAS-2 Multilane Cable Assembly Model, three meter Galen Fromm http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-403r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-403r0</u>.zip

3.1.9 <u>05-404r0</u> SAS-2 Multilane Cable Assembly Model, six meter Galen Fromm http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-404r0</u>.pdf http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/<u>05-404r0</u>.zip

3.1.10 05-393r0 SAS-2 Channel Model (4 boards / 3 mated connectors) Dan Crain and Kevin Marks

http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/05-393r0.pdf

http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/05-393r0.zip

3.1.11 Bill Ham shared the FCAL S-parameter file format requirements (document under development): T11 05-764v0

Requires Matlab. Simulators introduce a separate set of variables. This document only addresses the file format. Greshishchev felt that the files provided were acceptable and will provide Ham with additional information regarding requirements. Details provided with files should include enough information for analysis, but should not be required to give away design features. Information such as measurement points, whether fixturing is de-embedded, etc, are the types of information needed to

make accurate use of the files. Reference <u>http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/05-357r0.pdf</u> for requirement set of the SAS measurements above. Magnitude angle (not log) and phase was listed as the preferred format for these files.

3.2 Review simulation results based on above models:

3.2.1 PMC-Sierra SAS-2 channels analyses and suggestion for physical link requirements (<u>05-428r0</u>) [Greshishchev]

Assumption made with receiver having a 5 tap adaptable DFE. 5 taps may be more than required for SAS. Need to consider what the performance is for fewer taps.

Initial training can be done at OOB and then not repeated. Training with DFE designs is a continuous process and needs an initial starting point that training patterns can provide.

Suggestions for transmitter device and receiver device specification requirements are included in this document. They are based on the OIF CEI 6GLR specification that is apparently not used for any volume product today.

3.2.2 Vitesse SAS-2 Channel Model Simulations (05-425r0) [Witt]

Vitesse used the approach of transmitter device de-emphasis rather than DFE for analysis. Showed improvement in eye opening but may not be enough in itself. Over-emphasis is also a concern. Results were similar to PMC analysis. Maybe a combination of transmitter device de-emphasis and receiver equalization should be considered to reduce the number of taps for the receiver equalization.

3.2.3 SAS-2 Cable Reach Objective and Crosstalk (05-426r0) [Witt]

Robust 10m reach for SAS-2 is feasible with iPASS tm connectors, Tx de-emphasis, and Rx equalization.

3.3. Equalization

Is training required?

How is receiver equalization set?

Does transmitter de-emphasis also need to be set or controlled in some way? Should a control method be devised so that these two interact to optimize performance? Do the settings made for 6Gbps work for 3 and 1,5 Gbps signaling?

3.3.1 05-397r0 SAS-2 Training sequence Harvey Newman

http://www.t10.org/ftp/t10/document.05/05-397r0.pdf

Not 8b/10b compatible. 8b/10b does not necessarily provide the right signals for training. Not intended as total training, but enough of a start to provide adjustment to successfully accomplish speed negotiation.

No feedback from other end (closed loop).

What amount of time is necessary for adjustment convergence to get a good-enough error ratio to continue after "the red line"?

3.3.2 SAS-2 Training Sequence Proposal (05-427r0) [Witt]

Don't need to know training patterns.

Need more time than the RCD to achieve equalization.

Is a new OOB sequence for longer speed negotiation windows for G3?

Would need to address more than just G3.

How long is needed for G4?

Should a closed loop approach be designed to also optimize the transmitter?

Question for IC producers: Is <500uS long enough for training 6G equalizer circuits to the point where data integrity is good enough for information to be transferred immediately following the end of the speed negotiation sequence?

3.4 Spread spectrum clocking discussion

Possibility of backwards compatibility issue with existing SAS target devices. Illegal for SAS to transmit with current specification. Reduces margin. SATA: optional on transmitter, receiver must tolerate. SAS: Receiver must tolerate if designed to attach to SATA devices, shall not transmit. SAS multiple aligns provided significant help with frequency peaking.

Issue is with expanders and initiators running several PHY's on a common clock? What is the benefit to justify including SSC?

Concern that clock recovery circuit at 6Gbps may not allow SSC.

- Identify problem areas. Internal multilane cables, expanders, initiators...
- Perform tests to determine benefit with SATA hardware at 3Gbps
- Will it work at 6Gbps?

3.5 PHY specification format:
Elliott: comparison of different existing specifications.
Interoperability points are at connectors.
Alpha points may cause more issues than benefit.
Concerns over transmitter near end specification.
Where does the equalization belong and should it be specified in a particular location?

Items for additional consideration:

3.5.1 Should a compliant channel specification as in CEI be included?

How complicated are reference transmitter and reference receiver? (How many taps, etc.) Can the channel be limited to between separable connectors? Currently using the TCTF at connectors.

3.5.2 Transmitter device specification:

1200 mV pk-pk max including pre-emphasis? Minimum transmit voltage (800 mV minimum used in PMC- Sierra simulations) Rise and fall time requirements Return loss Jitter Pre-emphasis specification?

3.5.3 Receiver device specification:

Input voltage Return loss Jitter tolerance Noise floor or SNR?

- 4.0 No recommendations to plenary.
- 5.0 Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.
- 6.0 Meeting schedule:

Kevin Witt will provide a posting for the development of the 6Gbps PHY specification. It will be posted prior to December 1 for discussion during two conference calls in December as indicated below:

Teleconference December 1, 2005 and December 15, 2005 concerning PHY specification for transmitter device and receiver device 10:00 am Central Time:

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION: All Participants should use the following information to reach the conference calls: Toll Free Dial in Number: (866) 279-4742 International Access/Caller Paid Dial In Number: (309) 229-0118 PARTICIPANT CODE: 3243413

url: seagate.webex.com (no www) Topic: SAS 6Gbps PHY Date: Thursday, December 1, 2005 and December 15, 2005 Time: 10:00 am, Central Standard Time (GMT -06:00, Chicago) Meeting number: 823 657 596 Meeting password: 6gigabit

Next face-to-face: January 10, 2006 9:00am – 7:00pm Embassy Suites Hotel Poenix