Minutes of SSC/SMC Working Group mtg.   X3T10/96-149 r0
San Diego, CA.

Accredited Standards Committee
X3, Information Technology

To: Membership of X3T10

From: Erich Oetting

Subject: Minutes of SSC/SMC Working Group Meeting
        San Diego, CA. March 14, 1996

                    Agenda

1. Opening Remarks

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Attendance and Membership

4. SSC Topics
4.1 - Aborting stream devices and recovery.
4.2 - Comm. devices
4.3 - Error Code Chart for Printer & Comm devices?
4.4 - Definition of Ready for Comm. devices?
4.5 - Chart of historical density codes

5. SMC Topics.
5.1 - Write Protect in Media Changers
5.2 - Reserve(10), Release(10), PRIN and PROUT in Media Changers.
5.3 - Media Changers with no Storage Elements?

6.   Other Topics
6.1 - SPC Topics relating to SSC and SMC.

7.   Meeting Schedule
8.   Adjournment

                    Results of Meeting

1.   Opening Remarks

Ted Lappin, the SSC Technical Editor, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, March 14,
1996. He thanked Skip Jones of QLogic for arranging and hosting the meeting.

As is customary, the people attending introduced themselves and a copy of the attendance list was
circulated.

The draft agenda was approved.

3.   Attendance and Membership

Attendance at working group meetings does not count toward minimum attendance requirements for X3T10 membership. Working group meetings are open to any person or organization directly and materially affected by X3T10's scope of work.

The following people attended the meeting:

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      Name       Organization       Email Address
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Mr. Erich Oetting   Storage Technology erich_oetting@stortek.com
Mr. Edward Lappin   Exabyte Corp.   tedl@exabyte.com
Mr. Dan Davis   Overland Data   ddavies@ovrland.com
Mr. Ralph Weber   ENDL Associates   roweber@acm.org
Mr. Ken Hallam   Unisys
Mr. Peter Grossler NSM Jukebox Gmbh   peter_grossler@msn.com

Total of 6 People Present

4.   SSC Topics

4.1 - Aborting stream devices and recovery.

    A discussion was held on how to handle aborts in stream devices. Ted has added language to SSC indicating that a Read Position command may be required to establish position after an abort or reset. The target should attempt to clean up partial records after an abort, but may not be successful. The block position unknown bit in Read Position might be used to indicate that a partial record was written. Ted will work on the wording for SSC.

4.2 - Comm. devices

Ted asked if anyone attending had a interest in Comm devices and requested that they review the Comm model in SSC closely. None of those attending had anything to do with Comm. Devices.

4.3 - Error Code Chart for Printer & Comm devices?

Ted asked if anyone had any input on building an error code chart for printer or comm devices. He will attempt to create a chart for the next revision of SSC.

4.4 - Definition of Ready for Comm. & Printers?

Ted asked about how to define ready for a Comm device. The current SSC defines Ready for a printer as being able to print. Ready for a Comm device is defined as the device being able to accept a Send command. Peter asked if Not Ready should indicate status of a communication link. Ted would like more input on this issue.

The question of how to handle a Get Message command when no data is available. Ted will add language to indicate that the command should just return no data, instead of waiting.

4.5 - Chart of historical density codes

Ken Hallum asked about how to fill in the Report Supported density fields for an existing density code. Erich will send Ted some updated information on existing density codes to make the table more complete.

5.   SMC Topics.

5.1 - Write protect in Media Changer Model.

Erich proposed that a Media Changer should be able to write protect media when moving it to a transport, by setting a bit in the Move Media or Exchange Media command. Ted commented that some devices could implement this using the existing write protect feature of the media. In this case the target must be able to retain write protect status over a power failure. Further discussion of this will be held via the SCSI reflector.

5.2 - Reserve(10), Release(10), PRIN and PROUT in Media Changers.

These commands to SMCÕs list of supported commands. Reserve(10) and Release(10) element reservations will need to be described in SMC.

5.3 - Media Changers with no Storage Elements?

Erich will change the model to allow Media Changer devices with no storage elements to allow devices that only have import/export, media transport, and data transport elements. A stacker devices, or a device that routes media between several media changer import/export elements.

6. Other Topics

6.1 - SPC Topics relating to SSC and SMC.

Ralph Weber asked if ECMA and ISO should be added to the Vendor list. We decided that they should to allow reporting of density codes approved by these organizations.

Erich pointed out some text in SPC clause 5.5 that should be removed as the information is already in SMC. Ralph will delete the last paragraph of the cause.

Ralph also asked about the SPC definition of Information Bytes. Ted pointed out a couple of errors in the definition in regards to sequential devices. Ralph will change SPC and add a pointer to SSC for more complete definitions.

7. Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the SSC/SMC Working Group will be in Ft. Lauderdale FL, hosted by Adaptec. Actual meeting time will be determined by the X3T10 Plenary.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m. on Thursday Jan. 14, 1996.