

X3, Information Technology

To: Membership of X3T10
From: Erich Oetting
Subject: Minutes of SSC/SMC Working Group Meeting
Dallas Texas, Jan 9, 1997

Agenda

- 1. Opening Remarks
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Attendance and Membership
4. SSC Topics
4.1. SSC Partition Change Control. (96-265r1)
4.2. Transfer of data in fixed mode with ILI=1.
4.3. Write filemark immediate in buffered mode.
4.4. Partition information.
4.5. Locate Command.
4.6. Command Queuing and Tape devices.
5. SMC Topics
5.1 Read Element Status and Reservation Conflicts. (96-267r1)
6. Other Topics.
7. Meeting Schedule.
8. Adjournment.

Results of Meeting

- 1. Opening Remarks

Ted Lappin, the SSC Technical Editor, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 9, 1997. He thanked Quantum for arranging and hosting the meeting.

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

- 2. 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:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Organization, Email Address. Rows include Edward Lappin (Exabyte), Erich Oetting (Storage Tech.), Arlan Stone (Unisys), Ralph Weber (Symbios Logic), Rob Basham (IBM), Roger Cummings (DPT), and Charles Monia (Digital).

Total of 7 People Present

- 4. SSC Topics

- 4.1 SSC Partition Change Control. (96-265r1)

Rob presented his revised proposal to delay actually changing media partitions with a FORMAT MEDIA command instead of the MODE SELECT command. The MODE SELECT command would still be used to set up the new partitions. What should happen if other commands are issued between the MODE SELECT and the FORMAT MEDIA commands was discussed.

Erich suggested deleting the line that specified the Medium Partition page bit is not changeable.

Ted discussed the actions of other fields in the FORMAT MEDIA command relative to this proposal, and suggested another change to the proposal.

The working group recommended adoption of the revised proposal, (96-265r2) be adopted by the plenary.

4.2 Transfer of data in fixed mode with ILI=1.

Ted asked the group if data should be transferred when a block is encountered that does not match the fixed block size. The group decided that the current wording is sufficient for fixed mode. For variable mode, a stronger statement may be required. No action taken at this time.

4.3 Write filemark immediate in buffered mode.

Ted asked whether WRITE FILEMARK in buffered immediate mode should flush the buffer. This issue was brought up by Gary Stephens at an earlier meeting. The group decided that no change in the wording of SSC is required.

4.4 Partition information.

Rob discussed the possibility of returning some information on partition contents in a standard way, using LOG SENSE or a new command. Volume ID's and logical write protect status are two examples of the information that could be returned.

4.5 Locate Command

Locating directly to a specific filemark, setmark or block was discussed, as well as expanding the Locate command to handle larger numbers of blocks, filemarks, or setmarks.

4.6 Command Queuing and Tape devices.

Charles talked about possible performance improvements by using Command Queuing with tape devices. He will work on some simple modeling and bring the results back to the SSC working group.

5. SMC Topics

5.1 Read Element Status and Reservation Conflicts. (96-267r1)

Rob's proposed allowing Read Element Status commands that are part of the discovery process to proceed even when reserved by another host. The working group revised the wording to make things more explicit, and recommended that the Plenary approve the revised proposal (96-267r2).

6. Other Topics

No other topics were discussed.

7. Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the SSC/SMC Working Group will be next March in San Diego, California, hosted by QLogic. Actual meeting time will be determined by the X3T10 Plenary.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am on Thursday Jan 9, 1997.