

To: X3T9.2  
Date: August 17, 1991  
From: Dal Allan  
Subject: Background to Material Submitted

Following is the chain of events that led to the attached:

**March:** Attended DASG; pushed for PCMCIA co-operation and objected to an IEEE interface project as X3T9 is responsible for disk interfaces.

Agreed to a compromise that all Project and Charter issues would be set aside until technical direction became clear, and that DASG would meet in co-ordination with SFF Committee.

**June:** Learned that PAR was coming up for approval at IEEE NESCOM, so wrote letter asking that a decision be delayed (in accordance with March agreement) until technical direction became clear and the issue of charter could be decided.

Attended DASG with copies of letter, but it was neither discussed nor distributed at request of the DASG Chairman.

NESCOM met, and Paul Borrill was appointed to head up an investigation which would result in an arbitration decision by Paul, who would make a recommendation to NESCOM. A decision on the PAR was postponed.

**July:** Paul spoke with Del Shoemaker, Chairman X3T9, and forwarded copies of relevant material. Jointly agreed that a "summit" was to be held after August's DASG and X3T9 meetings. Attendees to be Martin Freeman, Dal Allan, at least one other representative from DASG, at least one other representative from IEEE, plus Del and Paul.

While Paul was on vacation, he was removed from the investigation and replaced by Clyde Camp, who conducted interviews with a number of participants.

**August:** Clyde Camp printed history of record and distributed it to X3 SPARC Chairman and others. I did not concur with everything reported, so responded with my corrections to the record.

Copies of the written material attached were distributed at the August 16 Disk Attach Study Group meeting.

At this meeting, there was a discussion on the issue of charter and responsibilities in light of what has been learned on technical issues over the last few months.

Tom Hanan formally requested that comments he submitted earlier this year opposing an interface being defined by IEEE be distributed (they never had been), and that they be forwarded to IEEE management.

Bob Snively called for a vote on a recommendation that the interfaces for small form factor disks be done as projects in X3T9.2, and gave his reasons his proposal.

It took a long time, but when the vote was taken it came out 9:5 in favor of Bob's recommendation.

