![OIF Optical Internetworking Forum logo]

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Optical Internetworking Forum Approves TDM-Protocol Implementation Agreement

Group Begins Migration of Technical Work Following NPF Merger

FREMONT, CA – May 25, 2006 – The Optical Internetworking Forum (OIF) emerged from its second quarterly meeting in Athens, Greece with an approved Time Division Multiplex Protocol (TDM-P) Implementation Agreement. TDM-P is a SONET/SDH-like backplane interface protocol useful in SONET/SDH cross-connects. The Forum also began the process of integrating the ongoing technical projects of the Network Processing Forum (NPF) in anticipation of the June 1 merger of the groups that was announced in April.

The TDM-P Implementation Agreement, created by the OIF's Physical Link Layer (PLL) Working Group, aggregates multiple TDM Fabric to Framer (TFI-5) signals into higher rates (x2, x4), like those identified in the Common Electrical Interface (CEI) and CEI Protocol (CEI-P) specifications. Providing a TDM protocol solution for higher data rates enables systems to support higher data throughput within the same physical space. Higher levels of integration traditionally lead to more cost effective and efficient operation.

A new project from the NPF, Serial Look-Aside (SLA), was adopted and initiated as a project by the OIF. SLA interface will be an upgrade to the widely adopted Look-Aside Interface (LA-1) between network processing elements and co-processors such as Network Search Engines (NSE).

Another NPF project, the Scalable Streaming Packet Interface (SPI-S), was sent to OIF membership to begin review and approval. SPI-S is intended to

be a serialized upgrade to the OIF's industry-leading Serial Packet Interface (SPI-4.2). The SPI-S draft uses the existing CEI and CEI-P specifications.

"Both of these projects are important upgrades to leading industry interfaces for two different applications," said Harmeet Bhugra of Integrated Device Technology, and a member of the NPF board of directors. "It is natural to start the approval process for SPI-S within the OIF, as SPI-S is intended to be an upgrade to the existing OIF SPI-4.2 interface."

The PLL Working Group also continued its work to standardize a smaller tunable laser assembly module. The Group's efforts build on the existing Integrable Tunable Laser Assembly (ITLA) project, which is outlined in a white paper accessible to the public at http://oiforum.com/public/whitepapers.html

Workshop Addressed ASON/GMPLS Implementations in European Test Beds

The OIF held a workshop for members and invited guests from European academia and research networks the day before the start of the quarterly meeting. The workshop covered topics from European (GEANT2, NOBEL, MUPBED) and German (VIOLA) projects and was addressed by top European industry experts from GRNET, FhG-IMK, Deutsche Telekom, and Telecom Italia. The workshop reached its main goal to increase awareness and cross-pollination relating to ASON/GMPLS implementations among academic and industrial researchers and the OIF. Guest speakers provided valuable feedback to the OIF, based on their experience and expectations while the OIF provided an overview of its current working topics and information about transport network standardization in general. The participants expressed continued interest in cooperative work on the topics. The presentations are available for public viewing at http://www.oiforum.com/public/meetOIW050806.html

About the OIF

Launched in April of 1998, the OIF is a non-profit organization with a unique and diverse member base, including many of the world's leading carriers, component manufacturers and system vendors. As the only industry group

uniting representatives from data and optical networks, the OIF helps advance the standards and methods of optical networks. The purpose of the OIF is to accelerate the deployment of interoperable, cost-effective and robust optical networks and their associated technologies. The OIF actively supports and extends the work of national and international standards bodies with the goal of promoting worldwide compatibility of optical internetworking products. Working relationships or formal liaisons have been established with the IEEE 802.3, IETF, ITU-T Study Group 13, ITU-T Study Group 15, IPv6 Forum, MFA Forum, MEF, MVA, ATIS OPTXS, ATIS TMOC, Rapid I/O, TMF, UXPi and the XFP MSA Group. More information on the OIF can be found at www.oiforum.com.

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