



SATA-IO: Enabling the Future

Membership Update

The SATA-IO membership has exceeded 150 members! These industry leaders are proud to be included on the SATA-IO membership list:

- ABIT Computer Corporation
- ACARD Technology Corporation
- Accusys
- Adaptec, Inc.
- Addonics Technologies
- Adtron Corporation
- Aeluros, Inc.
- Agilent Technologies, Inc.
- Allion Computer Inc.
- AMCC (3ware)
- AMD
- ARIO Data Networks
- Aska Technologies Inc.
- ATI
- Avery Design Systems
- Bafo Technologies
- Bell Microproducts
- BiTMICRO Networks
- Broadcom
- Buffalo Inc.
- Catalyst Enterprises Inc.
- CEVA
- Chipidea Microelectronica SA
- Circuit Assembly Corp.
- Comax Technology, Inc.
- Component User Industry Co., Ltd.
- Copan Systems
- CRU-DataPort
- CRUZ Systems
- Cypress Semiconductor
- Dallas Semiconductor, Inc.
- DataStor Technology Co., Ltd.
- Dell
- Denali Software, Inc.
- Der An Electric Wire & Cable Co., Ltd
- DoTop Technology, Inc.
- Electronics Testing Center, Taiwan

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SATA-IO to Focus on Interoperability, Increased Membership Value and Interface Speed in 2006

By Knut Grimsrud, SATA-IO President and Chairman, Intel

This is an exciting time for the SATA-IO. In addition to the ongoing efforts in technical development, the group has placed increased focus on additional aspects to foster the maturing technology and organization. This February, the first event of the new Interoperability Program will be conducted in conjunction with the Plugfest. This will mark the start of a new SATA-IO program that emphasizes quality and interoperability for SATA-based products. New promotional and marketing efforts are also being pursued by the marketing team, including improving communications with SATA-IO members through tools such as this newsletter. As 2006 progresses, I expect that the definition and launch efforts for the next generation signaling speed will be organized and announced. The scope of SATA-IO efforts are clearly growing in order to best serve the needs of the members.

Want to increase your visibility as a SATA-IO member? Be sure your company is included in the [categorized membership list](#)

Thanks to the tremendous commitment put forth by all working group members, the SATA-IO has developed a reputation for timely execution. The successes the organization has enjoyed are rooted in the selfless contributions and constructive collaborations by the experts participating in the working groups. The board commends the working groups for their disciplined execution and is happy to address issues that are helpful in maintaining a productive environment. If you have requests or items to bring to the board's attention, feel free to approach the board member of your choice.

On behalf of the entire SATA-IO board, our thanks to the efforts of the working groups:

- Tom Pratt (Dell)
 - Frank Chu (Hitachi GST)
 - Richard Tomaszewski (HP)
 - Knut Grimsrud (Intel)
 - Kevin Wittmer (Maxtor)
 - Marc Noblitt (Seagate)
 - David Allen (Vitesse)
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- Energy Full
- Epson Research & Development, Inc.
- EqualLogic
- Exar Corporation
- Expert I/O
- Faraday Technology Corporation
- FCI
- Finisar
- FirmTek, LLC
- Foxconn Electronics
- Fujikura/DDK
- Fujitsu Computer Products of America
- Fujitsu-Siemens Computers
- Genesys Logic, Inc.
- Golden Bridge Electech Inc.
- Hewlett-Packard
- Hitachi Global Storage Technologies
- Hitachi-LG Data Storage Korea, Inc.
- Horng Tong (HOMETOM) Enterprise Co., Ltd.
- IBM Corporation
- Infineon Technologies
- Infortrend Technology, Inc.
- Initio Corporation
- Intel Corp.
- IntelliProp Inc.
- Iomega
- JAE Electronics
- Jalink Technology Inc.
- Jei Wei Electronic Co., Ltd.
- JMicron Technology Corp.
- Joinsoon Electronics Mfg. Co. Ltd.
- J.S.T. Mfg. Co., Ltd.
- Kano Technologies
- Kawasaki Microelectronics, Inc.
- Keen Top International Enterprises Limited
- KnowledgeTek, Inc.
- Knowlent Corporation
- Landwin Electronic Corp.
- LeCroy Corp.
- LaCie
- Link-A-Media Devices
- LITE-ON Technology Corp.
- LSI Logic
- LyCOM Technology, Inc.
- Marvell Semiconductor, Inc.
- Maxtor
- MediaTek Inc.
- Mentor Graphics
- Microsoft
- Mitac International

What Exactly Does Your SATA-IO Membership Give You?

By Thomas Bayens, Promise Technology

If you've been a SATA member from the start, chances are you have an interest in the influence and/or authoring of the specifications. Since the core and advanced specifications are now complete, membership benefits will focus more on specification support such as an Integrators List, technical workshops, electronic newsletters, future feature brainstorming and many others.

Projects such as the Integrators List offer your customers a sense of product readiness or a comprehensive core step in finalizing your SATA component for market launch. Having your product listed on the Integrators List provides end-user customers a first step in knowing that SATA vendors take component quality, specification adherence and interoperability seriously. Look for updates to the Integrators List on the [SATA-IO Web site](#)

As SATA-IO continues to develop and finalize new and beneficial projects, we encourage you to read the quarterly newsletter and look for links on how to get involved.

With today's annual membership, SATA-IO members enjoy key benefits including:

- Semi-annual plugfest/workshops
- Semi-annual Interop testing for Integrators List
- Quarterly technical and education trainings
- Participation in quarterly face-to-face, general sessions, and technical and marketing workgroups; weekly conference calls
- Participation in marketing programs: quarterly newsletters, industry events & tradeshows, contributed articles and white papers
- Access to SATA-IO quote and Web site posting of company press releases
- Posting of qualified products on the Integrators List
- Use of SATA-IO member and (appropriate) segment/feature logos
- Input and feedback on direction of specification, roadmap and organization; association with industry standards body

Specification News: Serial ATA Revision 2.5 Specification

By Amber Huffman, Technical Integration Committee Chair, Intel

The Technical Integration Committee delivered the Serial ATA Revision 2.5 specification in August, 2005, with subsequent ratification in October. Revision 2.5 is a consolidated specification that integrates all of the previously published Serial ATA specifications into a single cohesive document. Revision 2.5 combines the following specifications: Serial ATA 1.0a, Extensions to Serial ATA 1.0a, Electrical Specification, Cables and Connectors Volume 1, Cables and Connectors Volume 2, Port Multiplier, and Port Selector. All ratified errata are also incorporated to ensure accurate and up to date technical information for developers. The Technical Integration Committee is expected to start initial work on Revision 2.6 in the first quarter. The current focus of Revision 2.6 includes integrating the ratified Slimline specification and incorporating new enhancements from the Digital team to NCQ.

The Serial ATA Revision 2.5 specification is available for download from the [SATA-IO Members Only area](#).

SATA-IO Launches Interoperability Program

By Barbara Murphy, AMCC

SATA-IO has added an Interoperability Program as another key segment to the development, management and standardization of SATA. The Program is a step towards encouraging core interoperability across SATA products, building confidence in SATA technology, and promoting SATA as the first choice for storage devices with greater speed, simpler upgrades and easier configuration.

The Interoperability Program is a "member only" test program created to preserve the integrity of the Serial ATA specification and ensure interoperability across SATA products. Companies who participate in the Program demonstrate the desire to support SATA as an industry standard and will be included on an Integrators List

- Corporation
- Molex, Inc.
- M-Systems
- NEC Electronics Corporation
- Netcell Corp.
- Niketech Electronic Corporation
- Northstar Systems Corp.
- Nvidia Corporation
- Omneon Video Networks
- Oxford Semiconductor Ltd.
- PDE Technology Corporation
- Perfectus Technology
- PHILIPS & BenQ Digital Storage Corporation
- Phillips Semiconductors
- Phoenix Technologies Ltd.
- Plextor Corp.
- PMTC NV
- Prolific Technology, Inc.
- ProStor Systems, Inc.
- Promise Technology, Inc.
- P-TWO Industries Inc.
- QLogic Corporation
- Quantum Corp.
- Rapid Conn
- RATOC Systems, Inc.
- Realtek
- Renesas Technology
- Samsung Electronics
- Sanko Electronics Co., Ltd.
- Seagate Technology
- Scientific Atlanta
- Sierra Logic, Inc.
- SIIG, Inc.
- Silicon Image Inc.
- Silicon Integrated Systems Corp
- SMK Corporation
- Soft Mixed Signal Corporation
- Sonnet Technologies, Inc.
- STMicroelectronics
- Sunext Technology
- Sun Microsystems, Inc.
- Sunplus Technology Co. Ltd.
- Synthesys Research, Inc.
- Synopsys
- TC&C/ SUNTECC Inc.
- Tektronix
- Top Yang Technology Enterprise Co., Ltd.
- Toshiba
- Total Technologies, Ltd.
- Trimax Electronics

and posted on the SATA-IO website. The Integrators List will benefit members and the industry alike by serving as a reference for the advancement of the SATA standard. Products represented on the Integrators List will benefit in design wins, because OEMs look to the list for recommended components.

SATA-IO member companies can participate in the Interoperability program in two ways

- 1) Interoperability Workshops at scheduled plugfest events
- 2) Independent Test Labs approved by the SATA-IO

SATA-IO workshops will be held several times in the year at various locations. Should the timing of these workshops not work for you, a list of approved test labs can be found on the SATA-IO Web site. The list of approved test labs will be continuously updated as new companies are added and others drop off.

The first SATA-IO Interop Workshop will be held on February 13th to the 17th at the Embassy Suites, Milpitas (Silicon Valley), California. The program will include general interoperability tests and requirements as defined in the SATA specification and the SATA-IO Interoperability Program. The preliminary workshop will focus tests on the following component/product types: hard disk drives, optical drives (ATAPI), and cables. In addition, the testing is limited to verification of products designed to the "internal" usage model defined by the SATA specification (Gen 1i/2i)

Registration for the SATA-IO Interop Workshop is limited – sign up early to secure your place! Registration details and additional information are available at the [SATA-IO Interoperability Program Web page](#).

Upcoming Events

SATA-IO Interop Workshop and Plugfest #6 February 13-17, 2006

Registration for these two events is still open! Secure your testing slot by January 20th. More information is available at the [SATA-IO Web site](#).

SATA-IO thanks the Sponsors of the upcoming Plugfest #6 and Interop Workshop #1

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SATA-IO Annual Members Meeting February 14, 2006 – 8:30 AM

The Annual Members Meeting is open to all SATA-IO member companies. Registration for attendees is available in the [SATA-IO Members Only area](#).

SATA-IO Industry Roadmap Forum February 15, 2006 – 5:00-7:00 PM

Hear members from our technical and marketing groups address the industry roadmap, latest features, specifications and products. Provide feedback to SATA-IO task force teams on the features and benefits you think are a customer/member value. Registration for attendees is available on the [SATA-IO Web site](#).

IDF – Spring 2006 March 7-9, 2006

As one of the world's premier technical forums, IDF gives the developer community an opportunity to demonstrate their leadership and innovative ideas at an international level. SATA-IO will sponsor a booth at this event demonstrating SATA technology by today's Serial ATA component leaders.

Contact: Joni Clark (720.684.1145), SATA-IO Marketing Chair, Seagate for more information.

- Co., Ltd.
- Tyco Electronics
- ULi Electronics Inc.
- ULINK Technology
- University of New Hampshire InterOperability Lab
- Via Technologies Inc.
- Vitesse Semiconductor Corp.
- VSO Electric Co, Ltd.
- Wavecrest
- Western Digital Corp.
- Wieson Technologies Co., Ltd.
- Win Win Precision, Co., Ltd.
- Win Point Electronic Corp.

Please submit any future article ideas and topics to [Joni Clark](#), SATA-IO Marketing Chair, Seagate.

Sincerely,

SATA-IO Administration