

PRESS RELEASE

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SATA-IO ADVANCES TECHNOLOGY WITH THE SATA REVISION 2.6 SPEC

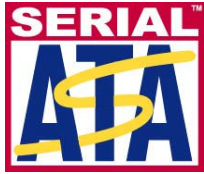
SATA Revision 2.6 introduces compelling new features to meet industry needs

BEAVERTON, Ore., March 5, 2007 – Serial ATA International Organization (SATA-IO), the consortium dedicated to sustaining the quality, integrity and dissemination of SATA technology, today announced the availability of the Serial ATA Revision 2.6 specification. This updated specification combines the previously published SATA Revision 2.5 material with new feature definitions and enhancements that will enable developers to integrate the technology into new applications.

Benefits include:

- **Internal Slimline cable and connector** – enables SATA optical drives to be included in smaller form factors
- **Internal Micro SATA connector for 1.8" HDD** – facilitates SATA hard drives in Ultra Mobile PC applications
- **Mini SATA Internal/ External Multilane cable and connector** – provides access for internal use in high bandwidth backplane designs, and also external uses in eSATA or xSATA protocols for high bandwidth external storage enclosures
- **Native Command Queuing (NCQ) Priority enhancement** – adds priority to data in complex workload environments
- **NCQ Unload enhancement** – permits robust use in laptop environments where the drive may be dropped

“SATA-IO continues to evolve the Serial ATA specifications to meet the needs of our customers and the industry,” said Knut Grimsrud, SATA-IO president and chairman. “The latest spec



revision defines new features and capabilities to further enhance SATA and tailor it to additional applications, including high mobility and smaller laptop form factors.”

The SATA Revision 2.6 Specification is available to the public and can be downloaded at http://www.sata-io.org/secure/spec_download.asp. The cost to download the spec is free for members and \$25 USD for non-members.

SATA-IO Interoperability Workshop #3 Announced

Because SATA specifications continue to advance with the industry, SATA-IO launched an Interoperability Program in Q1 2006 to ensure proper operation and interoperability of new SATA products that are deployed to market. On April 30 through May 4, 2007, SATA-IO will host the third Interoperability Workshop, which will be co-located and held in conjunction with Plugfest #8 in Milpitas, Calif. Member companies with production-ready products may participate in the Interop Workshop to verify product interoperability and adherence to specification requirements per the definition of SATA-IO Interoperability Test documents. The Plugfest, alternatively, aims to validate new designs implementing Serial ATA protocol/features and demonstrate interoperability. Registration for the Plugfest and Interop Workshop is limited to SATA-IO members only. Information on becoming a SATA-IO member can be found at <http://www.sata-io.org/membership.asp>.

About SATA-IO

Formed in September 2004, the SATA-IO is the International Organization that owns and manages Serial ATA specifications as open industry standards. The organization defines and implements Serial ATA storage specifications as the industry’s storage needs evolve. It is dedicated to sustaining the quality, integrity and dissemination of the SATA technology by maintaining the specifications, promoting and marketing the benefits of the technology and creating future interface features and specifications that carry storage into the next decade. Additional information about the organization, its 170 participating companies and membership is available at www.sata-io.org.

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