PRESS RELEASE

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SATA-IO COMPLETES SATA REVISION 2.5 INTEGRATED SPEC
Slimline Connector Spec and Interoperability Program Plans Also Released

INTEL DEVELOPER FORUM, San Francisco, Calif., August 23, 2005 – Serial ATA International Organization (SATA-IO), the consortium dedicated to sustaining the quality, integrity and dissemination of SATA technology, today announced the completion of the SATA Revision 2.5 specification. SATA Revision 2.5 is a consolidated, integrated spec that includes the 3Gb/s feature, as well as other features like Native Command Queuing (NCQ), Staggered Spin-up, Hot Plug, Port Multiplier and eSATA. It also incorporates resolutions to all errata accumulated to-date.

The SATA Revision 2.5 specification gives developers a single document for the most current information available on the SATA architecture. SATA-IO completed the integrated spec today and ushered it into the final ratification process required by the organization's bylaws.

As SATA-IO members have early access to all specifications, it is now available within the members-only area of the SATA-IO Web site at http://sata- io.org/specifications.asp. The specification is expected to be publicly available in November.

"SATA Revision 2.5 consolidates the original spec and six advanced feature specs spanning more than five years of development. This integrated spec now comprises the full SATA feature set and represents a new milestone in the maturity and stability of the technology," said Knut Grimsrud, SATA-IO president and chairman and Int el senior principal engineer. "We are also working to ensure that products based on the SATA specification interoperate flawlessly by continuing efforts to develop the Interoperability Program."

In an effort to accelerate SATA development, SATA-IO will join member companies, Hitachi Global Storage Technologies and Maxtor, to host the fifth SATA Plugfest in Milpitas, Calif. on September 20, 2005. The organization is also finalizing plans for its formalized Interoperability Program, an extension of the current SATA Plugfest model. The upcoming Plugfest will give participants an initial look at the highlights of the future Interoperability Program.

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The program is designed for SATA component vendors to show customers third-party validation support for high-quality, interoperable SATA products. Within the program, SATA-IO will identify a full set of interoperability testing criteria and plans to roll out the program in Q2'06.

The first devices planned for participation in the program include the following internal platform configurations: PC and non-PC hosts, hard disk drives and ATAPI devices, and preconfigured cable assemblies. These devices will receive general interoperability testing and a verification of requirements from the SATA specification.

"Our focus on developing a complete interoperability program will help the industry build quality products based on the rich SATA feature set," said Joni Clark, SATA-IO marketing chairwoman and Seagate's manager of SATA marketing. "SATA-IO is committed to helping developers create interoperable products."

Slimline Connector Specification
In parallel, SATA-IO also completed the Slimline Connector specification. This spec expands the SATA market by making it the interface of choice for laptop swap bay and associated optical drives. The new connector has been tailored to fit within the existing mechanical dimensions of these swap bays and associated optical peripherals. The Slimline Connector specification was ratified by SATA-IO and is available within the members-only area of the Web site at http://sata-io.org/specifications.asp.

SATA at IDF
For IDF attendees this week, SATA-IO will host three interactive lab classes during the event. Participants will have hands-on experience integrating advanced SATA features that maximize interface functionality for a variety of storage solutions, including:
- Port Selector
- Hot Plug
- 3Gb/s
- NCQ
- Port Multiplier
- eSATA, ClickConnect

SATA-IO speakers will also introduce features like multi- lane cables and xSATA. Participants will receive a complimentary CD including SATA technical papers, performance data and product information. All classes will be held in room 2012.

Wednesday, August 24   *Thursday, August 25*
10:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.   10:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
2:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.

Also visit the SATA-IO booth during the IDF showcase hours at #123 in the Storage Community. The Fall IDF booth is sponsored by AMCC, Intel, Hitachi Global Storage Technologies, Silicon Image, Seagate and STMicroelectronics.

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Benefits to SATA-IO Members

Membership in SATA-IO is open to new participation. Membership benefits include:

- Members-only access to all specifications in development
- Preferential eligibility to participate in SATA Plugfests and the upcoming

Interoperability Program

- Opportunities to participate in marketing programs and events, such as newsletters, featured products on the Web site, tradeshow booths and white papers
- Eligibility to participate in technical and marketing working groups

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 evo lve. 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 128 participating companies and membership is available at www.sata-io.org.

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