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OIF ANNOUNCES COMPLETION OF COMMON ELECTRICAL I/O IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT

IA supports short reach and long reach interfaces

FREMONT, CA – December 16, 2004 – The Optical Internetworking Forum (OIF) announced today that its members have approved an Implementation Agreement (IA) for Common Electrical I/O for 6G+ bps and 11G+ bps interfaces. Applications covered by the IA include high-speed backplanes, chip-to-chip interconnect and chip to optical module interfaces. The three electrical interfaces approved in the IA are:

CEI-6G-SR 6 Gigabit Short Reach

4.976 to 6.375 Gigabit per second

0 to 200 mm of printed circuit board and 1 connector

CEI-6G-LR 6 Gigabit Long Reach

4.976 to 6.375 Gigabit per second

0 to 1 Meter of printed circuit board and up to 2 connectors

CEI-11G-SR 11 Gigabit Short Reach

9.95 to 11.1 Gigabits per second

0 to 200 mm of printed circuit board and 1 connector

“The Common Electrical Interface (CEI) is the electrical I/O foundation for a new generation of application ICs that depend on higher speed electrical I/Os while improving capabilities, minimizing costs and reducing pin-count of these interfaces,” said Steve Joiner of Bookham and a member of the OIF Board of

Directors, “The CEI IA creates a common foundation for IC designers that will encourage interoperability between ICs and result in more choices and innovation for equipment suppliers.”

“The OIF recognized the industry's need for faster electrical interfaces,” said Mike Lerer, a consultant to Xilinx and the OIF Physical & Link Layer Working Group chair. “Our working group has spent the last two years addressing the challenges of high speed signaling. The CEI IA includes new techniques for both channel compliance and jitter.”

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. Optical internetworks are data networks composed of routers and data switches interconnected by optical networking elements.

With the goal of promoting worldwide compatibility of optical internetworking products, the OIF actively supports and extends the work of national and international standards bodies. Liaisons have been established with The ATM Forum, IEEE 802.3, IETF, ITU-T Study Group 13, ITU-T Study Group 15, MEF, NPF, Rapid I/O, T1M1, T1X1, TMF, UXPi and the XFP MSA Group. More information on the OIF can be found at www.oiforum.com.

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