



Contact:

Deborah Porchivina
Porchivina & Associates Public Relations
Phone: 415-272-0943
Email: deborah@papr.com

OIF's Newest Piece of 100G Puzzle: Forward Error Correction

Forum Celebrates 10th Anniversary With Fresh Technical Work

FREMONT, CA – October 2, 2008 – The Optical Internetworking Forum (OIF) marks the 10th anniversary of its founding next month. In addition to celebrating the last ten years, the Forum is gearing up for the next ten years as it announces a new 100G Forward Error Correction (FEC) technical project. Following close on the heels of the OIF's 100G Long Distance DWDM Integrated Photonic Components project announced in August, the FEC project is the fifth in a series of proposed 100G implementation agreements.

"The OIF's responsiveness to carrier, system and component vendor needs is what continues to make this organization so relevant 10 years later," said Lyndon Ong of Ciena and the OIF Technical Committee chair. "The industry has moved from 10G to 100G during the OIF's lifetime and OIF implementation agreements have helped pave the way. This project to create an IA on FEC for 100G is typical of our focus to foster industry collaboration and accelerate the development of optical networking."

The FEC project addresses the propagation challenges facing the optical networking industry in the long-distance application for OTU4 transport. The OIF's goal for the project is to develop a common basis for forward error correction that can be implemented cost-effectively in the near term while

helping to meet the demanding propagation targets for 100G long-haul transmission in an interoperable way.

The Forward Error Correction for 100G DP-QPSK Long Distance Communication IA will study and seek to reach agreement on an FEC algorithm suitable for long-haul 100G applications. Defining a common basis for an FEC encoder, interleaving and overhead rate will add to the scope of the 100G Long Distance DWDM Transmission Framework IA, creating common building blocks for the long haul communication space. The implementation agreement will complement and support the work already underway defining 100G Ethernet in the IEEE and the OTU4 of the Optical Transport Hierarchy (OTH) in the ITU-T.

About the OIF

Launched in April of 1998, the OIF is the only industry group uniting representatives from data and optical networking disciplines, including many of the world's leading carriers, component manufacturers and system vendors. The OIF promotes the development and deployment of interoperable networking solutions and services through the creation of implementation agreements (IAs) for optical networking systems and optical, interconnect, network processing and component 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 802.1, IEEE 802.3ba, IETF, ITU-T Study Group 13, ITU-T Study Group 15, IPv6 Forum, IP-MPLS Forum, MEF, ATIS OPTXS, ATIS TMOC, Rapid I/O, TMF, Ethernet Alliance and the XFP MSA Group. More information on the OIF can be found at <http://www.oiforum.com>.