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OIF to Address 100G Long-Haul DWDM Market Needs

FREMONT, CA – May 23, 2008 – The Optical Internetworking Forum’s Physical and Link Layer Working Group (PLL WG) designated a new work project to address 100G long-haul DWDM. This project will foster the development of an ecosystem where service providers, data and optical networking equipment vendors, optical module and subsystem vendors, and underlying component providers will work together to accelerate the availability of high performance, cost-effective long distance transmission solutions for 100G.

The 100G long-haul project will result in a DWDM transmission implementation agreement (IA) focused on a specific modulation format and receiver approach. It will seek to reach agreement on a Forward Error Correction (FEC) algorithm suitable for the long-haul 100G application. This implementation agreement will complement and build upon the work already underway defining 100 G Ethernet in the IEEE, and the new 100G level of the Optical Transport Hierarchy (OTH) in the ITU-T.

“With network element vendors already in development for 100G, we will select an implementation approach supported by a critical mass within the industry,” said David Stauffer, of IBM and the OIF’s PLL WG chair. “We see an immediate need to focus on a solution for long-distance DWDM.”

Additionally, while at the Forum’s quarterly meeting this month, members of the PLL WG adopted baseline requirements for an electrical specification for

25 Gbps backplane (long reach) interfaces. This follows the prior adoption by the WG of baseline requirements for an electrical specification for 28 Gbps chip-to-chip and chip-to-module (short reach) interfaces. These electrical specifications will be added as additional clauses in the next generation of the Common Electrical I/O (CEI) implementation agreement.

Members of the OIF also participated in a workshop hosted at Telecom Italia Labs. This workshop was the second of a series of workshops on Packet Transport Technology - "Focus on T-MPLS." This workshop provided attendees an introduction to T-MPLS networks, their evolution, the enabling standards, and examples of their application in multi-service, converged networks for business and residential services. Presentations from the workshop are available to the public at <http://www.oiforum.com/public/meetOIW050508.html>

New Software Working Group Chair

Members of the OIF elected Raj Batra of Emcore to the position of chair of the Software Working Group. The Software Working Group's purpose is to define, publish, and promote software interfaces that facilitate integration between multiple software modules for networking platforms. Software interfaces include application programming interfaces (APIs) and the contextual framework in which they operate.

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 www.oiforum.com
<http://www.oiforum.com>.