OIF Takes on Technology for 100G and 400G, and Addresses Emerging Control Plane Applications

Fremont, CA – July 18, 2012 – The OIF Q3 meeting last week was a flurry of activity with three new projects focusing on 100G and 400G needs for optical and electrical technologies. The Forum also held a workshop reviewing emerging control plane technologies for cloud computing and Software Driven Networks (SDN).

“The OIF continues to drive important technology forward for multiple network transport layers,” said Dave Stauffer, of IBM and OIF Physical and Link Layer (PLL) Working Group chair. “Whether it’s optical or electrical, physical layer or networking, the OIF members are always looking at how to improve and advance technology across the telecommunications ecosystem.”

New Projects

Members of the PLL Working Group are actively assessing the need to synchronize data rates of 4x10G lanes with 4x25G lanes. By mapping an interface IC with fiber optic modules, the Multi-Link Gearbox 2.0 project looks at how to process the link technology with optical interfaces as bandwidth grows to 400G data rates.

A second new project proposes an electro-mechanical footprint for Optical Engine (OE) modules. Driving optical conversion off the front panel, deeper inside equipment, OEMs are looking to achieve connectivity with future optically enabled multi-chip modules (MCM) packages and prepare for 3D stacking technology and 50 Gbps connected devices. This project will address the power, footprint and high-density connectivity needs for those applications.

Lastly, the OIF has begun reviewing the extremely well received and forward looking 100G DWDM Framework Document that was published in 2009
to update and target needs of the 100G Intermediate Reach market. This project will look at the requirements and application scenarios related to low cost, power efficiency and high-density approaches for next generation 100G transmission as it relates to the Metro space.

**OIF Workshop on Emerging Control Plane Technologies**

The OIF held a workshop for members on emerging control plane industry efforts. Representatives from various industry organizations were brought together to speak on topics related to Software-Defined Networking (SDN), Cross Stratum Optimization (CSO), OpenFlow, Application-Layer Traffic Optimization (ALTO) and GMPLS/PCE.

“Our goal is to continue to organize such workshops to exchange control plane related activities in the industry, foster communications among standardization bodies and industry forums, and update OIF networking work plans accordingly,” said Vishnu Shukla, of Verizon and OIF Vice President.

**About the OIF**

Launched in 1998, the OIF is the first industry group to unite 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, interconnect, network processing, component and networking systems technologies. The OIF actively supports and extends the work of standards bodies and industry forums with the goal of promoting worldwide compatibility of optical internetworking products. Information on the OIF can be found at [http://www.oiforum.com](http://www.oiforum.com).

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