

Ethernet Alliance® Forms Data Center Subcommittee

Subcommittee to address IT demands on Ethernet in the Data Center

Mountain View, CA – June 16, 2008 – The Ethernet Alliance announced the formation of a Data Center subcommittee, chartered to be a reference and resource for IT professionals for both existing and emerging data center-focused Ethernet technologies and standards. The subcommittee was formed to address the demands on Ethernet networking in the data center, as the role of Ethernet expands from transporting TCP/IP packets to technologies such as low latency data center application networking, unified fabric over Ethernet, and energy-efficient Ethernet.

In addition to assisting users and developers of Ethernet, the Data Center subcommittee will identify areas where technical work may be needed to provide enhancements, enabling Ethernet to remain the best choice for IT professionals to meet their growing data center networking requirements. Subcommittee members will work closely with IEEE 802® task force members and T11 members to promote emerging standards for data center networking, including IEEE 802.1™ Data Center Bridging and Congestion Notification, multiple IEEE 802.3™ projects, and T11 FC-BB-5 for Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE).

The subcommittee also plans to sponsor private interoperability test events for various data center Ethernet technologies through third-party test facilities, and will work collaboratively to produce white papers and educational material. To lead the effort, Anthony Faustini of Cisco was elected as technical chair, and Sunil Ahluwalia of Intel as marketing chair.

“Ethernet standards development has typically been focused on technologies to address specific IT professionals’ needs,” said Brad Booth, chairman of the board, Ethernet Alliance, “Our members identified a need in the market to develop a comprehensive community that will support and assist data center Ethernet users with both a cohesive story and strategy around existing and emerging standards.”

Companies that are interested in joining the Data Center subcommittee or that would like additional information should contact admin@ethernetalliance.org.

About Ethernet Alliance

The Ethernet Alliance is dedicated to promoting industry awareness, acceptance, and advancement of technology and products based on existing and emerging IEEE 802® Ethernet standards. The organization’s mission is to accelerate industry adoption and remove barriers to market entry by providing a cohesive, market-responsive industry voice on IEEE 802 Ethernet projects. For more information about the Ethernet Alliance, visit www.ethernetalliance.org.

To learn more about the benefits of membership and what it means to be a member of the Ethernet Alliance, visit www.ethernetalliance.org/join.

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