

1394 Trade Association Creates IEEE 1394 Baseband Over Coax Task Group to Develop Specification for Automotive, Home, Industrial Networking

Dallas, Feb. 14, 2007 -- The 1394 Trade Association has established a new task group to develop an IEEE 1394 baseband over coaxial cable PMD specification for use across a wide range of automotive, residential, and industrial networking applications. A prototype of this technology has been demonstrated by Eqcologic NV, a 1394 Trade Association member company.

The task group will work under the auspices of the 1394 Trade Association's Silicon Working Group, with support from the group's Automotive Working Group. It will be chaired by Les Baxter, a veteran member of the Trade Association who is the founder of Baxter Enterprises and chair of the IEEE P1394r committee, which is updating and revising the entire suite of IEEE 1394 standards.

Baxter said the task group will create two documents -- a requirements document and the PMD specification, which will include power options as well as the electrical transmission specification. Proposed performance will be bi-directional at data rates of 800 Megabits/second over 18 meters of coax with up to five inline connectors. Development of the 1394 baseband over coax specification will complement the coax bridge and UTP PMD specifications already developed by the 1394 Trade Association.

Baxter said, "The baseband coax PMD will be a simple, low-cost interface that will provide high throughput in harsh EMC environments while using economical coaxial cables and standard connectors. The baseband coax interface also will have the potential to support higher data rates and/or longer distances."

According to the 1394 Trade Association, IEEE 1394 is the optimal method for delivering high quality audio and video, because the bandwidth required for A/V streaming is guaranteed, and because 1394 uses a reference clock to maintain optimal A/V signal synchronization.

The 1394 Trade Association is a worldwide organization dedicated to the advancement and enhancement of the IEEE 1394 standard. For more information visit www.1394ta.org

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