



NVM Express Work Group Releases 1.1 Specification

New Milestone Represents Next Step in Driving Broad Adoption of PCIe® Solid-State Drives (SSDs)

SANTA CLARA, Calif., Nov. 8, 2012 – The NVM Express (NVMe) Work Group today announced it is releasing a new version of the specification, NVMe 1.1, bringing a new level of enterprise and client functionality. NVMe is an optimized, high performance and scalable host controller interface that unlocks the potential of PCIe® solid-state drives (SSDs) now and in the future, and standardizes the PCIe SSD interface with the NVMe 1.0 specification.

For enterprises, the NVMe 1.1 specification adds support for PCIe SSDs with multiple PCIe ports to enable multi-host usage models such as Multi-Path I/O and namespace sharing, enhanced reset capabilities, and a simplified reservations mechanism compatible with SCSI reservations increasing fault tolerance. For both enterprise and client platforms, the NVMe 1.1 specification adds autonomous transitions during idle time to reduce platform power consumption.

“As the storage market leader, EMC requires drives that meet the highest standards for reliability, availability, serviceability and performance,” said Bill DePatie, Vice President of Global Hardware Engineering at EMC and NVMe Workgroup Member. “The latest NVMe 1.1 specification adds high-end, enterprise-class drive capabilities to PCI Express SSDs. These features enable broad interoperability for the next generation of PCIe flash devices, and accelerate innovation in the systems and architectures that are built from them. By standardizing many enterprise-class features, the NVMe specification is enabling the industry to deliver higher performance PCIe SSDs without compromising on expectations for drive functionality—which is especially important as customers continue transforming their IT infrastructures.”

The NVMe Work Group consists of more than 80 companies from across the industry with a goal of driving the adoption of SSDs using the PCIe interface. This specification, and future versions, will enable the industry to have secure, efficient and fast access to their data.

“The NVMe 1.1 specification is another milestone on the path to broad adoption of SSDs using the PCI Express interface and toward unlocking the full performance potential of SSDs,” said Sumit Puri, senior director of strategic marketing, Flash Components Division, LSI Corporation and NVMe Workgroup Member.

“As a developer of the world’s first NVMe enterprise flash controllers, IDT is leading the charge in PCIe-based flash controller innovation,” said Kam Eshghi, senior director of marketing, IDT Enterprise Computing Division and NVMe Workgroup Member. “NVMe 1.1 provides high-end features such as support for dual-port PCIe SSDs to get the most out of high performance enterprise applications.”

This new release demonstrates the rapid development and maturity of the NVMe specification and the infrastructure surrounding, and supporting, PCIe SSD devices. The NVM Express 1.1 specification is available for download at <http://www.nvmexpress.org>

About NVM Express

NVM Express is an optimized, high performance, scalable host controller interface with a streamlined register interface and command set designed for Enterprise and Client systems that use PCI Express* SSDs. NVM Express was developed to reduce latency and provide faster performance with support for security and end-to-end data protection.

CONTACT: Joshua Lefkowitz
North of Nine Communications
(212) 614-5012
joshua.lefkowitz@nof9.com