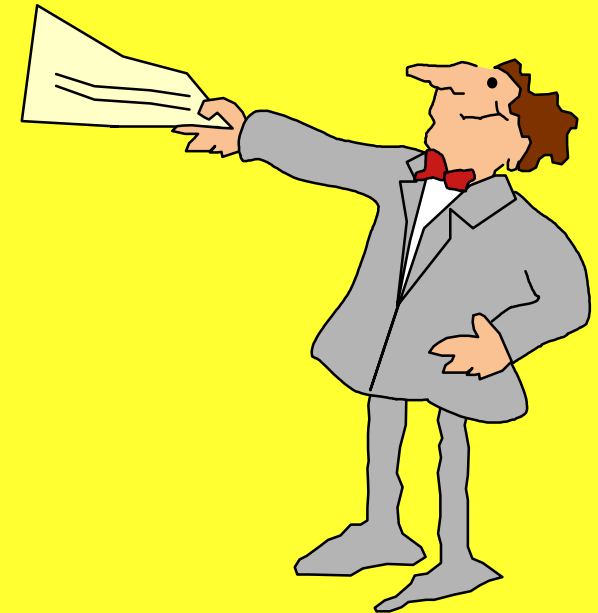


IBM Needs for 8 Gb (Backplane)



- Needed for rack backplanes and circuit boards
- Interoperable
 - Standard support for 8/4/2/1 Gb
 - Speed negotiate between 8/4/2 Gb required (with 1 Gb a plus)
- Environment
 - Compatible connectors with 4/2/1 Gb
 - Backplane lengths of 36 inches required
 - Standard materials (non-exotic)
 - Support for up to 3 mated pairs connectors
- Schedule
 - Product ship 4Q06, parts availability 4Q05

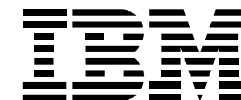


IBM Needs for 8 Gb (Copper cable)



- For rack-to-rack, and intra-enclosure connections
- Interoperable
 - Standard support for 8/4/2/1 Gb
 - Speed negotiate between 8/4/2 Gb required (with 1 Gb a plus)
- Environment
 - Compatible connectors with 4/2/1 Gb (not with 10 Gb)
 - 1 Meter length limit without line extenders acceptable
 - Some existing copper will go optical for EMI and distance reasons
- Schedule
 - Product ship 4Q06, parts availability 4Q05

IBM Needs for 8 Gb (Optical)



- For HBA, inter-enclosure, longer distance, EMI reasons
- Interoperable
 - Standard support for 8/4/2/1 Gb
 - Speed negotiate between 8/4/2 Gb required (with 1 Gb a plus)
- Environment
 - Compatible connectors with 4/2/1 Gb (not with 10 Gb)
 - Need support for 62.5, 50, and 9 micron optical cable (distance limit OK)
 - Support short-wave, single-mode, and long-wave
 - Want 8 Gb optical as a fabric interface (ISL and switch-to-N_Port)
 - 8 Gb does not replace 10 Gb (both 8 Gb and 10 Gb fabrics and HBAs)
- Schedule
 - Product ship 4Q06, parts availability 4Q05

Where do we go from here?



- What has happened?
 - FCIA vote on 8 Gb copper completed
 - IBM has rolled 8 Gb into product plans (not the same as announce)
 - IBM has started working with customers/supplier

- What needs to happen?
 - Start FCIA vote on 8 Gb optical
 - Need publicity
 - Start standards work ASAP (even sooner)
 - Determine what schedule is possible

- Ideal Schedule
 - Product ship 4Q06, parts availability 4Q05