



Chairmen's Letter To The Membership

Dear 1394 Trade Association Members:

As we approach the end of the year we would like to thank you again for your support of the Trade Association, as we complete our 20th year of working with the 1394 specification and its application. While we are a smaller group than in the past, we have continued to see substantial interest in FireWire across a significant number of markets including avionics, aerospace, audio, computing and others. And the TA board of directors has continued to work with leaders in these industries to apply 1394 creatively and effectively.

As we move into 2015, there is news to report. First is the work being done by Les Baxter, a long time TA member, to update and finalize the latest version of 1394. Les will work into the spring to complete his efforts (see accompanying article), then submit the finished product to IEEE for its review and approval. He has been doing a fine job, and we are all grateful for his efforts.

Along with Les' work with the IEEE, the 1394TA is working slowly and steadily toward a plan under which applicable specifications will be provided to and, in effect, handed off to, other organizations. The AES is one of these groups, and they have expressed an interest in making our AV specifications available through their offices for members and the public alike. We are also working with other organizations to make certain that all of our specifications are widely available in the years to come. In addition, the 1394TA's website and document archive have been updated to allow low cost support in the future, and will remain active and updated.

All of these efforts are in place now in order to enable the TA to end its non-for-profit corporation operations by the end of 2015. Over the coming months we will provide updates on how we as volunteers can continue to support 1394 and all the specifications the TA has created over the past two decades. As 1394 has matured, the need for a trade association to develop new specs has ended, as the market has shifted to using other standards organizations such as SAE, JIA and others for this work.

We will keep you apprised of our progress toward the TA closure as we move along, and welcome any comments or suggestions you may have that are relevant to the effort.

The TA has enjoyed a long and rich history, with many successes across a variety of markets and applications – as well as a few disappointments. You have all played a positive and constructive role in that history, and we thank you for it. We wish you the best for the holiday season, and invite you to keep in touch as we continue to have marketing working group calls via WebEx in 2015.

Yours truly

Richard Mourn
Chairman



Update on the Status of the Final 1394 Specification and Errata

For the past 18 months, at the request and direction of the TA board, Les Baxter, a long time TA member, has been compiling an update to the IEEE 1394-2008 specification. This document includes corrections, clarifications, updates, and enhancements to the specification. The IEEE approved a Project Authorization Request to revise the IEEE 1394-2008 standard and the final TA document will be used as input to the IEEE revision process.

The errata project has consisted of two stages. First, all changes to the IEEE 1394-2008 document were finalized, and a TA errata document was issued after workgroup and Board approval. This included correcting a few errors and discrepancies in 1394-2008 as well as enhancing and clarifying the S1600 and S3200 specifications. The TA errata document is available as Document Number TS2013002.

Second, a new draft of the IEEE 1394 specification will be compiled which incorporates the changes from the TA errata document. This draft is currently being compiled. When completed and reviewed for approval by the TA BoD, the draft will be balloted by the IEEE 1394 Committee and approved by the IEEE Standards Board as IEEE 1394-2015.

This work reflects the latest and most complete review of the specification, which was developed, enhanced, and revised as needed throughout the life of the 1394 Trade Association. Many contributed long hours and much time to this effort, and the results have been excellent as 1394 found adoption in a wide range of applications and systems. As this latest edition is completed, it is a good time to say thank you to all who contributed over the years.