

**From:** Janz, Chris [cjanz@ciena.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2005 3:18 PM  
**To:** Snively, Robert; Steve Wilson; david\_peterson@cnt.com  
**Cc:** Craig Carlson (E-mail); Stevenson, Russ; Bennett, Barbara; Barra, Lynn  
**Subject:** RE: Patent disclosure from Ciena on T11 documents  
[Bob, I agree with this proposed change - also required in respect of other disclosures, e.g., Nortel's 04-741 and 05-180.](#)

Chris

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**From:** Robert Snively [mailto:rsnively@Brocade.COM]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2005 2:59 PM  
**To:** Steve Wilson; Janz, Chris  
**Cc:** Robert Snively; Craig Carlson (E-mail); Stevenson, Russ; Barbara Bennett (E-mail); Lynn Barra (E-mail)  
**Subject:** FW: Patent disclosure from Ciena on T11 documents

Folks,

This patent's abstract implies that it probably applies to FC-BB, FC-BB-2, and FC-BB-3.

As a result, we should change the patent claims on PDF page 4 of FC-BB-3 to the "claims have been made" format from the "claims have not been made" format as part of the letter ballot comments resolution.

Bob

**United States Patent**  
**Knobel , et al.**

**6,765,871**  
**July 20, 2004**

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Fiber channel flow control method and apparatus for interface to metro area transport link

#### **Abstract**

This invention relates to a method and apparatus for controlling the flow of fiber channel (FC) data frames from a fiber channel link to a metropolitan area link of lesser bandwidth (a synchronous optical network (SONET)). The release of each data unit by a data source for transport onto the first channel is governed by a credit-based protocol whereby one data unit is released upon the provision of one credit unit. A first marker identifies a high limit H of the buffer at which a first condition occurs, H being less than N and the first condition applying when the number of data units in the buffer is greater than H. A second marker identifies a low limit L of the buffer at which a second condition occurs, L being less than H and the second condition applying when the number of data units in the buffer is less than L. A credit unit owed counter O counts the number of credit units which become owed to the data source when the second condition applies. A third marker Max identifies a maximum number of credit units that may be provided to the data source when the first condition applies and the value of the credit unit counter is greater than zero. Through this invention, effective means to control the flow of data from a fiber channel link to a metro area transport link without loss of frames or delay is provided.

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Inventors: **Knobel; Stephen** (Kemptville, CA); **Dufour; Allan Dennis** (Hull, CA); **Pelley; Barry Leo** (Kinburn, CA);

**Yau; Jim Chi-Luen** (Kanata, CA); **Bisson; Germain Paul** (Stittsville, CA); **Jones; Randy A.** (Nepan, CA); **Adolph; Steve Kieran Anthony** (Ottawa, CA)

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Snively  
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2005 11:37 AM  
To: Robert Snively; Barbara Bennett (E-mail); Lynn Barra (E-mail)  
Cc: 'rusteven@ciena.com'  
Subject: Patent disclosure from Ciena on T11 documents

Dear Ms. Barra,

Enclosed please find a patent disclosure statement from Russell B. Stevenson, Jr., a representative of Ciena, concerning a patent which may relate to some T11 standards.

I have posted this document as T11/05-289v0 on the T11 website, [www.t11.org](http://www.t11.org).

I expect that you will want to file this for your records and forward it to the ANSI patent disclosure data base.

From the abstract, it appears that this patent is most applicable to the FC-BB-3 document.

Many thanks,

Robert Snively, Chair INCITS TC T11

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