



SDI-12 Support Group

SDI-12 Support Group
165 East 500 South
River Heights, Utah 84321

Fall 2005
www.sdi-12.org

SDI-12 Remains at Version 1.3

SDI-12 remains at version 1.3. Some minor clarifications, however, have been made to the specification.

An updated copy of the specification is included with this newsletter. Appendix D in the enclosed specification lists three minor changes that were made to the document.

The Technical Committee last met on November 1, 2004. A discussion on accepting RS-485 as an alternative physical layer to SDI-12 was the main issue that was discussed.

The conclusion was that using RS-485 presents numerous technical problems and therefore no changes to the specification were recommended. The reasons for not accepting RS-485 are:

The driver/receiver impedance is lower for RS-485 than SDI-12.

RS-485 has higher power consumption for data transmission, driving into a 120 Ohm resistance, than SDI-12.

Because SDI-12 has high input impedance, transient protection is good. It is difficult to get the same transient protection with RS-485.

The use of RS-485 would require a change from 3 to 5 wires.

The minutes from that meeting are available at:

www.sdi-12.org/sdi-12/minutes%202004.pdf

No Annual Meeting this Year

The Board of Directors and the Technical Committee have decided not to hold an annual meeting this year. Normally, the annual meeting is held in conjunction with the annual American Water Resource Association's (AWRA) conference, which will be in Seattle this November.

The reason for not meeting this year is because there are no technical issues before the Group.

Technical proposals are always welcome. All proposals are reviewed and discussed. If you have an issue to bring up, please contact us.

We are planning to meet next year at the 2006 AWRA meeting. That meeting will be in Baltimore, Maryland, on November 6 to 9, 2006.

AMASS Data Technologies, Inc.

Aquatrak Corporation

Campbell Scientific, Inc.

Environment Canada

Forest Technology Systems, Inc.

Gems Sensors

Geomation, Inc.

High Sierra Electronics, Inc.

Horiba Instruments, Inc.

In-Situ, Inc.

JGS Enterprises, Inc.

NR Systems, Inc.

Ott Messtechnik

Signal Engineering, Inc.

Stevens Water Monitoring Systems, Inc.

Sutron Corporation

Teledyne Isco, Inc.

U.S. Geological Survey

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Jerry Calhoun, Sutron Corp.

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Receipt of your dues will be most appreciated.

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SDI-12 Support Group
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