

## Re: Rules of the Road for Fibre Channel Interop

**Source:** <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.sys.sun.hardware/2004-02/0370.html>

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**From:** Charles (*cdmccane\_at\_directlink.net*)

**Date:** 02/22/04

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 12:36:52 -0600

Thanks for the response. Topology is FC-AL, very simple at this point – one initiator (Sun) and one target (Clariion). As for latest drivers, I'm using Solaris 8 with the latest jumbo patch. I haven't researched the possibility of doing something with the firmware for the FC100/S. That HBA has been working flawlessly with a 3rd party JBOD enclosure consisting of 8 IBM DDYF-18350 10K rpm drives. Never had any issues with that configuration – all the drives show up under format and provide decent performance as configured under Veritas 3.2 with striping. I'm using a different boot disk with a simple Solaris 8 install for testing – no Veritas on the test boot disk.

When I remove the JBOD, connect the Clariion, and boot from the test boot disk, I can see the DGC-RAID10-0511 target on the loop. With a reconfigure the OS manages to create /dev/dsk/c1t0d0s0-7 device files. Format shows the DGC device and I can go into partition and see the partition table. It shows an 82G device. The problem comes when I do any kind of write, which as you pointed out would first be a label command. That's when I get the "SCSI transport failed: reason 'timeout': retrying command." response showing up in var/messages. I've never been any further than that.

"Matty" <mattycruft@daemons.net> wrote in message  
news:pan.2004.02.22.16.21.51.434591@daemons.net...

> On Sun, 22 Feb 2004 09:18:22 -0600, news.directlink.net wrote:

>

>> *Being relatively new to fibre channel, I need to gain more awareness of what*

>> *works and what to expect. Maybe some gurus here on usenet can help. I*

>> *discovered that my Sun X6730A (FC100/S) card will not correctly communicate*

>> *with a Clariion FC5700 DPER. I don't understand why. Doesn't everyone follow*

>> *the ANSI standard for Fibre Channel? Is the standard kinda "loose" or what?*

>

> *Some cards were released before the standards were formalized, but*

> *should be able to work with some tweaking. What does your*

> *topology look like? Do you have the latest drivers?*

>

> > *I've seen a number of shops with large systems that had Fibre Channel  
> > cards from 2 or 3 different vendors talking to arrays from different  
> > vendors. I never really considered why. I think I'm beginning to get a  
> > clue about this.  
> > In my configuration I can see one device out on the Fibre Channel.  
> > It is  
> > identified as a DGC (Data General, creator of Clariion). This device has  
> > 3 LUN's available (yes, I already did the sd.conf). But any further  
> > communication beyond the format command to see available drives results  
> > in "SCSI transport failed: reason 'timeout': retrying command."  
> > It seems like connecting an FC100/S to a Clariion is like breaking  
> > the  
> > main law of Fibre Channel: Never expect interoperability between any two  
> > given devices. Is that true or am I just making some kind of  
> > configuration mistake with the drivers or the OS? Any help is  
>  
> > Do you have a switch between the host and the Clarion? What happens  
> > when you run a read/analyze on the LUN through format? Did you  
> > label the LUN through format? We have used Emulex cards w/ the  
> > Clarion line and have had great luck.  
>  
> > appreciated.  
> >  
> > Charles McCane  
> > Dallas, TX.  
>*