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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SNIA AND HCLT TAKE SMI-S TEST SUITE  
TO BETA TESTING PHASE**

*Leading Vendors Collaborate to Drive  
Acceptance of Common Storage Standards*

**Orlando, FL-Oct 28, 2003** - The Storage Networking Industry Association (SNIA), an international organization dedicated to advancing the adoption of storage networks as complete and trusted solutions, today announced that the Storage Management Initiative-Specification (SMI-S) Test Suite, being implemented by HCL Technologies (HCLT), a leading technology services provider, has entered the beta testing phase. The initiative, which continues to draw participation from vendors, has made considerable progress and the SNIA expects the SMI-S test suite to be available by the end of 2003.

The SMI-S Test Suite, which is a component of the Interoperability Conformance Test Program (ICTP) is gaining momentum towards providing a trusted and uniform mechanism for storage vendors to verify conformance of their products with SMI specifications.

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In addition to entering the beta testing phase, the SNIA SMI-S Test Suite has also been expanded to include tests for switch and fabric profiles, in addition to array profile, which are being developed in close association with the storage vendors.

“The unprecedented participation and contribution of the storage industry and the development of a uniform test suite for SMI-S further consolidate the gains in the Interoperability Conformance Test Program (ICTP). Our commitment towards simplifying management of storage and promotion of interoperable storage solutions will continue with further development of the SMI-S Test Suite, in association with HCLT” said Jim Geronaitis, SNIA Interoperability Committee Co-chair. “This path-breaking initiative to create a means to verify conformance is a vital step in developing a storage networking standard that will ensure that the investments made by end users in storage solutions will be protected over time.”

S. Raman, COO & President, Core Technologies, HCLT stated, “The SMI-S Test Suites are in beta phase and are showing significant benefit to the network storage industry. This step goes a long way in ensuring that the investments made by end users in storage solutions will be protected over time. With the achievement of this milestone, we now have the synergy to carry the storage management initiative of the SNIA forward.”

The SNIA selected HCLT for its expertise in developing effective solutions for storage vendors and its successful history in developing re-usable software components in Fibre Channel and iSCSI (SCSI over IP) areas. HCLT deployed the initial SMI-S Test Suite for the SNIA, which was first demonstrated at the Spring 2003 SNW conference, and has taken the lead in developing CIM, WBEM and iSCSI based management solutions.

### **About the SNIA**

The Storage Networking Industry Association (SNIA) is a not-for-profit organization, made up of over 350 companies and individuals spanning virtually the entire storage industry. SNIA members share a common goal: to set the pace of the industry by ensuring that storage networks become efficient, complete and trusted solutions for the IT

community. To this end the SNIA is committed to delivering standards, education, and services that will propel open storage networking solutions into the broader market. For information visit the SNIA web site at [www.snia.org](http://www.snia.org).

### **About HCL Technologies**

HCL Technologies is a leading global Product Engineering & IT Services company, providing value-added, software-led IT solutions and services to Fortune 100 companies. With gross revenues of US\$ 396 million for the year ending June 2003 and a delivery organization with over 10,000 professionals, spread across 14 countries in America, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Japan, HCLT is among the top five software service providers in India.

HCLT focuses on technology as well as R&D outsourcing, with the objective of working with clients in areas at the core of their business. The focus on such mission critical projects and the ability to provide services throughout the lifecycle of client products, from conceptualization to ongoing development and maintenance, enables HCLT to build long-term relationships with customers. Together with its knowledge of embedded systems, core technologies and applications development expertise, HCLT is positioned as a composite solutions provider, equipped to cater to diverse IT needs.

HCLT is an Associate Member of the SNIA and participates in working groups of SNIA and IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force). For more information visit the HCLT website at [www.hcltech.com/san](http://www.hcltech.com/san) or write to [sanopera@hcltech.com](mailto:sanopera@hcltech.com)