**OFI WG Weekly telecom – 12/09/2014**

**Agenda:**

* Recording OFI WG calls
* continue C&I discussion – (see Patrick MacArthur’s email dated 12/5 titled “[ofiwg][RFC] libfabric provider interoperability”)
* Credits proposal (see Reese Faucette’s email dated 12/8/14 titled “credits proposal”)
* update on flow control proposal (Sean Hefty)

**Future Agenda Topics:**

* Detailed inventory of the current state of the generic sockets provider
* End-to-end flow control – someone volunteered to try to capture a table of possible options
* Credit discussion – we discussed this two weeks running – conclusion?
* Release process – this discussion produced several ARs:
  + Investigate using github to publish man pages
  + Look into applying mechanisms used by OpenMPI to our release process
* Interfaces and structures for reporting topology data

**OFIWG Download Site:** [www.openfabrics.org/downloads/OFIWG](http://www.openfabrics.org/downloads/OFIWG)

Recording OFI WG meetings

Background: courtesy of Cisco, we have the ability to record meetings including audio and presentations. Links to the recordings could be made available in the meeting minutes. These recordings would not replace our normal habit of publishing written meeting minutes.

- Before using this facility on a regular basis, it seems important to give the group the opportunity to discuss and decide to proceed (or not).

- on the surface, this doesn’t seem to be a lot different from recording a f-2-f meeting, except that in a f-2-f environment the speaker may be more directly aware that he is being recorded.

- no objections were noted and several people expressed support for the idea.

- hopefully, making recordings available will not be a disincentive to participating in person.

- people are encouraged to express themselves on this topic either on the reflector or by private email to the co-chairs (Paul, Sean).

- if no objections are heard this week, we’ll start using this facility at next week’s meeting.

Thanks again to Cisco for providing the webex service for our use.

**C&I discussion**

See slides titled “Compliance\_interop\_2014-1125.pptx”

See Patrick MacArthur’s email dated 12/5/14 titled “[ofiwg][RFC] libfabric provider interoperability”

- an application wants to know if it will successfully interoperate with another instance of the application using a given provider.

- suggestion: use a ‘provider protocol number’. The definition of the protocol number is created by gentlemen’s agreement among one or more providers. The enum defines the wire protocol for implementing the behavior specified by the API, but doesn’t define how the provider is implemented.

- is a single protocol number sufficient? Probably also need a revision number.

- possibly maintain an informal list of active protocol numbers, e.g. on github as a header file. A place where people could go to discover which protocol numbers are active and which had been deprecated.

Updated e-2-e flow control proposal

- new slide 5 “resource management” – expanded definition of flow control to include both local and remote resources, including tracking of all initiator and target resources.

- User either enables or disables resource management. If disabled, essentially all responsibility for managing flow control devolves to a higher authority (e.g. the application layer).

- new slide 6: a proposed matrix showing resources being managed as a function of the endpoint type.

Q: is there a way to indicate that an overrun has occurred? e.g. there is currently no way to determine that a packet was dropped.

A: possibly.

- This leads to a discussion of error reporting across the API. Given the role of OFI, the only thing we can do is to describe a mechanism for reporting overruns or error conditions across the API.

Agenda for next week:

- Credits proposal (see Reese Faucette’s email dated 12/8/14 titled “credits proposal”)

- continue flow control discussion if needed

**Next regular telecom**

Next meeting: Tuesday, 12/16/14

9am-10am Pacific daylight time