Cover Letter for a Recirculation Ballot

Dear P1450.1 Balloting Group Members:

The results from the initial ballot of the IEEE P1450.1/D18 which closed on March 1, 2004, were as follows:

1. This ballot has met the 75% returned ballot requirement.
   48 eligible people in this ballot group.
   33 affirmative votes
   5 negative votes with comments
   1 negative votes without comments
   2 abstention votes
   =====
   41 votes received = 85% returned
   4% abstention

2. The 75% affirmation requirement is being met.
   33 affirmative votes
   5 negative votes with comments
   =====
   38 votes = 86% affirmative

3. The 302 comments received have all been addressed:
   266 – resulting in changes to the document
   36 – resulting in document being unchanged (with explanation)

The purpose of this recirculation ballot is to:

1) Submit to you the revised Draft P1450.1/ D21
2) Provide to you a copy of the changes requested by the balloters together with the resolution of the comments,
3) Present you an opportunity to change your ballot based on the above.

The revised draft of P1450.1/D21 and the detailed list of comments and their resolutions are located on the IEEE-SA web site indicated in the e-mail-notification ballot.

Anyone in the balloting group desiring to change his or her ballot based on these changes; please respond by the date given in the e-mail-notification ballot. You are not obligated to reply; if you do not, your current vote will stand.

Note: that a balloter can only change his or her vote based on the changed portions of the standard, or on the unresolved negatives. Balloters cannot change their vote based on a clause they have previously seen and approved (unless that clause is affected by the new material).

Here is a brief overview of the changes that you will see in the new D21 document:

1) Change bars – due to the large amount of re-write and adjustment to the document, the revised document is presented without change bars. The working group has gone through two draft documents in preparing for this recirculation – D19 and D20. Both of
these are available on the IEEE web site, along with the balloted – D18. Links can be found at the bottom of the following web page (please contact me if you need the password):

http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/1450/dot1/index.html

2) Editorials and clarifications – the invaluable input from all of you reviewers has resulted in improvements in the wording and the accuracy of the examples throughout the document.

3) Reserved words (Table 1) – only the new top level block are now defined as reserved words.

4) Expressions (old clause 6, new clause 5) – You will notice several changes here. Changes have been made in the allowed usage of single quotes and parenthesis as delimiters. Some sub-clauses have been relocated to more appropriate locations. Major re-writing of parts of this clause was done for better clarity.

5) Expression operators (Table 5) – the operator precedence has been adjusted to agree with IEEE Std. 1364 (Verilog).

6) Formal parameters (new sub-clause 5.12) – Parameters used in procedure and macro invocations are now defined as formal parameters. This is really what they were in 1450.0, and they are now defined as such.

7) ScanCellGroups/cell_ref (old clause 16 & sub-clauses 6.11, 6.12, new sub-clause 14.2 & 14.6) – This functionality has been incorporated into the ScanStructures block. In so doing, it has both simplified the concept and improved the functionality.

8) Pattern data (old clause 18, new clause 15) – A complete definition of the backslash operators, including bnf definition, is now included.

9) PatternFailReport (old clause 22, new clause 20) – incorporates new syntax enhancement that have been driven, in large part, by a user who has implemented this feature.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

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