



# SBS Implementers Forum

- Organization, Procedures, Legal aspects -

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# Agenda

- State of the Union
- Organization
- Procedures
- Legal aspects



# Highlights of '97

- ☺ ACPI spec closure
  - SBS driver and tools development
- ☺ SBS-IF created
  - >30 member companies
  - Web site created
- ☺ Two PlugFests
  - February
    - Hosted by Benchmark
  - August
    - Hosted by Energizer Power Systems
- ☺ Sponsor and booth at Power '97
- ☹ Duracell exit



# Directions/objectives for next 6-12 months

- Business
  - Improve SBS-IF interaction with all battery manufacturers
  - Educate and involve OEMs
    - Provide OEMs clear guidelines and tools
  - Ensure safe implementations
  - Address needs of multiple market segments
  - Ensure compliant and quality implementations
  - Be recognized as the best ACPI battery solution



# Directions/objectives for next 6-12 months - Contd.

- Technical
  - Make SBS products/specs the safest in the industry
  - Enable alternative selector scheme
    - More than 4 batteries
    - Simultaneous charge and discharge of multiple batteries
  - Set clear implementation guidelines
    - Minimum features requirements
    - Cost savings suggestions
    - Compliance checklists
  - Close proposals for new SMBus devices



# Next SBS-IF Milestones / Events

- Portable by Design
  - Multiple papers
  - “Portable After Dark” booth
- Spec updates for '98
  - To be discussed in Spec Working Groups
- PlugFest VII ???



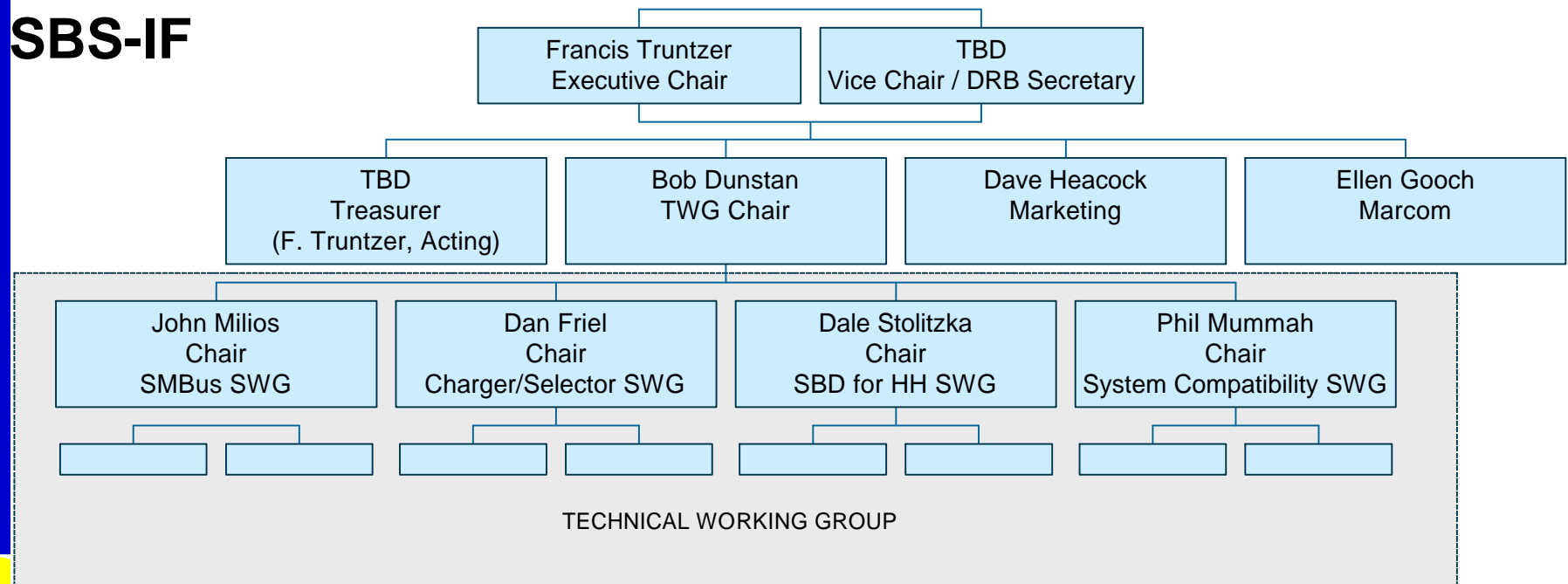
# SBS-IF Organization



# Technical and Executive Team

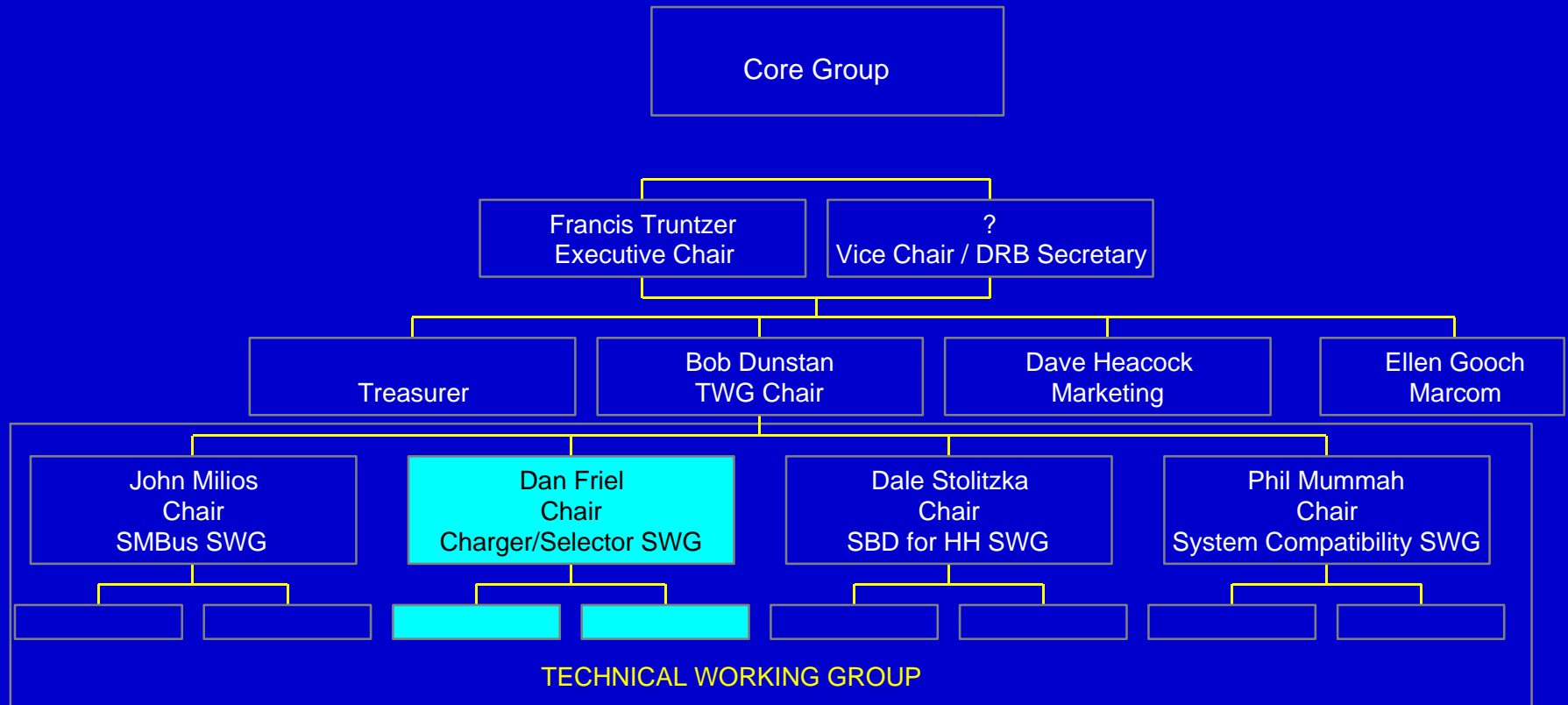
Core Group

## SBS-IF





# Specification Working Group



Spec Working Group

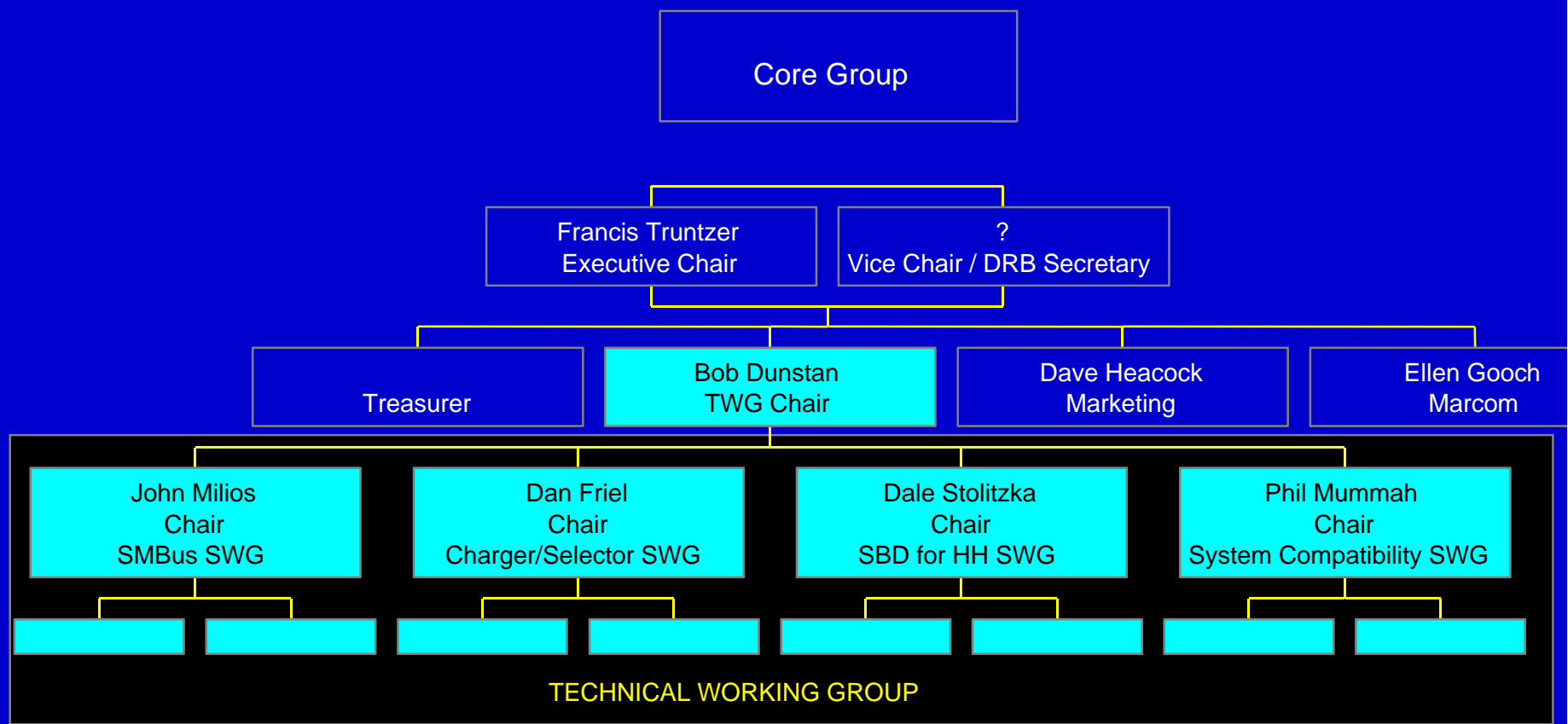


# Specification Working Group

- Mission: Technical owner of a specification
- Membership
  - Representatives of member companies
  - Voting - one per participating member company
- Tasks:
  - Develop and/or maintain specific specification or limited problem area
  - Recommend specification to TWG when ready for wider review



# TWG



Tech Working Group

# Technical Working Group

- Mission: General technical discussion forum
- Membership:
  - Combined members of all the SWGs
  - Voting: one per member company
- Tasks:
  - Make technical recommendations
  - Review proposed spec changes
  - Pass finished specs to DRB for ratification
  - Participate in compliance testing events



## Core Group

Francis Truntzer  
Executive Chair

Truntzer (Acting)  
Vice Chair / DRB Secretary

Treasurer

Bob Dunstan  
TWG Chair

Dave Heacock  
Marketing

Ellen Gooch  
Marcom

John Milios  
Chair  
SMBus SWG

Dan Friel  
Chair  
Charger/Selector SWG

Dale Stoltzka  
Chair  
SBD for HH SWG

Phil Mummah  
Chair  
System Compatibility SWG

## Doc Review Board

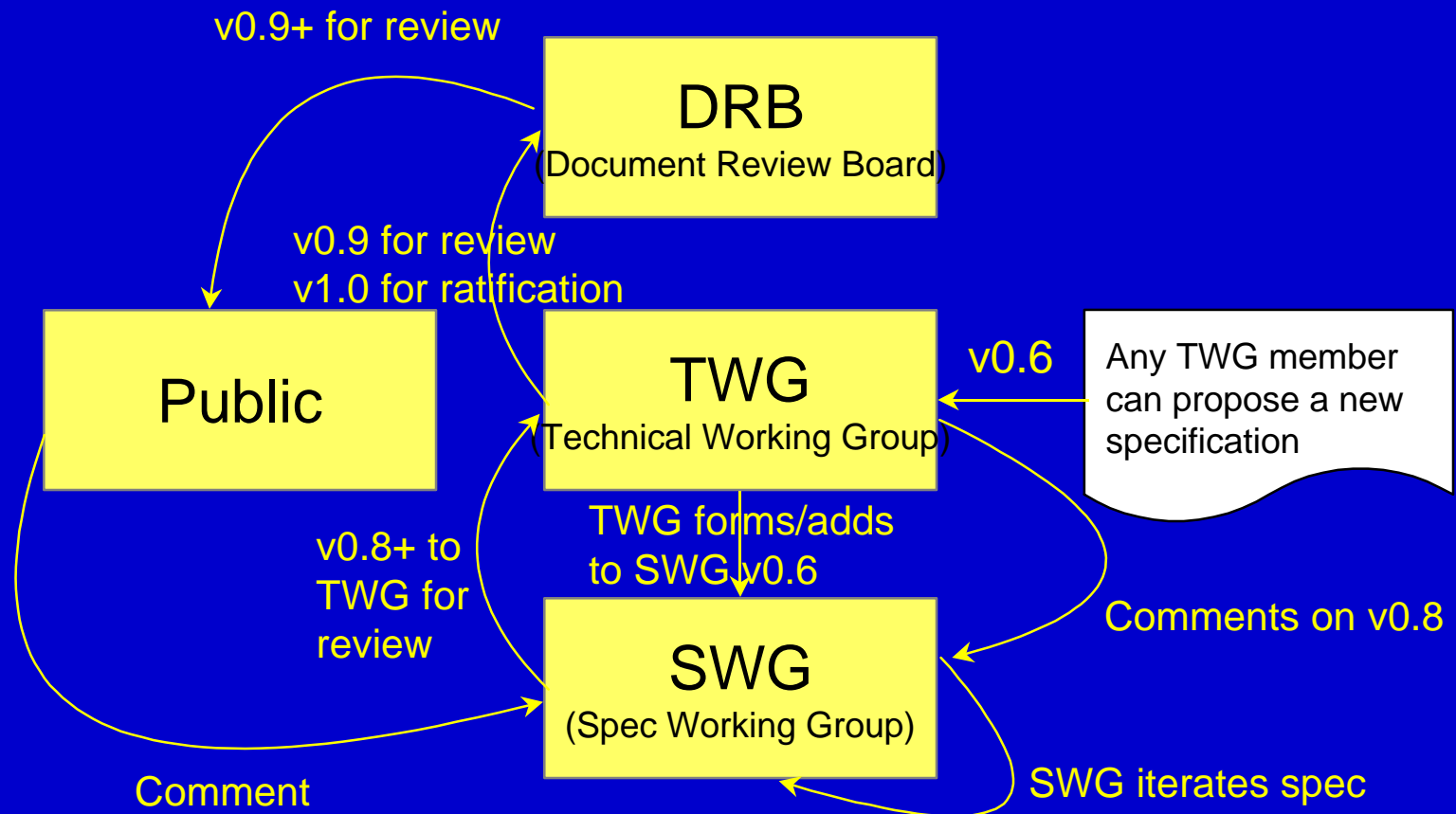
# Document Review Board

- Mission: Specification owner
- Membership:
  - Core group representatives (voting)
  - TWG chair + SWG chairs ( advisory, non voting)
- Tasks:
  - Manage spec release process
  - Ratify TWG recommendations
  - Publish specifications





# Process for Spec Changes



# Legal Aspects of SBS-IF Membership





# Implementers Forums Purposes / Advantages

- SIGs are generally beneficial to product companies
  - Helps create or enlarge a market by ensuring interoperability of hardware and/or software
  - Gives all participants opportunity to begin developing products earlier
- Creates more demand for computers
  - Ensure PC platform works with and fully exploits all available technology



# Basic IP Positions

- Trade Secrets:
  - Everything disclosed in a SIG activity is non-confidential
- Copyrights:
  - Automatic license for all submitted material which is incorporated in Spec.
  - Ensure contributed vs. co-opted
- Patents:
  - Free, reciprocal licenses to necessary interface patents
    - IP open space on interface, not implementation



# Patents

- Free, reciprocal licenses to necessary interface patents
  - Create IP open space on interface, not implementation
  - Makes standards/specifications truly “Open”
- Advantages:
  - Avoid requirement of notification
    - Unrealistic to expect Patent review for all submissions
    - No one can/will disclose claims of patent apps
  - Allows designers increased certainty on royalty costs
    - Incentivizes patent holders to X-license interface patents for free
      - Cost of license is license back
      - This plan no less protective of non product producing patent holders than existing “non-discriminatory” or “notice” plans



# Interface Vs. Implementation

- What is the Difference?
  - The “Interface” is the a description of only what is needed to connect to or to be a “compliant” device.
  - An “Implementation” is the particular way an Adopter implements the Interface in a product.
- Why Differentiate?
  - Allow industry to take advantage of interoperable specification
  - Maintain value of individual designs/ manufacturing ability

