Tom Ruwart has over 23 years of experience in the computer and storage industry starting in 1977 with Control Data Corporation. He spent seven years at Control Data working on and developing software for their IBM plug-compatible disk drives such as the 33500 and 33800 series. In 1984, Tom went to a small start-up company called Edge Computer Corporation to develop storage and graphics I/O subsystem software for a high-performance UNIX based engineering/scientific workstation. This was followed by a move to the Minnesota Supercomputer Center in 1986 and then to the University of Minnesota from 1988-2000. At the University, Tom was the Assistant Director of the Laboratory for Computational Science and Engineering (LCSE) in the Department of Astronomy. In that capacity, Tom was instrumental in working with the Fibre Channel community from the beginning years of that technology. Recently Tom has joined Ciprico, Inc. as their Chief Technology Officer.

Tom's interests are in hyper-scalable high-performance, high-capacity intelligent storage systems as well as the effects of *evolving* and *emerging* technologies on the storage industry. These technologies include 2Gig/4Gig Fibre Channel, ISCSI, Infiniband, and beyond. Most importantly it is what one can DO with these technologies to solve problems for customers that is of primary interest.

Tom is an executive member of the IEEE Mass Storage Technical Committee.