WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer-implemented method for performing a host-initiated link reset in a storage area network (SAN), the method comprising;

identifying, by a host in communication with the SAN, each link in the SAN, wherein each link is defined by a pair of ports;

obtaining, by the host, a buffer credit balance for each port in the SAN;

calculating, by the host, a buffer credit imbalance for each link in the SAN; and

based on a determination that the buffer credit imbalance for a link exceeds a threshold value, causing a reset of the link, wherein the threshold value is a predetermined percentage and the buffer credit imbalance is calculated by dividing a larger buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link by a smaller buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link and subtracting one.

2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein obtaining the buffer credit balance for each port in the SAN is performed on a periodic basis.

3. The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein a frequency of the periodic basis is configurable by a user of the host.

4. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the determination that the buffer credit imbalance for the link exceeds the threshold value comprises determining that a difference between the buffer credit balance for each port of the pair of ports is greater than a predetermined number.

5. The computer-implemented method of ~~claim 1, wherein the threshold value is a predetermined percentage and the buffer credit imbalance is calculated by dividing a larger buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link by a smaller buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link and subtracting one.~~

~~6. The computer-implemented method of~~ claim 1, wherein the threshold value is configurable by a user of the host.

~~7.~~

6. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:

based on the determination that the buffer credit imbalance for the link exceeds the threshold value and that at least one of the pair of ports for the link is a channel port, issuing, by the host, a command to the channel port to reset the link.

~~8.~~

7. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:

based on the determination that the buffer credit imbalance for the link exceeds the threshold value and that neither of the pair of ports is a channel port, instructing a network device in the SAN associated with the link to perform a reset of the link.

~~9.~~ 8. A storage area network (SAN) comprising:

one or more network devices;

a plurality of end devices each coupled to at least one of the one or more network devices, wherein one of the plurality of end devices is a host device that is configured to:

identify each link in the SAN, wherein each link is defined by a pair of ports;

obtain a buffer credit balance for each port in the SAN;

calculate a buffer credit imbalance for each link in the SAN; and

based on a determination that the buffer credit imbalance for a link exceeds a threshold value, cause a reset of the link, wherein the threshold value is a predetermined percentage and the buffer credit imbalance is calculated by dividing a larger buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link by a smaller buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link and subtracting one.

9. ~~10.~~ The SAN of claim ~~9~~8, wherein obtaining the buffer credit balance for each port in the SAN is performed on a periodic basis.

10. ~~11.~~ The SAN of claim ~~10~~9, wherein a frequency of the periodic basis is configurable by a user of the host.

~~12.~~

11. The SAN of claim 98, wherein the determination that the buffer credit imbalance for the link exceeds the threshold value comprises determining that a difference between the buffer credit balance for each port of the pair of ports is greater than a predetermined number.

13.

12. The SAN of claim 9, wherein the threshold value is a predetermined percentage and the buffer credit imbalance is calculated by dividing a larger buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link by a smaller buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link and subtracting one.

14. The SAN of claim 98, wherein the threshold value is configurable by a user of the host.

15.

13. The SAN of claim 98, wherein the host device that is further configured to:

based on the determination that the buffer credit imbalance for the link exceeds the threshold value and that at least one of the pair of ports for the link is a channel port, issue, by the host, a command to the channel port to reset the link.

16.

14. The SAN of claim 8, wherein the host device that is further configured to:

based on the determination that the buffer credit imbalance for the link exceeds the threshold value and that neither of the pair of ports is a channel port, instruct a network device in the SAN associated with the link to perform a reset of the link.

17. 15. A computer program product for performing a host-initiated link reset in a storage area network (SAN), the computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium having program instructions embodied therewith, the program instructions readable by a processor to cause the processor to:

identify, by a host in communication with the SAN, each link in the SAN, wherein each link is defined by a pair of ports;

obtain, by the host, a buffer credit balance for each port in the SAN;

calculate, by the host, a buffer credit imbalance for each link in the SAN; and

based on a determination that the buffer credit imbalance for a link exceeds a threshold value, causing a reset of the link, wherein the threshold value is a predetermined percentage and the buffer credit imbalance is calculated by dividing a larger buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link by a smaller buffer credit balance of the pair of ports of the link and subtracting one.

16. ~~18.~~ The computer program product of ~~claim 17~~15, wherein obtaining the buffer credit balance for each port in the SAN is performed on a periodic basis.

~~19.~~

17. The computer program product of ~~claim 18~~16, wherein a frequency of the periodic basis is configurable by a user of the host.

18. ~~20.~~ The computer program product of ~~claim 17, wherein~~15, wherein the determination that the buffer credit imbalance for the link exceeds the threshold value comprises determining that a difference between the buffer credit balance for each port of the pair of ports is greater than a predetermined number.