

IEEE 802.3ax (IEEE P802.1AX) D2.0 Link Aggregation comments

CI 00 SC 0 P L # 10  
Tullia, Thomas Individual

Comment Type G Comment Status A

Numerous instances of apparently blank lines amidst text. Rationale for retention is unclear. Such only impact presentation/format and does not affect content. Affected pages include 75, 79, 112, 113, 123,

SuggestedRemedy

Recommend elimination of superfluous blank lines.

Response Response Status C

ACCEPT.

CI 00 SC 0 P 0 L 0 # 4  
Turner, Michelle

Comment Type GR Comment Status A

If the draft contains a registration of objects (for additional information, visit the IEEE Standards Web site <<http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/index.html>>), the working group shall submit the document to the IEEE Registration Authority (IEEE-RA) for mandatory coordination (submit to [a.n.landron@ieee.org](mailto:a.n.landron@ieee.org) for review). The text containing the registration information should be highlighted in the draft and the clause should be noted in the email. If the working group believes that the draft may potentially contain a registration of objects or if the working group would like information about setting up a registration, contact the IEEE-RA as early as possible to prevent a delay in approval by the IEEE-SA Standards Board. Search on the following words: object identifier, unique identifier, and assignment of unique numbers.

SuggestedRemedy

Response Response Status W

ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE.

All material related to registration of objects has been previously reviewed by the RAC and does not need to be resubmitted.

CI 00 SC 0 P 17 L 35 # 11  
Thompson, Geoffrey Individual

Comment Type GR Comment Status A

There is a abbreviation key for the term "TLV" as short for "Type/Length/Value" but there is no definition for the term itself. Now normally one would have a reference of last resort but lacking an actual "Concise Dictionary" to refer to all reference to IEEE 100 has been removed.

Further in, I find "TLV" used in conjunction with the word "tuple". While I can find something on the web for "tuple", I do not consider "Wiki" to be an authoritative source of definitions. I find no entry for "tuple" in the American Heritage dictionary.

SuggestedRemedy

Please add or refer to appropriate definitions for both "TLV" and "tuple".

Response Response Status C

ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE.

type, length, value (TLV): A short, variable length encoding of an information element consisting of sequential type, length, and value fields where the type field identifies the type of information, the length field indicates the length of the information field in octets, and the value field contains the information, itself. The type value is locally defined and needs to be unique within the protocol defined in this standard.

Definition of '-tuple' from Merram Websters dictionary is as follows:

Function: noun combining form

Etymology: quintuple, sextuple

: set of (so many) elements —usually used of sets with ordered elements <the ordered 2-tuple (a, b)>

CI 00 SC 0 P 75 L 7 # 9  
Tullia, Thomas Individual

Comment Type E Comment Status A

Appears an excessive number of apprenly blank lines preceding subclause 5.7.

SuggestedRemedy

Delete lines 7 through 54

Response Response Status C

ACCEPT.

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Cl 03 SC 3 P15 L # 3  
 Kurihara, Thomas Individual

Comment Type E Comment Status R

Reference pages 15 and 16. Terms defined by the first sentence of the definition as written. All following sentences are descriptions and not a part of the definition. Conventional style guidance and wisdom is that the description, apparently essential to the context of its use in the standard, is moved to a note, and in some cases multiple notes.

SuggestedRemedy

For every term in Clause 4, Definitions, with more than one sentence, create a note (Note:) for all sentences except the first sentence which is the definition of the term. This is a process improvement suggestion and if not accepted may be resubmitted with a negative position on subsequent ballots.

Response Response Status C

REJECT.

Many of our terms have multiple uses within our industry and language and therefore it is the opinion of the BRG that the additional contextual information is helpful.

Cl 03 SC 3.7 P16 L9 # 7  
 Gwinn, Joseph Individual

Comment Type E Comment Status R

In the definition for switch (paragraph 3.21), it mentions that the synonym is bridge. The definition for bridge should mention that switch is a synonym.

SuggestedRemedy

Add "syn: switch" at the end of line 11.

Response Response Status C

REJECT.

Bridge is the correct term in the standards context therefore all we are trying to do is point the term switch to the correct term.

Cl 05 SC 5.1 P18 L6 # 1  
 Johnston, David Individual

Comment Type T Comment Status A

The normal role of 802.1 standards is to provide the architecture that enables all 802 media to operate and inter operate.

The overview (5.1) states "This clause defines an optional Link Aggregation sublayer for use with CSMA/CD MACs.". Other text clarifies that this is standard for 802.3. Specifications that work only for 802.3, rightly should be defined in 802.3. A link aggregation specification in 802.1 should be defined to work with any medium that correctly supports the internal sublayer service and other required aspects of the 802 architecture.

SuggestedRemedy

I have no proposed text, that would require more than I'm able to deliver. However I would like to see the specification move from the requirement of a CSMA/CD MAC to supporting any correctly defined 802 medium including 802.5, 802.11, 802.16 (with the ethernet CS), 802.17.

Response Response Status C

ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE.

This is the plan moving forward as stated on the PAR [http://standards.ieee.org/board/nep/projects/802-1AX.pdf]: 'This project will form an initial base document for MAC independent Link Aggregation based on the current Ethernet specifications. It is expected that addition of any other MAC types to the document will be done as future amendment projects to this base document.'

Cl 05 SC 5.1 P18 L8 # 8  
 Gwinn, Joseph Individual

Comment Type E Comment Status A

In "To this end, it specifies" is ambiguous, as it is unclear where the "it" points. From grammar, it should be the single link, which does not make sense. More likely, the intended reference is the Link Aggregation Group a bit earlier in the line.

SuggestedRemedy

Change to read "To this end, the Link Aggregation Group specifies".

Response Response Status C

ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE.

Change to read 'To this end, Link Aggregation specifies ..'.

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Cl 05 SC 5.1.2 P 21 L 1 # 5  
 Conta, Alexander Individual

Comment Type E Comment Status A

Current positive/negative sentence construction can be confusing. Suggestion is to replace with a positive/positive construction, which is less prone to confuse.

*SuggestedRemedy*

Suggested text: "Low risk of duplication or mis-ordering--During both steady-state operation and link (re)configuration, there is a low probability that frames are duplicated or mis-ordered."

Response Response Status C

ACCEPT.

Cl 05 SC 5.4.6 P 48 L 21 # 6  
 Conta, Alexander Individual

Comment Type E Comment Status R

The text line 21 to 28 can be confusing. With the existing use of TRUE and FALSE values, the name of the variable should be "Individual\_Only\_Aggregator". However, changing the text seems a better alternative. The suggestion includes changing the variable name to "Multi-Port\_Aggregator\_Capability", or "Aggregator\_Capability".

*SuggestedRemedy*

Suggested text: "Aggregator\_Capability  
 The aggregation capability of the Aggregator.  
 Value: Boolean  
 TRUE if the port(s) attached to this Aggregator are capable of aggregation with other ports  
 FALSE if the port attached to this Aggregator is not capable of aggregation with any other port."

Response Response Status C

REJECT.

The change inverts the sense of this variable and therefore would require other changes in the draft. Since this project is to extract an existing clause from IEEE Std 802.3 that has been implemented for over 10 years renaming and inverting the sense of this variable is ill advised.

Cl 05 SC 5.5.4.2.3 P 52 L 44 # 2  
 Willow, David R Individual

Comment Type E Comment Status A

The following line references an ambiguous note: "These behaviors, together with the constraint on future protocol enhancements discussed in the Note in 5.5.3.2, allow Version 1 devices to be compatible with future revisions of the protocol."

*SuggestedRemedy*

Reference the specific sub-clause containing the referenced note:  
 "These behaviors, together with the constraint on future protocol enhancements discussed in the Note in 5.5.3.2(n), allow Version 1 devices to be compatible with future revisions of the protocol."

Response Response Status C

ACCEPT.