

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group
DRAFT Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group¹

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From: David Law Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group

Subject: Response to SG15-LS58, "LS/r on the development of weakly-coupled multi-core fibre Recommendations"

Approval Agreed at IEEE 802 Plenary meeting, Vancouver, BC, CA, 12 Mar 2026

Dear Colleagues,

The IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group (WG) thanks ITU-T Q5/15 and Q7/15 for their kind update on their respective activities related to WC-MCF.

As previously communicated, the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet WG currently has no projects that address Ethernet operation over WC-MCF. However, it recognizes current industry interest in Ethernet interconnects operating at signaling rates greater than 200 Gb/s per lane, both electrically and optically.

¹ This document solely represents the views of the IEEE 802.3 Working Group, and does not necessarily represent a position of the IEEE, the IEEE Standards Association, or IEEE 802.

To that end, the IEEE 802.3 NEA “E4AI” Assessment recently held a virtual workshop on 24 Feb 2026 to explore Ethernet operation and the future of optical fiber. The proceedings of this workshop may be found at

https://www.ieee802.org/3/ad_hoc/E4AI/public/26_0224/index.html.

The IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group looks forward to revisiting this topic with ITU-T at the joint IEEE 802 / ITU-T workshop announced for July 2026.

Sincerely,

David Law

Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group