



**Question(s):** 11/15

Hong Kong, 18–22 November 2024

**LS**  
**(Ref.: TD8/WP3)**

**Source:** ITU-T Study Group 15

**Title:** LS/r on FlexO payload type for 800GBASE-ER1 (reply to [IEEE802.3EthernetWG-LS138](#))

**LIAISON STATEMENT**

**For action to:** -

**For information to:** IEEE 802.3

**Approval:** ITU-T Q11/15 meeting (Hong Kong ,22 November 2024)

**Deadline:** -

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**Abstract:** Reply to incoming liaison on FlexO payload type

Thank you for your liaison statement concerning allocation of a FlexO payload type for use by the 800GBASE-ER1 and 800GBASE-ER1-20 PHYs you are defining in the IEEE P802.3dj project.

Q11/15 has reviewed this request and is happy to see that you have found our FlexO-8e-DO format to be useful in your application. We have assigned payload type 0x42 for your use. This assignment will be published in the next amendment of Recommendation ITU-T G.709.1. Until that time, the assignment will be noted on the living list for that Recommendation.

We would observe that the root cause of the PTP inaccuracy in the 800GBASE-ER1 and 800GBASE-ER1-20 PHYs is that the mapping of Ethernet over FlexO-8e does not carry the alignment markers, based on the definition of the OTN mapping reference point for 800GBASE-R in IEEE Std. 802.3df. We note that IEEE P802.3dj does not include any 1.6T PHYs that require mapping over FlexO frames, but if you anticipate that you might in the future specify 1.6T PHYs that would use a similar mapping over FlexO frames as 800GBASE-ER1, it may be beneficial to change the OTN mapping reference point in the 1.6TBASE-R PCS. We will also consider whether enhanced PTP accuracy would be useful in our own applications carrying Ethernet over OTN, and if so, may request such a change to the 1.6TBASE-R OTN mapping reference point.

We look forward to continued collaboration with IEEE 802.3 on these topics and other topics of mutual interest.