Title: Liaison to the IEEE RA with respect to ISO/IEC TR 11802-1, LLC Addresses and
         ISO/IEC TR 11802-2, Standard Group MAC Addresses
From: ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 WG1
Date: 13 March 2002

ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 WG1 recognises that its work is nearing completion and that it has benefited over the years from the close collaboration between itself and the WGs of the IEEE 802 LMSC. While many of the base LAN standards have been initially developed within the LMSC, they have benefited from the process of international review and have subsequently been published as ISO/IEC standards. In complementary developments, ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 WG1 has initially developed and published both ISO/IEC TR 11802-1 and ISO/IEC TR 11802-2 but in doing so has relied on technical support from the LMSC, and specifically IEEE 802.1. These TRs contain well-known and well-founded addresses that are essential to the correct operation of most LANs currently installed world-wide. The process whereby these addresses have been allocated has been a shared responsibility between the two organisations, and the need for continuing probity in their management, allocation and publication remains.

ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 WG1 believe it is in the best interest of the data communications industry which it serves that now is the appropriate time for the IEEE RA to take over the role for the allocation, management and publication of these addresses. In doing, the IEEE RA would become the single point of contact with respect to all information associated with LAN addressing. Further, in carrying out these duties, the IEEE RA would be able to seek continuing technical guidance from the LMSC, specifically IEEE 802.1, and where appropriate, from ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 for a wider international perspective.

If the IEEE RA is agreeable to these proposals, ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 will work closely with them to ensure that a well managed and well publicised transition takes place. It is further suggested that this effort is co-ordinated between the liaison officer appointed by ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 between itself and the IEEE LMSC, Mr R Tasker; the liaison officer appointed by the IEEE LMSC between itself and ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6, Mr T Jeffree; and the Chair of the IEEE RA.

ISO/IEC JTC1 SC6 WG1 believes this is an opportunity that is in the best interests of all those concerned with LAN standards from developers and implementers, to the users of the associated products, and looks forward to the response from the IEEE RA.