



Title: Liaison Statement to IEEE P802.1

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From: Metro Ethernet Forum

Gentlemen,

The Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF) is defining a set of services that could be offered by providers to customers for the transport of Ethernet frames between customer sites. In defining these services the MEF would like to specify how a specific service will filter, forward, or process Layer-2 Control Protocol (L2CP) frames. Ideally these specifications would be compatible with the behaviors specified in IEEE 802 standards. Therefore the MEF would appreciate clarification on the following issues:

1. IEEE Std 802.1ad-2005 specifies a list of addresses (Table 8-2) that will be filtered by S-VLAN components. Rumors abound that the LLDP address will be added to this list. What are the plans with respect to modifications to this table?
2. IEEE Std 802-1ad-2005 has a note in subclause 8.6.3 that implies some protocols may transmit frames with addresses that were assigned to other protocols. This implies that the standards specifying these protocols (e.g. 802.3ad, 802.1X) may change. The note also says that the protocols are identified by the type, not the destination address. Does this mean that the protocol will process any frame received with that type, regardless of

the destination address? If not, what is the expected sequence in which the Higher Layer Entities would examine the type and the destination address fields?

3. Which protocols are expected to be modified to potentially use different reserved addresses for different reaches within a network? Which addresses are they anticipated to use?

4. Is there ever a case where a L2CP frame would be both forwarded by the relay and processed by a Higher Layer Entity?

If you could provide some foresight on these issues we will try to accommodate it in our specifications.

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