November 9, 2001

Mr. Jim Carlo
Chair, IEEE 802

***VIA Email:* j.carlo@ieee.org**

Subject: Update on VDSL Standard for Trial Use and a request for cooperative work on spectrum management relative the EFM on copper activity

Dear Jim,

Technical Subcommittee T1E1 recognizes the newly formed IEEE task force for Ethernet in the First Mile, IEEE 802.3ah, to study the delivery of Ethernet over both copper and fiber media. We are also aware that one of the proposals being considered for transmission over copper has the VDSL (Very-high-bit-rate Digital Subscriber Line Metallic Interface) as a possible solution for the PMD layer specification. VDSL has been studied in Committee T1 since 1994. Presently, VDSL is being balloted for approval as a three-part Standard for Trial Use. The three parts of the Standard for Trial Use are as follows:

- Part 1: Functional Requirements and Common Specification
- Part 2: Technical Specification for Single-Carrier Modulation (SCM) Transceivers
- Part 3: Technical Specification for Multi-Carrier Modulation (MCM) Transceivers

The significance of the trial-use standard is that the whole VDSL specification will come up for review two years from date of publication as opposed to the normal five-year period. We expect approval of the VDSL Standard for Trial Use in February 2002; hence, the two-year trial-use period is expected to end in the first quarter of 2004. At that time, Working Group T1E1.4 will be tasked with reviewing the VDSL Standard for Trial Use and will determine by consensus one of the following ways forward:

1) Reaffirmation of the documents as written for an additional trial-use period;
2) Revision of the documents to be approved for an additional trial-use period;
3) Revision of the documents to be approved for publication as another Committee T1 Product (ANSI Standard, Technical Requirements or Technical Report).

Revisions, as indicated in items 2 and 3, could include the selection of one modulation approach, keeping both modulation techniques with some added improvements and clarifications, or

T1E1

Interfaces, Power and Protection of Networks

A Technical Subcommittee of Standards Committee T1 Telecommunications

Accredited by the American National Standards Institute

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some other action entirely. We expect that developments in the marketplace during the trial-use period may help in the selection of a single physical layer specification.

We recognize that IEEE and T1E1 are both ANSI accredited standard development organizations. Given that VDSL is a possible solution for the 802.3ah PMD layer specification, we encourage your task force to utilize the work done by Committee T1 in VDSL to the extent that VDSL is part of the specification. This would maintain consistency among the VDSL implementations in different ANSI standards. We also understand that technologies other than VDSL are being considered as possible solutions for the PMD layer in the 802.3ah specification. We would very much appreciate if you could continue to share information as your work on EFM progresses.

Whatever solution is chosen for the PMD layer in 802.3ah, we appreciate your stated objective that the specification will comply with the spectrum management guidelines defined in the first issue of Spectrum Management Standard T1.417-2001. In addition, please note that T1E1.4 is working on a second issue of T1.417 and has an active study item on dynamic spectrum management, both of which may be applicable to the EFM on copper activity. We look forward to working together with you in defining spectrum management guidelines for 802.3ah solutions.

Sincerely,
(signed original on file)
Edward J. Eckert
Chairman, Technical Subcommittee T1E1

cc: Geoff Thompson, IEEE 802.3 Chair
Howard Frazier, IEEE 802.3ah Chair
Massimo Sorbara, Chair, T1E1.4
Tom Starr, Vice Chair, T1E1.4
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