

# Interface Names

# Use of Gigabit vs. Gb/s per Section

Section	Gigabit Media	Gigabit Attachment	Gb/s Media	Gb/s Attachment
1	25	9	0	0
2	2	0	0	0
3	28	0	0	0
4	33	13	0	0
5	24	3	6	0
6	0	3	53	66

- Gb/s Media in Section 5 was due to modifications by 802.3ba
- Section 6 does make use of Gigabit Attachment in 80.1.3
  - Interface definitions

# 40G and 100G Exceptions

- Uses Gigabit instead of Gb/s in Clause 1
- Original 10 Gigabit Media Independent Interface used in IEEE Std. 802.3-2008 Clauses 73 and 74 was changed by .3ba to be 10 Gb/s
- Only 6 instances of Gb/s in Section 5
  - Figures 73-1 and 74-1
  - Figure 69-1 uses Gigabit
- Section 6
  - No use of Gigabit Media, only uses Gb/s Media
  - Mixes use of Gigabit Attachment and Gb/s Attachment

# P802.3ae Background – Why Gigabit?

- 1G used Gigabit Media Independent Interface so natural follow-on
- 10G specified three interfaces
  - 10 Gigabit Media Independent Interface (XGMII)
  - 10 Gigabit Attachment Unit Interface (XAUI)
  - 10 Gigabit Sixteen-Bit Interface (XSBI)
- Naming tied to the project (10 Gigabit Ethernet) vs. a specific rate
  - A lot of concern about specifying rates due to WAN PHY
    - “Support a speed of 10.000 Gb/s at the MAC/PLS service interface”
  - XAUI and XSBI did not operate at 10 Gb/s

# Clause 55 Exception

- For some bizarre reason, Ten Gigabit was used instead of 10 Gigabit
- Only four instances, all located in Clause 55
- Submit comment against 802.3 REV to correct to match definition used in Clause 1
- Who chaired this thing?? ;-)

# Inconsistency

- 802.3 is consistently inconsistent!
  - But it doesn't have to be...
- Options:
  1. Convert Gb/s to Gigabit
    - 6 changes to Section 5 and 118 changes to Section 6
    - Creates a consistent use throughout the standard
    - Set a consistent use going forward
  2. Let 40 and 100 continue to use Gb/s
    - 5 changes to Section 1, 2 changes to Section 5, and 3 changes to Section 6
    - Least number of changes
    - Move to Gb/s for all future projects?