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| 8802-3/802.3 REVISION REQUEST |
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DATE: 8th July, 2000
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REQUESTED REVISION:
STANDARD: IEEE std 802.3-1998, IEEE std 802.3ac-1998
IEEE Std 802.3ab-1999, IEEE Std 802.3ad-2000
CLAUSE NUMBER: 30
CLAUSE TITLE: 10 Mb/s, 100 Mb/s, and 1000 Mb/s Management

PROPOSED REVISION TEXT:

Change the name of the "802dot3(10006)" assignment to
"ieee802dot3(10006)"

RATIONALE FOR REVISION:

According to ASN.1 (X.208, section 8.3):

"An identifier shall consist of an arbitrary number (one or more) of letters, digits, and hyphens. The initial character shall be a lower-case letter. A hyphen shall not be the last character. A hyphen shall not be immediately followed by another hyphen.

Note - the rules concerning hyphen are designed to avoid ambiguity with (possibly following) comment."

In other words, you CANNOT start an identifier with a digit. As a MIB that contains this is therefore illegal, no one will be able to parse a MIB that contains the identifier "802dot3(10006)".

IMPACT ON EXISTING NETWORKS:

As the MIBs prior to IEEE Std 802.3ad have only been GDMO, it is unlikely that any MIBs are in use with this identifier. If anyone had tried to use the GDMO MIBs they would have been found this bug.

The SNMP MIB in IEEE 802.3ad is slightly more of a problem however the following note was added prior to publication to try and lessen the impact.

"Note: As this text goes to publication it is believed that the identifier "802dot3" i.e. in the context 802dot3 (10006), violates ASN rules ref ASN 1 (X.208 Section 8.3) and will therefore produce a syntax error when compiled. IEEE is taking action to change this identifier to "ieee802dot3" as quickly as possible."

Please attach supporting material, if any
Submit to:- Geoffrey O. Thompson, Chair IEEE 802.3
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+----- For official 802.3 use -----+
REV REQ NUMBER: 1050
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~~EDITORIAL/TECHNICAL~~
ACCEPTED/~~DENIED~~
BALLOT REQ'D ~~YES/NO~~
COMMENTS: Published IEEE Std 802.3-2002

For information about this Revision Request see -
http://www.ieee802.org/3/maint/requests/revision_history.html#REQ1050