IEEE 802   IEEE 802.3 CSMA/CD (Ethernet) Working Group

March 15, 2007

From: IEEE 802.3 Working Group

To: Ghani Abbas, Rapporteur Q9/15 (ghani.abbas@ericsson.com)
Cc: Paul Nikolich; Chair, IEEE 802 (p.nikolich@ieee.org)
        Tony Jeffree, Chair, IEEE 802.1 (tony@jeffree.co.uk)
        Robert Grow, Chair, IEEE 802.3 (bob.grow@ieee.org)
        Wael Diab; Secretary, IEEE 802.3 (wdiab@broadcom.com)

Subject: Proposed extension to Link Aggregation protocol
Action: Response to your action request

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for your letter of 19 Feb 2007.

IEEE 802.3 is in the process of moving responsibility for Link Aggregation to 802.1. We do not want to make any changes to the function currently described in IEEE Std 802.3-2005 Clause 43 while doing this transfer. IEEE 802.3 Link Aggregation will in a proposed new standard, P802.1AX, and we recommend that any modifications be addressed to 802.1 for consideration as an amendment to that new standard.

Though we cannot promise completion dates, our target for P802.1AX approval is March 2008.

IEEE Std 802.3 physical layer management information is available on a per link basis and could be used by a protection management entity for the capability you describe. There are other options to the method you describe that should also be explored. That exploration though should be pursued with IEEE 802.1

Sincerely,

Robert M. Grow, Chair, IEEE 802.3 Working Group