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Question(s):	9	Sophia Antipolis, France, 12-16 February 2007

LIAISON STATEMENT

Source:	ITU-T SG15
Title:	Proposed extension to Ethernet LAG protocol

LIAISON STATEMENT

To:	**IEEE 802.3, IEEE 802.1**	
Approval:	**Question 9 SG15**	
For:	**Action**	
Deadline:	**None**	
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ITU-T has been studying various protection mechanisms in its work developing recommendations G.8031 and G.8032.

During the course of this work, the case has been highlighted where a particular protected span can be transported over an Ethernet LAG. It is the groups understanding that during a partial LAG failure (e.g. one or more members of the LAG fail), that the LAG continues to deliver traffic, but with reduced capacity.

For a protected network, this may not be the optimum behaviour, as the protection path should have full capacity available, hence the service would be better served by switching to the protection path. The group has been unable to identify any forward defect indication mechanism that can indicate to the protection switching mechanism that a partial failure is in progress and that protection switching should occur.

One improvement that could be made would be for the LAG to be optionally configured to discard all traffic on a partial failure. This would ensure switching of the protected entity on a LAG failure of any magnitude.

ITU SG-15 therefore asks the IEEE to consider the addition of this behaviour to the LAG protocol as a configurable option.

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