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Background:

- The IEEE 802.3z specifies in Clause 38.11.1, Table 38.12, 1.5 dB/km attenuation value for the MMF cabled optical fiber
- References ISO/IEC 11801, International Cabling Standard
- ANSI/TIA/EIA-568-A and Rev. B US National Cabling Standard do specify value of 1.5 dB/km
- The ISO/IEC 11801 specification for cabled optical fiber attenuation is 1.0 dB/km

Issue:

- Vast majority of cable manufacturers (Alcatel, BICC, Pirelli, Siecor, Mohawk CDT, Lucent) can meet the 1.0 dB/km attenuation for loose tube only
- The tight buffer cable structure, especially the 50/125 μm , can't be produced to 1.0 dB Max. specification

Recommendation:

- IEEE 802.3 request ISO/IEC JTC1 SC25 WG3 to change the attenuation value from present 1.0 to 1.5 dB/km in the second edition of the International Cabling Standard