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## **NEW IEEE 802.3bj™ AMENDMENT DESIGNED TO ENABLE HIGHER-DENSITY, MORE ENERGY-EFFICIENT, LOWER-COST ETHERNET CONNECTIVITY**

*Through globally open collaboration, IEEE 802.3bj developed to expand and optimize Ethernet standard for fast-growing applications such as data centers and blade servers*

**PISCATAWAY, N.J., USA, XX Month 2014** – IEEE, the world's largest professional organization advancing technology for humanity, today announced the availability of IEEE 802.3bj™ “Standard for Ethernet Amendment 2: Physical Layer Specifications and Management Parameters for 100 Gb/s Operation Over Backplanes and Copper Cables.” This amendment to IEEE 802.3™ “Standard for Ethernet” is intended to support higher-density, more energy-efficient and lower-cost connectivity for rapidly growing Ethernet applications such as data centers and blade servers.

“Ethernet is always evolving, and this amendment is another important evolutionary step for the global technology ecosystem in terms of Ethernet’s application in fast-growing areas of networking,” said Adam Healey, chair of the IEEE 803.3bj Task Force and **CORPORATE TITLE**. “IEEE previously had defined 40 Gb/s and 100 Gb/s Ethernet to help alleviate bandwidth choke points in the network. Now IEEE 802.3bj has been created to optimize the solution by supporting 100G operation over electrical backplanes and copper cables, allowing for lighter-weight cabling for high-speed connectivity and specifying optional Energy Efficient Ethernet (EEE) for 40G and 100G operation. These are critical enhancements to the standard that are intended to both optimize and expand Ethernet’s application for physical connectivity.”

Rapid growth of server, network and Internet traffic is driving the need for higher data rates over backplanes and higher-density, lower-power and lower-cost twin-axial “twinax” copper cables. IEEE 802.3bj was crafted through a globally open, collaborative development process to address these market needs. While specifying compliance with other IEEE 802.3 installations, the new amendment defines four-lane, 100G backplane connections of up to 1 meter and four-

lane 100G twinax connections of up to 5 meters, and it extends optional Energy-Efficient Ethernet to new options of physical connectivity.

“Enhanced connectivity is increasingly important to the continuous innovation of networking technology, which will maintain backwards compatibility to the benefit of the diverse global Ethernet ecosystem,” said David Law, chair of the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group and distinguished engineer with HP Networking. “The open standardization process created IEEE 802.3bj, which is designed to enhance the way Ethernet is already being used and empower new users of the technology.”

IEEE 802.3bj is available for purchase at the [IEEE Standards Store](#).

Deployment of technology defined by IEEE 802<sup>®</sup> standards is already globally pervasive, driven by the ever-growing needs of networks around the world. New application areas are constantly being considered that might leverage the IEEE 802 family of standards in their networks. To better address the needs of all of these areas, IEEE 802 standards are constantly evolving and expanding. The success of IEEE 802 standards—from their inception through today—has been their fair, open and transparent development process.

For more information about the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group, please visit <http://standards.ieee.org/develop/wg/WG802.3.html>. To learn more about Ethernet, please visit <http://standards.ieee.org/events/ethernet/> or join the conversation at <http://www.facebook.com/Ethernet40thAnniversaryIEEESA>.

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### **About the IEEE Standards Association**

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