Title: Liaison letter to 3GPP RAN3
From: IEEE 802.1
For: Information
Contacts: Glenn Parsons, Chair, IEEE 802.1, glenn.parsons@ericsson.com
To: 3GPP RAN Working Group 3 (RAN3)
            Philippe Reininger, Chairman, philippe.reininger@huawei.com
            Philippe Godin, ViceChairman, philippe.godin@nokia.com
            Martin Israelsson, ViceChairman, martin.israelsson@ericsson.com
            Juha Korhonen, Secretary, juha.korhonen@etsi.org
Date: July 28, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

The IEEE 802.1 Working Group would like to inform you of the IEEE P802.1CM Time-Sensitive Networking for Fronthaul project of the IEEE 802.1 Time-Sensitive Networking (TSN) Task Group. P802.1CM is ongoing work, with collaborative efforts of the Common Public Radio Interface Cooperation.

The P802.1CM project will specify bridged transport networking over IEEE Std 802.3 Ethernet for the transport of fronthaul traffic, including user data, management and control plane traffic. That is, P802.1CM defines profiles that select features, options, configurations, defaults, protocols and procedures for bridges, stations and LANs that are necessary to build networks that are capable of transporting fronthaul streams. The project includes requirements for the fronthaul interface where the functional decomposition of the radio base station to Radio Equipment (RE) and Radio Equipment Control (REC) is according to the Common Public Radio Interface (CPRI 7.0) specification. Furthermore, the project includes synchronization requirements, which have been provided by the CPRI Technical Working Group. These requirements may be developed further during the course of the project. The web page of the project: http://www.ieee802.org/1/pages/802.1cm.html.

The current focus of P802.1CM is the functional decomposition of the radio base station as according to CPRI 7.0. However, P802.1CM may define profiles for future new functional decompositions and fronthaul architectures. Therefore, we are interested in new functional decompositions and corresponding requirements.

We would appreciate if 3GPP RAN3 would take P802.1CM and its potential future amendments into consideration. We would be grateful if 3GPP RAN3 would inform us of relevant ongoing work in the RAN3 Working Group, for potential input to P802.1CM or any future amendment particularly with regards to requirements. We look forward to cooperation between our organizations. IEEE 802.1 face-to-face meeting details are available at: http://www.ieee802.org/1/meetings. The next face-to-face meeting is from September 12 to 15 in York, UK. Details on TSN calls, including P802.1CM calls, are available at http://www.ieee802.org/1/pages/tsn.html.