IEC Late Project Problem

Information given by Ludwig Winkel to IEC SC65C/WG18 and IEEE 802.1

1 Problem statement

1.1 Policy in ISO/IEC Directives Part 1, 2.1.6 Edition 18.0 2022-05

All target dates shall be kept under continuous review and amended as necessary, and shall be clearly indicated in the programme of work. Revised target dates shall be notified to the technical management board. The technical management board will cancel all work items which have been on the work programme for more than 5 years and have not reached the approval stage (see 2.7).

The practice was to inform the TC/SC secretary about a late project and the secretary could propose to the IEC SMB to keep or to cancel the project.

1.2 IEC SMB decision# 176/8 – in Feb 2023


2 Actions to prevent cancelling IEC/IEEE 60802

2.1 Arguments to NOT cancel IEC/IEEE 60802

These arguments were presented to the IEC SC65C management at the end of the Bangkok session in 2022 that they can argue to the IEC SMB when we reach the 5a limit under the old
(2022) policies. These arguments are now also valid for asking for an exception and were presented again to the IEC SC65C management in March 2023.

1) This Project is expected from the Market. In the last 12 month, the WG have had 2 calls per week for 2 h with at least 20 participants. In addition, 6 f2f sessions for one 1 week with up to 90 participants.

2) Based on the Joint Process with IEEE, IEC/IEEE 60802 can start in IEC the CDV if IEEE is going to the IEEE SA ballot.

3) 5. CD of IEC/IEEE 60802 circulated until 12th May 2023. An WG ballot entertained in IEEE802.1 in parallel (with an earlier closing date).

4) The IEC/IEEE 60802 Project have had launched in IEEE 802 more then 5 Projects. The finalization has to be done before 60802 can make references to the base standards. It is beneficial that the specifications are in die IEEE 802 Base Standards, instead only in IEC/IEEE 60802. With that the Market penetration is much bigger.

5) It is a joint Project with IEEE and IEC. IEC has the lead (style guide according to the ISO/IEC Directives Part 2). If IEC will cancel this project, then per policy the IEEE can continue without IEC but end users expect that as a joint project.

6) The project will hopefully launch the CDV by Dec 2023.

7) The ballot history shows that a lot of comments were provided.

8) The ballot history shows a decreasing number of comments.

Status of comments (Ballot history of TG ballots):

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<th>Ballot History</th>
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NOTE Figures and numbers are copied from an editor’s report given by Jordon Nov. 2022 (Bangkok)

2.2 Actions taken by IEC SC65C and IEC TC65

Resolution on 65C London plenary March 2023:

List of decisions taken at the Plenary meeting of SC65C, held in London (UK) and virtually on 2023-03-21, see 65C/1254/DL (only relevant resolutions for 5a limit).

Resolution # 2023-06 (agenda item #6.7) – former # 2023-P04

SC65C approves the WG18 proposal to change target dates of the IEC/IEEE 60802 project as follows: CD6: 2023-07, CDV:2023-12, FDIS:2024-10, IS:2025. SMB should be notified of these new dates. Background: CD5 was just circulated, circulation of further documents needs to be synchronized with corresponding steps on the IEEE side.
Yes: Unanimous

Resolution # 2023-08 (agenda item 6.7) – NEW

SC65C approves the WG18 proposal to circulate the next draft of IEC/IEEE 60802 as a DPAS if needed and possible to avoid automatic cancellation on 30 June 2023, following SMB Decision 176/8 to enforce ISO/IEC Directives Part 1:2022, 2.1.6 on processing of "late projects".
Yes: Unanimous

Resolution # 2023-09 (agenda item #6.7) – former # 2023-P05

SC65C approves the WG18 proposal to change target dates of the IEC 61802 project as follows: CD: 2024-05, CDV:2025-03, FDIS:2026-01, IS:2026. SMB should be notified of these new dates.
Yes: Unanimous

Resolution # 2023-10 (agenda item 6.7) – NEW

SC65C approves the WG18 proposal to develop IEC 61802 as a DTS if needed to avoid future automatic cancellation, following SMB Decision 176/8 to enforce ISO/IEC Directives Part 1:2022, 2.1.6 on processing of "late projects", with the following target dates: CD: 2024-05, DTS:2025-03 SMB should be notified of this new project schedule.
Yes: Unanimous

Resolution # 2023-07 (agenda item #6.7) – NEW

SC65C requests TC65 to endorse the following resolution: SC65C asks IEC SEC and IEC SMB to exempt the IEC/IEEE 60802 project from automatic cancellation on 30 June 2023, following SMB Decision 176/8 to enforce ISO/IEC Directives Part 1:2022, 2.1.6 on processing of "late projects". Background: This project is joint with IEC/IEEE, cancellation on the IEC side will stop it on the IEEE side and would require coordination with IEEE. Number would be kept on the IEEE side, making any further dual logo adoption difficult.
Yes: Unanimous

Resolution on TC65 London plenary March 2023 see 65/1004/DL:

Resolution #13

BACKGROUND: TC 65 agrees that overlong projects should be cancelled and agrees with the overall objective of resolution 176/8. However, there are exceptional cases where valid reasons exist for a duration beyond 5 years. TC 65 believes the SMB should retain the ability to accept justifications for exceptional cases, as has been the practice in the past (Clause 3 of the RSMB cover page added by IEC SEC TO links to justifications). Joint projects with outside organizations, such as the IEEE, or even ISO, sometimes must conform to external timing constraints. Highly popular and impactful standards (e.g., top selling IEC 62443 series) receiving extensive external input, while endorsing the importance of the work, can also delay publication. There may be other important justifications for a limited delay.
ASK: TC 65 requests that the SMB retains the ability to grant exceptions based on sufficient justification. TC 65 also invites the SMB to ask, for example the DMT, to explicitly identify criteria for such exceptions, possibly for inclusion in the guidance annex attached to the RSMB form (RSMB_form.docx)
YES: Unanimous

Resolution #14

TC 65 supports the change request submitted to IEC DMT on March 22nd for the ISO/IEC Directives, Part1 2022 + IEC Supplement:2022 SI.2 to allow reuse of project number, part number and edition when the project has been cancelled, and kindly ask DMT to act.
YES: Unanimous
3 Next steps

3.1 Info from IEC to the IEC SC65C/WG18 and IEEE 802.1 management after June 3rd 2023

There will be a call after June 3rd 2023 (date tbd) when 65C management provides information what IEC SMB and IEC SEC decided.

3.2 IEC/IEEE 60802 project actions

Accelerate the work on IEC/IEEE 60802 to start CDV in December 2023 (IEEE SA ballot is the equivalent). The CDV start stops the 5a problem, assuming that there are procedural ways offered by sc65C.

a) Concentrate on Comments marked Requested (R) in the IEEE 802.1 list.
b) Plan an additional interim in July 2023 in Frankfurt (or Offenbach).
c) Prepare in July the 2nd initial WG ballot.
d) Experts should consider to vote YES and limit there comments with the options to bring these up in the IEEE SA ballot or Edition 2 of IEC/IEEE 60802.

4 Conclusion

If the conversation with the 65C management beginning of June 2023 results

a) in cancellation then the IEEE 802.1 should consider to continue to draft the IA profile without IEC.
b) in not cancellation, then the specifics of the way forward shall be transformed to adequate actions. In any case should IEC/IEEE 60802 be accelerated to achieve the timeline that the group decided during the Atlanta session to go out with the 2nd initial WG ballot in July or latest August 2023 to achieve the next stage of IEEE SA ballot = CDV stage in 12/2023.