Dear Colleagues,

The IEEE 802.1 Working Group would like to thank Broadband Forum for the information provided in liaison statement on the use of the IEEE 802.1X YANG model in BBF-specified Access Nodes.

IEEE 802.1 YANGsters and IEEE 802.1 Security Task Group have reviewed the liaison statement. The proposal to include the use of “derived-from-or-self” as described is deemed to be a backwards compatible change. Making the change to https://github.com/YangModels/yang/blob/main/standard/ieee/published/802.1/ieee802-dot1x.yang will require further discussion to determine how and when to incorporate the update. The proposal could also be usefully applied to IEEE Std 802.1AE YANG, when appropriate. We have submitted Maintenance Requests to initiate discussion on how best to implement the solutions.

However, IEEE Std 802.1X and IEEE Std 802.1AE specify that IEEE 802.1X authentication is not used on aggregated interfaces (e.g., IEEE Std 802.1AX Link Aggregation). It is used only on single interfaces or on each of the individual interfaces that are part of an aggregation. Specifically, IEEE Std 802.1AX Link Aggregation can be considered to provide an Ethernet-like interface (when aggregating individual IEEE Std 802.3 links), but IEEE Std 802.1AX-2020 (in clause 6.5) and IEEE Std 802.1AE-2018 (in clause 11.5) specify that IEEE Std 802.1X is used with the individual links and not with the aggregate.

Note that the IEEE 802 work is open and contribution driven. Participation is on an individual basis and technical discussion can be conducted based on individual contributions.

Respectfully submitted,
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Chair, IEEE 802.1 Working Group