

Proposed Rule Change to Operating Rules of IEEE Project 802 LAN MAN Standards Committee (LMSC)

Date: November 9, 1998

Authors: Al Petrick, Harris Corporation - Stuart Kerry, OK-Brit
email: apetrick@harris.com
email: stuart@ok-brit.com

1.0 Introduction

The use of electronic mail is becoming ubiquitous among members throughout IEEE 802 standards process. The IEEE 802.11 working group has phased out the requirement for paper copy submissions and adopted electronic file transfer during the session meetings. The move to electronic processing of submissions has increased the efficiency of work, making the work in committee more productive, resulting in significant time savings in the whole standards process. The 802.11 working group had discontinued the bulk mailing using diskette and switched solely to electronic mailing distribution using the 802.11 working group web site. Electronic filing has clearly become paramount in saving cost and more importantly time especially because our membership is global.. After reviewing the Operating Rules of IEEE Project 802 LAN MAN Standards Committee (LMSC), the 802.11 working group recommends that electronic balloting and distribution be reflected as changes to Section 5.1.4.2.2 . We urge the ExCom to favourably consider the adoption of the following changes suggested in this IEEE 802.11 submission.

Draft

2.0 Request of Rules Changes

Section 3.4.2 Voting Between Plenary Meetings and 3.4.2.1 Electronic Balloting adequately covers the process and support for electronic distribution of the balloting mechanisms. The 802.11 working group supports this mechanism for processing ballots and making decisions in a timely fashion. However in clause 5.1.4.2 Voting, there is only one method for letter ballot which requires as much as 40 days to close. The 802.11 working group requests that the ExCom accepts the following changes to qualify the length of time involved. IEEE 802.11 requests the following changes be accepted by the ExCom to clarify any ambiguities to this process as state below:

2.1 Suggested Changes:

- Use of electronic medium for all matters of voting and document distribution.
- The letter ballot electronic response be reduced from the present 40 days to 30 days in-the-hands of the voter with One day to obtain from the web site, after formal email notification. Therefore making a total of 31 days duration, for letter ballots on original draft standards. With respect to other ballots, including re-circulation letter ballots, these would be reduced to a total of 11 days, being 10 days in-the-hand and One day to obtain from the web site.

Therefore, with these changes, Section 5.1.4.2.2 Voting by Letter Ballots reads as follows:

5.1.4.2.2 Voting by Letter Ballots

For important decisions to be made in between meetings of the WG, the Working Group Chair may entertain an e-mail Letter Ballot. The decision to submit a draft standard or a revised standard to the Sponsor Ballot Group must always be ratified by a letter ballot and shall have a minimum duration of 31 days, in case of a re-circulation ballot this limit does not apply. ~~Other matters may be decided by a letter ballot at the discretion of the Working Group Chair.~~ The Working Group Chair may vote in letter ballots. The letter ballot response time must be at least eleven days from the announcement on the e-mail reflector to the closure. ~~forty days from the time of "sending" postmark to the postmark of the return ballot.~~

3.0 Adoption by IEEE 802.11 Working Group

The 802.11 working group is reviewing the proposed changes and expects a decision on the proposed changes by the closing of the working group's plenary meeting on Wednesday November 12, 1998.