
IEEE Std 802.3 Downloadable Extracts and Components

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What drove downloadable content

- Extracts for convenience
 - Material published in IEEE Std 802.3 but presented in machine friendly format
 - Typically ASCII text or comma separated values format
- Extracts for availability
 - Material published in IEEE Std 802.3 but as published digital rights management restricted use
 - Typically PICS pages in PDF
- Portion of standard
 - Material not suitable for traditional publication
 - Currently, only matrices for 10GBASE-T

Download sites

- Three unlinked download sites referenced in IEEE Std 802.3-2008

<http://standards.ieee.org/reading/ieee/std/downloads/index.html>
(Clause 40, p 171, 214, 219)

<http://standards.ieee.org/downloads/802>
(Clause 68, p 357; Annex 55A, p 583)

<http://www.ieee802.org/3/publication/index.html>
(Clause 40, page 171, 214, 219)

- Two sites maintained by IEEE-SA
- One site maintained by 802.3
- Not all downloadable content is referenced in standard

Issues

- No benefits to 802.3 or IEEE-SA from division of material
- No defined process for maintenance (neither 802.3 or IEEE-SA)
 - Isn't clearly part of ballot package
 - May be most frequently used version (e.g., MIBs)
 - Not part of publication preparation
 - How do we get more eyes on this content for review
- Precedence
 - Is precedence clear for each item (pdf, and one or more download format)
 - Should downloadable content ever have precedence over “print”

Issues (continued)

- Superseded content
 - Probably some online content has been modified (e.g., Clause 33 PICS)
 - File names may reference now merged amendment (e.g., 802.3an.matricies)
 - No structure to separate superseded content from current content (all PICS files)
 - Obsolete content (Annex 43C extract content now in 802.1AX)
 - One can get superseded version of standards, should this also be true of download content
- Some content not referenced (much of content on 802.3 site)
- Unfriendly IEEE-SA site structure

Possible improvements

- Merge three sites
 - One manager (802.3 or IEEE-SA)
 - Simple URL preferred (e.g., <http://standards.ieee.org/downloads/802/3>)
 - Leave std development tools on task force pages as is currently done
- Site structure
 - Enable one unique URL for 802.3 and only 802.3
 - Archive for superceded content with hierarchy
 - Maintain PICS files for those that bought DRM copies of standards????

Possible improvements (p.2)

- File names
 - Name for post merge (e.g., 10GBTmatricies, not P802.3an-matricies)
 - Folder name (URL) indicate superceded, base Std year)
- Getting eyes
 - Include on-line content in ballot package (even front matter that is not part of standard is part of ballot package)
 - Reference all on-line content in standard
- Precedence
 - One rule fits all, document in appropriate place (clause 1 or clause 20?)
 - Not one precedence rule (allow on-line content to have precedence) more difficult but assure all references describe precedence

802.3.1 recommendations

- This plan depends on IEEE-SA buy-in
- One site maintained by 802.3 for all downloadable/machine readable extracts (802.3 content on the two IEEE-SA sites maintained but identified as superseded)
 - Base for this is IEEE Std 802.3-2008
 - Amendments as part of the standard go in the same folder
 - Any current amendment projects should use this approach
 - We need to include online content in pre-publication review
 - Define a sensible file naming convention (needs more work) to minimize publication errors
 - Define a consistent citation format to minimize errors in transition from ballot to publication and current to superseded
- Do not include the current downloadable PICS on the new site
- Maintain superseded content on our site in the future
 - Annex 30C (Link Agg MIB module) needs to be labeled as superseded
- Precedence must be stated for each citation
- The online content should be part of the ballot package