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The notation used in the state diagram follows the conventions of state diagrams as described in 21.5.

21.5.3 State transitions

Any open arrow (an arrow with no source block) represents a global transition. Global transitions are evaluated continuously whenever any state is evaluating its exit conditions. When a global transition becomes true, it supersedes all other transitions, including UCT, returning control to the block pointed to by the open arrow.

In other words: unless a PD is powered, the SM will continuously flip back to the IDLE state. This entry arrow into IDLE has existed since 802.3at