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January 3, 2017

Mr. David Law, Chairman of the IEEE 802.3 Working Group
Ms. Jodi Haasz, International Affairs Senior Liaison
IEEE Standards Association
{sent via email}

Dear Mr. Law and Ms. Haasz:

On behalf of ODVA, I am writing to request to establish an Official Liaison between the IEEE 802.3 Working Group and ODVA.

ODVA is an international standards development and trade organization founded in 1995 whose mission is to advance open, interoperable information and communication technologies for the automation of industrial processes. ODVA is committed to the adoption of commercial-off-the-shelf and standard, unmodified Ethernet and Internet technologies to the extent possible. This commitment is exemplified by [EtherNet/IP™, ODVA's industrial Ethernet technology which integrates the IEEE 802.3 standard along with the TCP/IP Suite and ODVA's Common Industrial Protocol](#). The resulting specification is a complete implementation stack for devices to integrate Ethernet connectivity for industrial applications. The EtherNet/IP Specification was first published in 2001 and EtherNet/IP is [reported by independent analysts to represent the largest share of new nodes shipped globally in 2015 out of all industrial Ethernet networks](#). Membership in ODVA is open to all entities who make and sell products conformant with ODVA's technologies which include, but are not limited to, EtherNet/IP.

As the organization responsible for the continued evolution of the EtherNet/IP technology and standards, ODVA has wide-ranging interest in the evolution and success of the IEEE 802.3 standards. Therefore, ODVA wishes to establish a formal liaison relationship with the IEEE 802.3 Working Group so that together we may help to ensure that the IEEE 802.3 technology and standards address the use cases and requirements for the widespread deployment of Ethernet in the industrial sector. In this regard, ODVA has immediate interest in the work currently being undertaken by the IEEE 802.3cg Task Force, the results of which ODVA believe could have significant potential benefits for users of industrial automation.

Overall ODVA has more than 15 technical working groups, most of which contribute to the evolution of EtherNet/IP. Therefore, to help ensure the success of ODVA's relationship with IEEE 802.3, Mr. David Brandt has agreed to serve as the ODVA Liaison Officer. Mr. Brandt is a senior principal engineer at ODVA member Rockwell Automation with substantial experience in the industrial automation sector. He is a member of IEEE and currently participates in the IEEE 802.3cg Task Force as well as in various ODVA activities as an employee of Rockwell Automation. Mr. Brandt and I will work together to facilitate timely information exchange between IEEE and the relevant ODVA technical working groups.

In anticipation of a positive response to this request, ODVA looks forward to working together with the IEEE 802.3 Working Group on matters of mutual interest.

Best regards,

Katherine Voss
President and Executive Director
kvoss@odva.org

cc: Mr. David Brandt; ODVA Board of Directors