

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group  
Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group<sup>1</sup>

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From: David Law Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group  
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Subject: Liaison letter to OIF regarding IEEE P802.3cw 400GBASE-ZR Optical Specifications  
Approval: Agreed to at IEEE 802.3 interim teleconference meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021

Dear Mr Otto and members of the OIF,

As previously communicated, the IEEE P802.3cw Task Force is developing a specification that defines 400 Gb/s Ethernet operation over DWDM networks. This effort is similar in nature to the OIF's 400ZR specification.

As the IEEE P802.3cw optical specification has moved to a 75 GHz spacing, it has become evident that inter-channel crosstalk needs further consideration than what has been done in prior specifications. To this end, the Task Force has formed the Optical Crosstalk Ad hoc, which is currently in the process of analyzing these impacts and developing the methodology to specify them. Information regarding the IEEE P802.3cw Optical Crosstalk Ad hoc may be found at <<https://www.ieee802.org/3/cw/public/adhoc/index.html>>.

As the OIF's 400ZR project is now also supporting 75 GHz channel spacing, we believe it is in the industry's best interest for our two groups to share information and align on specifications that will address this issue.

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<sup>1</sup> This document solely represents the views of the IEEE 802.3 Working Group, and does not necessarily represent a position of the IEEE, the IEEE Standards Association, or IEEE 802.

Therefore, we would appreciate any input that OIF may have regarding this issue and look forward to future collaboration between our two groups.

Sincerely,  
David Law  
Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group