

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group  
**DRAFT** 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 Response to OIF Liaison (9<sup>th</sup> November 2020) regarding 800G  
Coherent Project Start

Approval: Agreed to at IEEE 802.3 interim teleconference meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021

Dear Mr. Otto and members of the OIF,

The IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group would like to thank the OIF for its informative liaison regarding the start of the 800G Coherent Project. This is timely news, given that at the IEEE 802 November 2020 Plenary the formation of the IEEE 802.3 Beyond 400 Gb/s Ethernet Study Group was approved.

The Study Group is chartered to develop a Project Authorization Request (PAR) and Criteria for Standards Development (CSD) responses for:

- (1) Beyond 400 Gb/s Ethernet
- (2) Physical Layer specifications for existing Ethernet rates based on Physical Layer specifications for beyond 400 Gb/s

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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.

If authorized as a project, the group will become a Task Force, and at that time, technology selection will be actively pursued.

For your reference the following consensus presentation was given in support of initiating this effort:

[https://www.ieee802.org/3/ad\\_hoc/ngrates/public/calls/20\\_1029/CFI\\_Beyond400GbE\\_Rev7\\_201029.pdf](https://www.ieee802.org/3/ad_hoc/ngrates/public/calls/20_1029/CFI_Beyond400GbE_Rev7_201029.pdf).

The IEEE 802.3 Beyond 400 Gb/s Ethernet Study Group met for its inaugural meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January, as well as the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2021. The Study Group webpage and the proceedings of the meetings may be found at <http://www.ieee802.org/3/B400G/index.html>.

This work is contribution driven, but topics to be considered by the study group are likely to include the Ethernet rate(s), technology, media, reach, error performance, as well as input on potential market demand. We encourage individuals from OIF to contribute to the Study Group work. The next meetings of the IEEE 802.3 Beyond 400 Gb/s Ethernet Study Group will be held electronically on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of February. Information about the electronic meeting may be found at <http://www.ieee802.org/3/B400G/public/index.html>.

We would appreciate any input that the OIF may have regarding this effort and we look forward to any future collaboration.

Sincerely,

David Law

Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group