SDM4 MCF MSA

Subject: Official Response: Multi-Core Fiber (MCF) MSA Participation in IEEE 802.3 Workshops & Submission of Specification 1.0

Lisbon, November 16th , 2026

Dear David,

Thank you for your invitation to participate in the upcoming IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group workshops. On behalf of the Multi-Core Fiber (MCF) Multi-Source Agreement (MSA) founding members, I am pleased to confirm the interest on active participation in the December 3rd workshop on **Next-Generation Fiber Optic Connectors**, as well as the upcoming workshop on **Fiber for AI**.

As part of our commitment to supporting IEEE standards exploration and accelerating industry adoption, we are officially submitting **Version 1.0 of the MCF MSA Specification** alongside this letter for distribution and review within the IEEE 802.3 community.

The MCF MSA would like to request presentation slot(s) during the December 3rd session to present a **unified, co-authored MSA perspective** representing both fiber and transceiver manufacturers. Could you please advise on the available time allocation and schedule within the 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM session window?
Our presentation and contributions will highlight two key application spaces for multi-core fiber in data centers:

1. **Scale-Out (Campus & DCI):** Addressing 2 km+ reaches using parallel MCF at 1310 nm to bypass CWDM/WDM dispersion constraints without complex optics.
2. **Scale-Up ("Slow & Wide" AI Architectures):** Delivering ultra-high density over short distances (e.g., 30 metres) as a lower-power, cost-effective alternative to complex DWDM systems
3. **Connector Integration Strategy:** Demonstrating how our specification leverages existing, proven connector formats (such as MMC and MPO) to streamline deployment without inventing unproven connector geometries

We look forward to collaborating closely with the IEEE 802.3 Working Group. Please let us know the submission deadlines for presentation slides and logistics coordination.

Sincerely,

Antonio Castano

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On behalf of the Multi-Core Fiber (MCF) MSA Founding Members