



**Consortium for On-Board Optics
Standards Development Group**

Date April 21, 2015
Subject Announcement of the Formation of COBO
To Paul Nikolich, IEEE 802 Chair (p.nikolich@ieee.org)
David Law, IEEE 802.3 WG Chair (dlaw@hp.com)
Copy John D'Ambrosia, IEEE 802 Secretary (john_dambrosia@dell.com)
Adam Healey, IEEE 802.3 Vice-Chair (adam.healey@avagotech.com)
Pete Anslow, IEEE 802.3 Secretary (panslow@ciena.com)
From Brad Booth, COBO Chair (brbooth@microsoft.com)

Dear Paul and David,

The Consortium for On-Board Optics (COBO) Standards Development Group wish to share with the members of IEEE 802.3 (Ethernet) Working Group an announcement of the formation of COBO. The goals of COBO are the following:

- Create specifications and associated documentation to support the development of board-mounted optical modules,
- Reference, where possible, industry standards and specifications, and
- Liaise with industry standards bodies that may have interest in COBO's work.

COBO was officially announced on March 23, 2015 at OFC in Los Angeles, CA with 17 founding members. The first face-to-face COBO meeting was held in Santa Clara, CA on April 14th, and a second face-to-face meeting is scheduled for June 17th in the Seattle, WA area. Since the launch, COBO has grown to almost 30 member companies. More information about COBO can be found at:

<http://cobo.azurewebsites.net/>

COBO is very interested in the specifications developed by the IEEE 802.3 Working Group. There is a strong believe that these specifications will become very relevant in the development of COBO specifications as the Consortium members look to move the optics from the faceplate to inside switches, routers and servers. We would like to establish with the IEEE 802.3 Working Group the ability to have both formal and informal communications between the Working Group and the Consortium to share relevant data as the work progresses inside our respective organizations. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A yellow rectangular box redacting the signature of Brad Booth.

Brad Booth