

Dear Dan-

Thank you for your prompt response.

I have only heard from Don Knasel via e-mail so far. We still have not managed to be in touch with each other. IEEE 802.3 did meet this week and I asked Steve Swanson to report to our meeting on the activities taking place within FO-2.2 on 10/100 Fiber.

There was an ad hoc convened on the topic that included Steve and several other people who had participated in the FO-2.2 10/100 effort. I believe that the general opinion was that if a standard was to be done that it would be preferable to do one in a group that already had a well established scope to cover this area of LAN standards.

There was a long discussion as to why 802.3 did not support the establishment of a Study Group after the call for interest in November of 1997. We talked at length about the rather low threshold that must be satisfied to create a Study Group in 802.3. There was agreement that the 11/97 presentation was not appropriately well thought out nor had the appropriate support been gathered to create sufficient momentum for a study group at that time.

It is my personal belief that the reason the proposal was rejected was not that "IEEE is giving higher priority to (work on) a Gigabit standard", rather that the vote was the result of a number of other considerations by the membership.

802.3 remains open to calls for interest in new projects by its members. The issue can be revisited.

We are concerned about the long term support and compatibility of work that is normally within our scope that is developed outside our carefully crafted system of checks, balances and thorough technical review.

I look forward to discussing this matter with Don Knasel.

Sincerely

Geoff Thompson
Chair, IEEE 802.3