

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group
Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group¹

To: Glenn Parsons Chair, ITU-T SG15
[REDACTED]
Hiroshi Ota Counsellor, ITU-T SG15
[REDACTED]
Kazuhide Nakajima Rapporteur, ITU-T Q5/15
[REDACTED]
Vince Ferretti Associate Rapporteur, ITU-T Q5/15
[REDACTED]
Chihiro Kito Rapporteur, ITU-T Q7/15
[REDACTED]

CC: Alpesh Shah Secretary, IEEE-SA Standards Board
Secretary, IEEE-SA Board of Governors
[REDACTED]
James Gilb Chair, IEEE 802 LMSC
[REDACTED]
Adam Healey Vice-chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group
[REDACTED]
Jon Lewis Secretary, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group
Chair, IEEE 802.3 New Ethernet Applications Ad hoc
[REDACTED]
John D'Ambrosia Chair, IEEE 802.3 NEA "Ethernet for AI" Assessment
[REDACTED]

From: David Law Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group
[REDACTED]

Subject: Response to SG15-LS58, "LS/r on the development of weakly-coupled multi-core fibre Recommendations"

Approval Agreed at IEEE 802.3 plenary meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 12 March 2026

Dear Colleagues,

The IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group (WG) thanks ITU-T Q5/15 and Q7/15 for their kind update on their respective activities related to weakly-coupled multi-core fibre (WC-MCF).

As previously communicated, the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet WG currently has no projects that address Ethernet operation over WC-MCF. However, it recognises current industry interest in Ethernet interconnects operating at signalling rates greater than 200 Gb/s per lane, both electrically and optically.

¹ 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.

To that end, the IEEE 802.3 New Ethernet Applications (NEA) ad hoc Ethernet for AI (E4AI) Assessment recently held a virtual workshop on 24 February 2026 to explore Ethernet operation and the future of optical fibre. The proceedings of this workshop may be found at https://www.ieee802.org/3/ad_hoc/E4AI/public/26_0224/index.html.

The IEEE 802.3 Ethernet WG looks forward to revisiting this topic with ITU-T SG 15 at the joint IEEE 802 / ITU-T workshop scheduled for July 2026.

Sincerely,
David Law
Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group