Reorganizing the 802.3 Std.

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Presentation to
802.3 Albuquerque, Nov. 10, 2003
We Have Problems:

- Revision required next year
- The current standard is huge and unwieldy
A Revision **IS** Required in 2004

- Required by number of amendments and time since 2002 Revision per IEEE procedures.
- We have a choice:
  - 1) Minimalist revision as part of a Maint Ballot (as we have done in the past)
  - 2) Reorganize the Standard to address size and scope issues.
- **WE DO HAVE A PROBLEM!**
Problem?
What Problem?
(Ethernet just grew and grew)

- Ethernet V2.0, 1982, 113 pages
- 802.3-1985 (1st edition), 143 pages
- ISO 8802-3:1996 (8023.a Through 802.3s, last before 100 Mb/s), 517 pages
- 100BASE-T (1995) volume was another 410 pages before integration

See how it grew...

Light Blue is integrated volume, Dark Blue is sum of all bindings
plus Std 802.3 of tomorrow…

Makes 2514 pages total
Less graphics, Real Numbers!

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Example:

- 802.3ae has 151 pages of change instructions to the existing std which should expand the existing clauses by about 24 pages plus add new clauses of 363 pages!
The Result:

- New work is almost impossible to evaluate in the context of ~2500 pages of existing standard!

- We have demand for new application areas that would fit better in separate books within 802.3.
IEEE Std 802.3 if restructured

We could prune and reorganize!

I WOULD PROPOSE:
• Move out obsolete pieces to a “reference only” standard.
• Break active standard into several pieces
• Discuss how to do all of this in Maint. Meeting this week
• Ref: Maint Request #1109 as a foundation for the work
RU Interested?

Join us on Wednesday
In the Maintenance TF Mtg