

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group¹

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Subject: Liaison reply to Optical Internetworking Forum on Flex Ethernet Implementation Agreement

Approval: Agreed to at IEEE 802.3 plenary meeting, Dallas, TX, USA, 12 November 2015

Dear Mr. Tracy and members of OIF,

Thank you for your liaison letter concerning the OIF Flex Ethernet Implementation Agreement, and your subsequent liaison letter confirming that the new ordered set would be sent only over FlexE PHYs operating at 100 Gb/s and higher rates.

We are unaware of any other current or proposed use of the "O" code value 0x5 proposed for the FlexE application, and know of no reason why the OIF shouldn't select this value for this new application.

In order to try to avoid possible future conflicts, we will submit a maintenance request against IEEE Std 802.3 Clause 82 proposing to document the OIF's use of this code. The P802.3bs 400 Gb/s Ethernet Standard is currently in draft form, and the draft is currently in Task Force review. The current text refers to Clause 82 for the definition of ordered sets. Should this change through subsequent ballot cycles, a comment may be necessary to note the OIF usage directly in Clause 119.

We appreciate being kept informed of this new work, and look forward to continued collaboration with OIF on this and other topics.

Sincerely,

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.

David Law

Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group