IEEE 802 LAN/MAN Standards Committee.

MEMORANDUM

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To: Dave Fellows, CableLabs certification board   **CC:**
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Subject: Adoption of DOCSIS 1.1 by IEEE 802.14

Date: March 11, 1999

Statement of principle:

The IEEE 802.14 Working Group is currently active in developing a standard for a high performance physical layer. This work has been facilitated by the creation of a first draft by the vendors working on the DOCSIS 1.2 specification and its subsequent submission to the 802.14a task force. The cooperation between IEEE 802.14 and CableLabs will result in the development of a draft of a HI_PHY specification by the end of the March plenary meeting and formal IEEE Standards Board approval is expected by December 1999.

However, the 802.14a task force cannot complete its work without developing a well-defined interface to a MAC layer. The 802.14 working group is of the opinion that the MAC layer best suited to this effort and most advantageous for the industry is the DOCSIS 1.1 RFI specification currently under development within CableLabs.

To facilitate this progress the IEEE 802.14 Working Group encourages CableLabs and its vendor authors to submit the DOCSIS 1.1 RFI specification to a newly consititued 802.14 task force solely dedicated towards driving working group consensus around the DOCSIS 1.1 specification and incorporating the work out of 802.14a HI_PHY task force. The process followed will be similar to the process IEEE 802 and CableLabs have followed with the DOCSIS 1.2/802.14a work.

Assuming CableLabs and it's vendor author's submit the DOCSIS 1.1 RFI specification, IEEE 802.14 plans to request the opening of a new Project Authorization Request with a scope, purpose and schedule as follows, subject to review and approval by the 802 Executive Committee and IEEE NESCOM.

Scope: Develop a Cable Modem/Cable Modem Termination System RF interface standard based on the CableLabs DOCSIS 1.1 RFI specification, with the addition of an advanced phy. This standard is limited to the specification of the MAC and PHY sublayers.

Purpose: To develop a MAC and PHY layer standard that formally standardizes the cable industy's de-facto standard, the DOCSIS 1.1 RFI specification, and facilitates the development of the IEEE 802.14a High Performance Physical Layer.

Schedule: (TBD, this is just a placeholder) PAR approval July 99, Working Group Ballot March 2000, Sponsor Group Ballot July 2000, IEEE Standards Board Approval November 2000.

The members of IEEE 802.14 (25 app, 0 dis, 4 abs) and the IEEE Executive committee (11 app, 0 dis, 1 abs) unanimously approved this plan of action at the March 1999 plenary. IEEE 802 now asks for similar support from CableLabs, its member companies and the vendor authors of the DOCSIS 1.1 specification to make this plan reality.

The 802.14 Working Group welcomes comments and suggestions from CableLabs or others on this proposal.