IEEE P802.11  
Wireless LANs

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| 802.11ak amendment publication Press Release | | | | |
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Abstract

This document contains the draft press release for the 802.11ak amendment publication.

# Process

This press release was authored by the IEEE marketing department (represented by Jeff Pane) after interviewing an 802.11 subject-matter experts (Donald Eastlake and Mark Hamilton). The press release is being notified to the WG and will be notified to the EC for comment.

# Press Release:

# **DRAFT: NOT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**IEEE Publishes 802.11ak™-2018 Standard Amendment Enabling WiFi**® **Transit Links in Bridged Networks**

*Amendment meets demand for bridging IEEE 802.11 media to the same level as IEEE 802.3 Ethernet by providing internal connections as transit links within IEEE 802.1Q bridged networks*

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**PISCATAWAY, NJ, XX June 2018** – IEEE, the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for humanity, and the [IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA)](http://standards.ieee.org/), today announced the publication of the IEEE 802.11akTM-2018—Standard for Telecommunications and information exchange between systems—Local and metropolitan area networks—Wireless LAN Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) Specifications—Enhancements For Transit Links Within Bridged Networks. IEEE 802.11ak provides protocols, procedures, and managed objects that enhance the ability of IEEE P802.11 media to provide internal connections as transit links within IEEE 802.1Q bridged networks, and wireless connectivity for fixed, portable, and moving stations within a local area.

“The publication of IEEE 802.11ak-2018 meets a growing demand to simplify the expansion and functionality of mixed IEEE 802.11 wireless and IEEE 802 networks in the home and within industrial network applications,” said Donald Eastlake, chair of 802.11ak Task Group. “IEEE 802.11ak-2018 also supports more compact data encoding and streamlines deployment of Groupcast with Retries (GCR).”

A growing number of new products, including home entertainment systems and industrial control equipment, have both an IEEE 802.11 wireless station capability and a wired IEEE 802.3 Ethernet capability. With IEEE 802.11 media operating in the gigabit per second range, and incorporating standardized security and quality of service improvements, a demand for the bridging of IEEE 802.11 media with the same bridging services as other media; as media internal to the network as well as media offering access to the network.

IEEE 802.11ak-2018 is available for purchase at the IEEE Standards Store.

IEEE 802.11 defines the technology for the world’s premier WLAN products. IEEE 802.11-based products are often branded as “Wi-Fi®” in the market. IEEE 802.11 standards underpin wireless networking applications around the world, such as wireless access to the Internet from offices, homes, airports, hotels, restaurants, trains and aircraft. IEEE 802.11’s relevance continues to expand with the emergence of new applications, such as the smart grid, wireless docking and the “Internet of Things.” For more information about the IEEE 802.11 Wireless LAN Working Group, please visit the [working group’s landing page](http://standards.ieee.org/develop/wg/WG802.11.html).

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**About the IEEE Standards Association**

The IEEE Standards Association, a globally recognized standards-setting body within IEEE, develops consensus standards through an open process that engages industry and brings together a broad stakeholder community. IEEE standards set specifications and best practices based on current scientific and technological knowledge. The IEEE-SA has a portfolio of over 1,250 active standards and over 650 standards under development. For more information visit <http://standards.ieee.org>.

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**References:**