

Title: Liaison response to IEEE 1914
From: IEEE 802.1
For: Information
Contacts: Glenn Parsons, Chair, IEEE 802.1, glenn.parsons@ericsson.com
To: IEEE 1914 Next Generation Fronthaul Interface (NGFI) Working Group
Jinri Huang, huangjinri@chinamobile.com
Date: July 28, 2016

Thank you for your liaison letter. We are grateful for the information on the IEEE 1914 Next Generation Fronthaul Interface (NGFI) Working Group and on the P1914.1 Packet-based Fronthaul Transport Networks project. Furthermore, we appreciate your interest in the IEEE P802.1CM Time-Sensitive Networking for Fronthaul project of the IEEE 802.1 Time-Sensitive Networking (TSN) Task Group. Our understanding is that the P1914.1 project develops architectural requirements for next generation fronthaul interfaces, which can be input to IEEE 802.1CM or any future amendment.

The P802.1CM project will specify bridged transport networking over IEEE Std 802.3 Ethernet for the transport of fronthaul traffic, including user data, management and control plane traffic. That is, P802.1CM defines profiles that select features, options, configurations, defaults, protocols and procedures for bridges, stations and LANs that are necessary to build networks that are capable of transporting fronthaul streams. The project includes requirements for the fronthaul interface where the functional decomposition of the radio base station to Radio Equipment (RE) and Radio Equipment Control (REC) is according to the Common Public Radio Interface (CPRI 7.0) specification. Furthermore, the project includes synchronization requirements, which have been provided by the CPRI Technical Working Group. These requirements may be developed further during the course of the project. The web page of the project: <http://www.ieee802.org/1/pages/802.1cm.html>.

The current focus of P802.1CM is the functional decomposition of the radio base station as according to CPRI 7.0. However, P802.1CM may define profiles for future new functional decompositions and fronthaul architectures. Therefore, we are interested in new functional decompositions and corresponding requirements. IEEE P1914.1 may provide such requirements to be met by bridged networks, e.g., as specified by the profiles described in P802.1CM or any future amendment.

We look forward to cooperation between our organizations. IEEE 802.1 face-to-face meeting details are available at: <http://www.ieee802.org/1/meetings>. The next face-to-face meeting is from September 12 to 15 in York, UK. Details on TSN calls, including P802.1CM calls, are available at <http://www.ieee802.org/1/pages/tsn.html>.