DRAFT: NOT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IEEE P802.1ABdh – Station and Media Access Control Connectivity Discovery Amendment: Support for Multiframe Protocol Data Units

Call for Participation

The IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) invites all interested parties to actively participate in the effort on IEEE P802.1ABdh – Station and Media Access Control Connectivity Discovery Amendment: Support for Multiframe Protocol Data Units. This project will extend the uses of the already widely deployed and popular Link Layer Discovery Protocol (LLDP) – IEEE Std 802.1AB. The amendment will allow new use cases for LLDP by expanding the amount of information that can be shared between participants. Interested parties with new use cases are encouraged to participate. The more participation, the better this standard will address the needs of the entire industry.

Scope

The project will expand the amount of data that LLDP can share by about 2 orders of magnitude while maintaining backward compatibility with existing LLDP implementations. In addition, the project will modify LLDP to better support network timing constraints. Of course, the project will also address errors and omissions in the description of existing functionality.

Need for the Project

Today, the set of TLVs that an LLDP agent exchanges with a peer must fit into a single frame. While IEEE Std 802.1AB is widely supported and used in many different environments, several of these environments have the need to transmit and receive more information than can fit into a single frame. In addition, the number of unique TLVs being defined continues to grow and is putting pressure on the current protocol to share needed information. Standards organizations and vendors can and have defined their own sets of TLVs. Environments that need to advertise more information than can fit into a single frame currently have no solution other than defining a new and incompatible protocol. Given the popularity and wide deployment of LLDP there is a need to allow a migration to a version of the LLDP protocol that supports the transmission and reception of sets of TLVs that exceed the space provided by a single frame.

Stakeholders for the Standard

There are currently many different users of LLDP. This project will further expand the applicability of LLDP for developers and users of networking environments including integrated circuit developers, operating system software developers, bridge and end-node adaptor vendors, network operators and users.

Upcoming Meetings

The best way to get involved in the project is to attend face-to-face or virtual meetings (teleconferences) as listed on the IEEE 802.1 page http://www.ieee802.org/1/meetings/. The next meetings will be held 20-24 January 2020 in Geneva, Switzerland, then 16-20 March 2020 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Interested parties are welcome to register and attend and can also join the IEEE 802.1 email list.

Participation

If you would like to participate in the IEEE P802.1ABdh project, please contact Glenn Parsons, working group chair and/or János Farkas, task group chair, with the following information:

- Your name and email address
- Name of your employer or other affiliation
- Particular areas of interest and relevant background/expertise