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1. ASSIGNED PROJECT NUMBER: 802.11w

2. SPONSOR DATE OF REQUEST: 7-Feb-2005

3. TYPE OF DOCUMENT: Standard

4. TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Draft Amendment to Standard [FOR] Information Technology-Telecommunications and Information Exchange between systems-Local and Metropolitan networks-Specific requirements-Part 11: Wireless LAN Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) specifications: Protected Management Frames

5. LIFE CYCLE: Full-Use

6. TYPE OF PROJECT: Amendment 802.11

Modified PAR?
In Ballot?

7. WORKING GROUP INFORMATION

Name of Working Group: IEEE P802.11, Working Group for Wireless LANS
Approximate Number of Expected Working Group Members: 450

8. CONTACT INFO FOR WORKING GROUP CHAIR

Name of Working Group Chair: Stuart Kerry
Telephone: +1-408-474-7356
FAX: +1-408-474-5343
E-mail: stuart.kerry@philips.com

9. CONTACT INFO OF CO-CHAIR/OFFICIAL REPORTER

Name of Co-Chair/Official Reporter:
Telephone:
FAX:

E-mail:

10. CONTACT INFO OF SPONSOR

Sponsor: C/LM

Name of Sponsor Chair: Paul Nikolich

Telephone: +1-857-205-0050

FAX: +1-781-334-2255

E-mail: p.nikolich@ieee.org

11. TYPE OF SPONSOR BALLOT: Individual

Expected Date of Submission for Initial Sponsor Ballot: Mar-2007

12. PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE FOR SUBMITTAL TO REVCOM: Sep-2007

13. SCOPE: Enhancements to the IEEE 802.11 Medium Access Control layer to provide, as appropriate, mechanisms that enable data integrity, data origin authenticity, replay protection, and data confidentiality for selected IEEE 802.11 management frames including but not limited to: action management frames, deauthentication and disassociation frames.

Completion of this document contingent upon another document? No

14. PURPOSE: To improve the security of some or all IEEE 802.11 management frames by defining enhancements such as data integrity, data origin authenticity, replay protection, and data confidentiality.

15. REASON: The current IEEE 802.11 standard including amendment 'i' (security) addresses security of data frames but systems are still vulnerable to malicious attack because management frames are unprotected. For example, network disruption can be caused by malicious systems generating false information and impersonating valid equipment. The work envisioned in this PAR will reduce the susceptibility of systems to such attack and is of importance to all the current applications of IEEE802.11 and both existing and anticipated amendments.

16. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

IEEE-SA Policy on Intellectual Property Presented: Yes 18-Jan-2005

Copyrights: No

Trademarks: No

Registration of Object: No

17. SIMILAR SCOPE: No

18. FUTURE ADOPTION: Yes

Int'l Organization: ISO/IEC JTC1 6 1

Int'l Contact Person: Robin Tasker

Telephone: +44-1925-603758

FAX:

E-mail: R.Tasker@dl.ac.uk

19. Health, Safety or Environmental Issues: No

Explanation:

20. SPONSOR INFORMATION:

a. Is the scope of this project within the approved scope/definition of the Sponsor's Charter? Yes

Explanation:

b. Sponsor's procedures accepted by AudCom: Yes

21. ADDITIONAL NOTES: The new amendment shall be compatible with the IEEE 802.11 MAC, and will not facilitate, enable or cause violation of regulatory restrictions that would limit its geographical usage. The new extensions shall not conflict with any mandatory portions of the IEEE 802.11 standards and specification and published amendments. IEEE 802.11 Task Group k and the IEEE 802.11 Wireless Network Management Study Group may take advantage of the mechanisms for protecting management frames developed under this PAR.

I acknowledge having read and understood the IEEE Code of Ethics I agree to conduct myself in a manner which adheres to the IEEE Code of Ethics when engaged in official IEEE business.

The PAR Copyright Release and Signature Page must be submitted either by FAX to 732-875-0695 or as e-mail attachment in .pdf format to the NesCom Administrator before this PAR will be sent on for NesCom and Standards Board approval.