

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group  
Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group<sup>1</sup>

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From: David Law Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group  
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Subject: Liaison reply to Liaison "400ZR IA Maintenance Project", dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
Approval: Agreed to at IEEE 802.3 plenary teleconference meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

Dear Mr Otto and members of the OIF,

Thank you for your update on the status of the 400ZR IA Maintenance project.

Since our last communication, the IEEE P802.3cw Task Force generated its initial draft (D1.0) and conducted its first task force review. During this review the task force adopted an approach to address optical crosstalk that was developed within its Optical Crosstalk Ad hoc, see <[https://www.ieee802.org/3/cw/public/tf\\_interim/21\\_0429/maniloff\\_3cw\\_01a\\_210429.pdf](https://www.ieee802.org/3/cw/public/tf_interim/21_0429/maniloff_3cw_01a_210429.pdf)>. This and other changes adopted during the first review were subsequently implemented in the next draft of the IEEE P802.3cw specification, D1.1, which is currently in its first task force review recirculation that is scheduled to be completed on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

We are happy to provide you with the current copy of IEEE P802.3cw draft D1.1. We request that this be shared only with your membership.

Currently, IEEE P802.3cw D1.1 is intending to leverage EVM as a Tx quality metric, with the understanding that the approach and the appropriate value must be developed for the DP-16QAM modulation used by 400GBASE-ZR.

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<sup>1</sup> This document solely represents the views of the IEEE 802.3 Working Group and does not necessarily represent a position of the IEEE, the IEEE Standards Association, or IEEE 802.

The Task Force has created the EVM Ad hoc, and chartered it with the following:

- 1) Develop baseline descriptive text
- 2) Evaluate any submitted test data
- 3) Confirm the suitability of EVM as a Tx quality metric
- 4) Recommend values for EVM related parameters

Information regarding the work of the EVM Ad hoc may be found at <<https://www.ieee802.org/3/cw/public/adhoc/index.html>>.

We would appreciate any input that OIF may have regarding this issue and look forward to future collaboration between our two groups.

Sincerely,  
David Law  
Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group