**Broadband Forum Liaison To:**

David Law, IEEE 802.3 Working Group Chair, <dlaw@hpe.com>

Adam Healey, IEEE 802.3 Working Group Vice Chair, <adam.healey@broadcom.com>

**From:**

Michael Fargano, Broadband Forum Technical Committee Chair <michael.fargano@centurylink.com>

**Liaison Communicated By:** David Sinicrope <david.sinicrope@ericsson.com>

**Date:** May 19, 2017

**Subject:** Liaison to IEEE 802.3 on Flex Ethernet for IP/MPLS Networks

Dear Mr. Law and Mr. Healey,

At our 2017Q2 meeting in Taipei, the Broadband Forum initiated a new project entitled "Applicability of Flex Ethernet in IP/MPLS Networks". This project addresses the architecture, requirements and use cases in IP/MPLS networks to deploy Flex Ethernet (a.k.a. FlexE) as a new type of nodal interface.

OIF published "Flex Ethernet Implementation Agreement" (IA OIF-FLEXE-01.0) in March 2016. Our project intends to use FlexE and its related aspects specified by that document including data plane characteristics and provisioning requirements in IP/MPLS networks, including:

- Interconnection between routers on FlexE interfaces in IP/MPLS networks.

- End-to-end MPLS LSPs on FlexE-based channels.

- Control plane protocols (e.g. RSVP-TE, PCEP) including their extensions and their applicability aspects for managing FlexE based MPLS LSP.

- Aspects of using FlexE interfaces and FlexE-based MPLS LSP as a network slicing instance.

- Co-existence of FlexE-based and other data link based MPLS LSPs and their operation.

- New services and applications that FlexE-capable IP/MPLS networks can enable.

We are sending this liaison to inform you about our intention.

Sincerely,


Michael Fargano,
Broadband Forum Technical Committee Chair



**CC:**
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**Date of Upcoming Broadband Forum Meetings**

A list of upcoming meetings can be found at http://www.broadband-forum.org/meetings/upcomingmeetingsataglance.php

**Attachments:** none

**Reference: (**r-t:Liaison to IEEE 802.3 on FlexE-Cheng-Huawei)