



**IEEE Standard for
Local and metropolitan area networks—**

Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks

Amendment 5:

Connectivity Fault Management

IEEE Computer Society

Sponsored by the
LAN/MAN Standards Committee

IEEE
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(Amendment to
IEEE Std 802.1Q™-2005
as amended by
IEEE Std 802.1ad™-2005
and IEEE Std 802.1ak™-2007)

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Amendment 5: Connectivity Fault Management

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IEEE Computer Society**

Approved 27 September 2007

IEEE SA-Standards Board

Abstract: This amendment specifies protocols, procedures, and managed objects to support connectivity fault management. These allow discovery and verification of the path, through bridges and LANs, taken for frames addressed to and from specified network users. Connectivity faults can be detected and isolated to an individual bridge or LAN.

Keywords: error detection, fault management, LANs, local area networks, MAC Bridges, MANs, metropolitan area networks, OAM, transparent bridging, VLANs

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 802.1ag-2007, IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks—Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks—Amendment 5: Connectivity Fault Management.

The MAC Bridge standardization activities that resulted in the development of IEEE Std 802.1D™ introduced the concept of Filtering Services in Bridged Local Area Networks, mechanisms whereby filtering information in such LANs can be acquired and held in a Filtering Database, as well as support for expedited data, dynamic filtering of Group MAC addresses through the GMRP protocol, and the GARP protocol that supports GMRP and can support other applications.

IEEE Std 802.1Q-2005, a revision of IEEE Std 802.1Q-1998, defines mechanisms that allow the implementation of Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks, including:

- a) Virtual LAN Services;
- b) The operation of the Forwarding Process that is required;
- c) The structure of the Filtering Database that is required;
- d) The nature of the protocols and procedures that are required in order to provide Virtual LAN services, including the definition of the frame formats used to represent VLAN identification information, and the procedures used in order to insert and remove VLAN identifiers and the headers in which they are carried;
- e) The ability to support end-to-end signaling of priority information regardless of the intrinsic ability of the underlying MAC protocols to signal priority information;
- f) The GARP VLAN Registration Protocol (GVRP) that allows distribution and registration of VLAN membership information (the protocol described makes use of the GARP protocol defined in IEEE Std 802.1D);
- g) The management services and operations that are required in order to configure and administer networks;
- h) The ability to restrict Dynamic Group and VLAN registration based on the contents of static filtering entries;
- i) VLAN classification according to link layer protocol type;
- j) Support for VLANs carried over multiple Spanning Tree instances.

IEEE Std 802.1ad-2005, an amendment to IEEE Std 802.1Q-2005, defines mechanisms that allow the implementation of Provider Bridged Networks, including:

- k) The differentiation between Service VLANs (S-VLANs), identified by a new S-VLAN tag, and customer VLANs (C-VLANs), identified by the IEEE 802.1Q tag;
- l) The encapsulation of C-VLAN tags within S-VLAN tags, in order to allow a service provider to carry some or all of a customer's C-VLANs within a single S-VLAN;
- m) The provision of two levels of drop precedence separate from the priority levels of IEEE Std 802.1P, and the replacement of the Canonical Format Indicator of the C-VLAN tag by a Drop Eligibility Indicator in the S-VLAN tag to carry the drop precedence;
- n) The passing of certain of the customers' control PDUs, including IEEE 802.1AB LLDP PDUs and IEEE 802.1Q Bridge PDUs, transparently through the Provider Bridged Network as ordinary data;
- o) The reassignment of MAC addresses used for control PDUs, including BPDUs, for use by Provider Bridges;
- p) The definition of C-VLAN components, added to Provider Bridge Ports to provide the functions necessary to support the allocation of C-VLANs to S-VLANs, to map priorities between networks, and to interact with the customers' control protocols; and
- q) The managed objects necessary to control these functions.

This standard provides Connectivity Fault Management (CFM) capabilities useful to Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks for detecting, isolating, and reporting connectivity faults. It is aimed primarily at Provider

Bridged Networks, but is useful also for C-VLAN networks. The mechanisms defined in this standard include:

- r) The ability to configure multiple nested Maintenance Domains over a Bridged Network or a network of Bridged Networks, each potentially managed by a different administrative organization;
- s) The ability to configure Maintenance Associations (MAs), each identified with a single Maintenance Domain, and on any given Bridge, a set of VLANs;
- t) The protocols, procedures, and CFM Protocol Data Unit (CFM PDU) formats required to detect, isolate, and report connectivity faults;
- u) The ability, within an MA, to configure and manage Maintenance Points (MPs) that generate and respond to CFM PDUs; and
- v) The ability to command MPs to perform certain fault isolation operations, and to inspect the results.

CFM is not to be confused with the Ethernet OAM capabilities described in IEEE Std 802.3TM, Clause 57. IEEE 802.3 OAM is concerned with detecting and reporting faults on a single point-to-point IEEE 802.3 LAN. IEEE Std 802.1ag-2007 is concerned with detecting, isolating, and reporting connectivity faults spanning networks comprising multiple LANs, including LANs other than IEEE 802.3 media.

This standard contains state-of-the-art material. The area covered by this standard is undergoing evolution. Revisions are anticipated within the next few years to clarify existing material, to correct possible errors, and to incorporate new related material. Information on the current revision status of this and other IEEE 802 standards can be obtained from

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Figures

Figure 6-1—MAC entities, the MAC Service, and MAC Service users (clients).....	14
Figure 6-2—An interface stack.....	15
Figure 6-3—Two back-to-back EISS Multiplex Entities	18
Figure 12-1—Relationships among CFM managed objects.....	24
Figure 18-1—One Maintenance Domain: operator’s view	119
Figure 18-2—One service instance: operator’s view.....	120
Figure 18-3—One service instance: customer’s view	120
Figure 18-4—MEP and MIP Symbols.....	121
Figure 18-5—Maintenance Associations: one service instance in a provider network.....	122
Figure 18-6—Maintenance Associations: Expansion of Figure 18-5.....	122
Figure 18-7—MEPs, MIPs, and MD Levels	124
Figure 19-1—CFM Protocol shims	125
Figure 19-2—Maintenance association End Point (MEP).....	128
Figure 19-3—MIP Half Function	133
Figure 19-4—Linktrace Output Multiplexer shim.....	135
Figure 19-5—Linktrace Output Multiplexer architecture.....	135
Figure 20-1—MEP state machines—overview and relationships.....	146
Figure 20-2—MEP Continuity Check Initiator state machine	152
Figure 20-3—MHF Continuity Check Receiver state machine.....	153
Figure 20-4—MEP Continuity Check Receiver state machine.....	156
Figure 20-5—Remote MEP state machine	158
Figure 20-6—Remote MEP Error state machine.....	159
Figure 20-7—MEP Cross Connect state machine	160
Figure 20-8—MP Loopback Responder state machine.....	162
Figure 20-9—MEP Loopback Initiator transmit state machine.....	164
Figure 20-10—MEP Loopback Initiator receive state machine.....	165
Figure 20-11—MEP Fault Notification Generator state machine.....	167
Figure 20-12—MEP Linktrace Initiator receive state machine.....	171
Figure 20-13—Linktrace Responder, MEPs, MIPs, and LOMs	173
Figure 20-14—LTM Receiver state machine.....	178
Figure 20-15—LTR Transmitter state machine.....	179
Figure 22-1—MEPs and MIPs distinguished by VID (incomplete picture).....	208
Figure 22-2—Alternate view of Forwarding process	209
Figure 22-3—Combining per-VLAN Maintenance Points into two shims	210
Figure 22-4—More complete picture of Maintenance Point placement in a Bridge Port.....	211
Figure 22-5—Service instance spanning two Bridges protected by Up MPs.....	213
Figure 22-6—Service instance spanning two Bridges protected by Down MPs.....	213
Figure 22-7—Maintenance Point placement in a non-VLAN aware Bridge Port.....	215
Figure 22-8—Maintenance Point placement relative to other standards.....	216
Figure 22-9—Creating MEPs and MIPs.....	219
Figure 22-10—CFM in a Provider Edge Bridge C-tagged service interface.....	225
Figure 22-11—Up MEPs in a Management Port.....	226
Figure 22-12—CFM in the enterprise environment	227
Figure 22-13—CFM on a Bridge conformant to IEEE Std 802.1Q-2005	228
Figure J.1—Up MPs in a CFM Port	244

Tables

Table 8-9—Continuity Check Message Group Destination MAC Addresses.....	22
Table 8-10—Linktrace Message Group Destination MAC Addresses.....	22
Table 17-1—Correspondence between variables, managed objects, and MIB objects.....	43
Table 17-2—Sensitive managed objects: tables and notifications.....	50
Table 17-3—Sensitive managed objects: variables in dot1agCfmMdTable.....	50
Table 19-1—Actions taken by MP OpCode Demultiplexers.....	129
Table 19-2—Received destination_address filtering by CFM entities.....	134
Table 19-3—SAP use for Linktrace Messages and Linktrace Replies.....	136
Table 20-1—Fault Alarm defects and priorities.....	140
Table 20-2—Deriving enableRmepDefect and Port Status TLV in a Bridge.....	149
Table 21-1—CFM PDU Encapsulation: Type/Length Media.....	186
Table 21-2—CFM PDU Encapsulation: LLC Media.....	186
Table 21-4—OpCode Field range assignments.....	187
Table 21-3—Common CFM Header format.....	187
Table 21-5—TLV format.....	188
Table 21-6—Type Field values.....	189
Table 21-7—Organization-Specific TLV format.....	189
Table 21-8—Sender ID TLV format.....	190
Table 21-9—Port Status TLV format.....	191
Table 21-10—Port Status TLV values.....	191
Table 21-11—Interface Status TLV format.....	192
Table 21-12—Interface Status TLV values.....	192
Table 21-15—Continuity Check Message format.....	193
Table 21-13—Data TLV format.....	193
Table 21-14—End TLV format.....	193
Table 21-16—CCM Interval field encoding.....	194
Table 21-17—CCM MAID field format: Maintenance Domain present.....	195
Table 21-19—Maintenance Domain Name Format.....	196
Table 21-18—CCM MAID field format: Maintenance Domain not present.....	196
Table 21-20—Short MA Name Format.....	197
Table 21-21—Loopback Message and Loopback Reply formats.....	198
Table 21-22—Linktrace Message format.....	199
Table 21-23—Linktrace Message Flags field.....	199
Table 21-25—Linktrace Reply format.....	201
Table 21-24—LTM Egress Identifier TLV format.....	201
Table 21-27—Relay Action field values.....	202
Table 21-26—Linktrace Reply Flags field.....	202
Table 21-28—LTR Egress Identifier TLV format.....	203
Table 21-29—Reply Ingress TLV format.....	203
Table 21-30—Ingress Action field values.....	204
Table 21-31—Reply Egress TLV format.....	205
Table 21-32—Egress Action field values.....	205
Table 22-1—MEP creation.....	218
Table 22-2—MIP creation.....	220
Table 22-3—Bandwidth required for CCMs for 1 MA.....	223
Table 22-4—Bandwidth required for CCMs for 1000 MAs.....	223
Table J.1—Provider MD Level allocation.....	240
Table J.2—IEEE / ITU-T terminology differences.....	241

Contents

1.	Overview.....	1
	1.1 Scope.....	1
2.	Normative references.....	3
3.	Definitions.....	5
4.	Abbreviations.....	9
5.	Conformance.....	11
	5.10 VLAN-aware end station requirements for Connectivity Fault Management.....	11
6.	Support of the MAC Service.....	13
	6.1 Basic architectural concepts and terms.....	13
	6.2 Provision of the MAC service.....	16
	6.3 Support of the MAC service.....	17
	6.15 EISS Multiplex Entity.....	18
8.	Principles of bridge operation.....	21
	8.3 Model of operation.....	21
	8.12 Bridge management entity.....	21
	8.13 Addressing.....	21
12.	Bridge management.....	23
	12.1 Management functions.....	23
	12.2 Managed objects.....	23
	12.14 CFM entities.....	23
15.	Support of the MAC Service by Provider Bridged Networks.....	41
	15.10 Connectivity Fault Management.....	41
17.	Management protocol.....	43
	17.1 Internet Standard Management Framework.....	43
	17.2 Relationship with the managed objects definitions.....	43
	17.3 Relationship to other MIB modules.....	48
	17.4 Security.....	48
	17.5 Definitions for the Connectivity Fault Management MIB.....	50
18.	Principles of Connectivity Fault Management operation.....	117
	18.1 Maintenance Domains and Domain Service Access Points.....	118
	18.2 Service instances and Maintenance Associations.....	119
	18.3 Maintenance Domain Levels.....	121
19.	Connectivity Fault Management Entity operation.....	125
	19.1 Maintenance Points.....	125
	19.2 Maintenance association End Point.....	126
	19.3 MIP Half Function.....	131
	19.4 Maintenance Point addressing.....	134

19.5 Linktrace Output Multiplexer	135
19.6 Linktrace Responder	136
20. Connectivity Fault Management protocols	137
20.1 Continuity Check protocol	138
20.2 Loopback protocol	141
20.3 Linktrace protocol	142
20.4 Connectivity Fault Management state machines	146
20.5 CFM state machine timers	146
20.6 CFM procedures	148
20.7 Maintenance Domain variable	148
20.8 Maintenance Association variables	148
20.9 MEP variables	148
20.10 MEP Continuity Check Initiator variables	150
20.11 MEP Continuity Check Initiator procedures	151
20.12 MEP Continuity Check Initiator state machine	151
20.13 MHF Continuity Check Receiver variables	151
20.14 MHF Continuity Check Receiver procedures	152
20.15 MHF Continuity Check Receiver state machine	152
20.16 MEP Continuity Check Receiver variables	153
20.17 MEP Continuity Check Receiver procedures	155
20.18 MEP Continuity Check Receiver state machine	156
20.19 Remote MEP variables	156
20.20 Remote MEP state machine	158
20.21 Remote MEP Error variables	158
20.22 Remote MEP Error state machine	159
20.23 MEP Cross Connect variables	159
20.24 MEP Cross Connect state machine	160
20.25 MP Loopback Responder variables	160
20.26 MP Loopback Responder procedures	161
20.27 MP Loopback Responder state machine	161
20.28 MEP Loopback Initiator variables	162
20.29 MEP Loopback Initiator transmit procedures	163
20.30 MEP Loopback Initiator transmit state machine	163
20.31 MEP Loopback Initiator receive procedures	164
20.32 MEP Loopback Initiator receive state machine	165
20.33 MEP Fault Notification Generator variables	165
20.34 MEP Fault Notification Generator procedures	167
20.35 MEP Fault Notification Generator state machine	167
20.36 MEP Linktrace Initiator variables	168
20.37 MEP Linktrace Initiator procedures	170
20.38 MEP Linktrace Initiator receive variables	170
20.39 MEP Linktrace Initiator receive procedures	171
20.40 MEP Linktrace Initiator receive state machine	171
20.41 Linktrace Responder variables	171
20.42 LTM Receiver procedures	172
20.43 LTM Receiver state machine	178
20.44 LTR Transmitter procedure	178
20.45 LTR Transmitter state machine	179
20.46 CFM PDU validation and versioning	179
20.47 PDU identification	182
20.48 Use of transaction IDs and sequence numbers	183

21.	Encoding of CFM Protocol Data Units.....	185
	21.1 Structure, representation, and encoding.....	185
	21.2 CFM encapsulation	185
	21.3 CFM request and indication parameters	186
	21.4 Common CFM Header.....	186
	21.5 TLV Format	188
	21.6 Continuity Check Message format.....	193
	21.7 Loopback Message and Loopback Reply formats	198
	21.8 Linktrace Message Format.....	199
	21.9 Linktrace Reply Format	201
22.	Connectivity Fault Management in systems	207
	22.1 CFM shims in Bridges	207
	22.2 Maintenance Entity creation	217
	22.3 MPs, Ports, and MD Level assignment.....	221
	22.4 Stations and Connectivity Fault Management	222
	22.5 Scalability of Connectivity Fault Management	222
	22.6 CFM in Provider Bridges.....	224
	22.7 Management Port MEPs and CFM in the enterprise environment.....	226
	22.8 Implementing CFM on existing Bridges.....	228
	Annex A (normative) PICS proforma.....	229
	Annex H (informative) Bibliography.....	237
	Annex J (informative) Connectivity Fault Management protocol design and use	239

Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks

Amendment 5: Connectivity Fault Management

NOTE—The editing instructions contained in this amendment define how to merge the material contained therein into the existing base standard and its amendments to form the comprehensive standard.

The editing instructions are shown in **bold italic**. Four editing instructions are used: change, delete, insert, and replace. **Change** is used to make corrections in existing text or tables. The editing instruction specifies the location of the change and describes what is being changed by using ~~strike through~~ (to remove old material) or underscore (to add new material). **Delete** removes existing material. **Insert** adds new material without disturbing the existing material. Insertions may require renumbering. If so, renumbering instructions are given in the editing instruction. **Replace** is used to make changes in figures or equations by removing the existing figure or equation and replacing it with a new one. Editing instructions, change markings, and this NOTE will not be carried over into future editions because the changes will be incorporated into the base standard.

1. Overview

Insert the following paragraph after the initial paragraphs in Clause 1:

This standard specifies protocols and protocol entities within the architecture of VLAN-aware Bridges that provide capabilities for detecting, verifying, and isolating connectivity failures in Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks. These capabilities can be used in networks operated by multiple independent organizations, each with restricted management access to each other's equipment.

1.1 Scope

Insert the following at end of 1.1, renumbering the list items so that they follow in order from those in the existing text.

This standard specifies protocols, procedures, and managed objects to support connectivity fault management. These allow discovery and verification of the path, through bridges and LANs, taken for frames addressed to and from specified network users, and support detection and isolation of a connectivity fault to a specific bridge or LAN. To this end it:

- a) Defines Maintenance Domains, Maintenance Associations, their constituent Maintenance Points, and the managed objects required to create and administer them;
- b) Describes the protocols and procedures used by Maintenance Points to detect and diagnose connectivity faults within a Maintenance Domain.