Contact: Lloyd Green, Director, Engagement Marketing & Creative Community Services
+1 732-465-6444, l.g.green@ieee.org

Contact: Jeff Pane, Associate Brand and Marketing Communications Manager
+1 732-465-6605, j.pane@ieee.org

IEEE Approves 802.3bz^{TM}-2016 Standard for Increased Speeds of 2.5 Gb/s and 5.0 Gb/s within Existing Cabling Infrastructure

Standard revision demonstrates a quick response to meet growing capacity demands on more than 70 billion meters of Category 5e and Category 6 cabling

PISCATAWAY, NJ, 18 October 2016 – IEEE, the world's largest professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for humanity, and the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA), today announced the publication of IEEE 802.3bz^{TM}-2016 - Standard for Ethernet Amendment: Media Access Control Parameters, Physical Layers and Management Parameters for 2.5 Gb/s and 5 Gb/s Operation.

Completed in 18 months, IEEE 802.3bz-2016, initiated in March 2015, was completed in record time. It supports the growing need for Ethernet connectivity over structured twisted pair wiring beyond the 1 Gb/s capability provided by the IEEE 802.3ab standard (1000BASE-T), which is considered by many to be the most successful Ethernet physical layer standard. ever. The new standard defines Ethernet Media Access Control (MAC) parameters, physical layer specifications, and management objects for the transfer of Ethernet format frames at 2.5 Gb/s and 5 Gb/s, so that enterprise interconnect solutions over structured Category 5e or better twisted pair cabling can support modern wireless access points without compromise.

 "The development team for IEEE 802.3bz-2016 has done a commendable job and responded quickly to a market demand that represents a huge cost savings for enterprises by allowing them to improve their network performance over existing cabling," said David Chalupsky, chair, IEEE 802.3bz 2.5G/5GBASE-T Task Force. "This project is yet another example of how IEEE 802.3 Standards development is quickly adapting to the changing needs of the Ethernet user community and playing a significant role in driving the Ethernet ecosystem forward."

IEEE 802.3bz is available for purchase at the IEEE Standards Store.

Deployment of technology defined by IEEE 802® standards is already globally pervasive, driven by the ever-growing needs of data networks around the world. New application areas are constantly being considered that might leverage IEEE 802 standards in their networks from wireless, through twisted-pair cabling, to fiber-optic cabling solutions. To better address the needs of all of these areas, IEEE 802 standards are constantly evolving and expanding. The success of IEEE 802 standards—from their inception through today—has been due to their fair, open and transparent development process.

To learn more about IEEE-SA, visit us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, connect with us on LinkedIn or on the Standards Insight Blog.

About the IEEE Standards Association

The IEEE Standards Association, a globally recognized standards-setting body within IEEE, develops consensus standards through an open process that engages industry and brings together a broad stakeholder community. IEEE standards set specifications and best practices based on current scientific and technological knowledge. The IEEE-SA has a portfolio of over 1,100 active standards and more than 500 standards under development. For more information visit http://standards.ieee.org.

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