IEEE P802.11  
Wireless LANs

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Overview

This submission proposes a press release for IEEE Std 802.11-2016. The enclosed draft press release will be forwarded to IEEE staff (IEEE staff determine the final version).

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# New IEEE Std 802.11™-2016 Standard Enables Multi-gigabit Throughput in 5GHz and 60GHz Spectrum bands

**PISCATAWAY, N.J., USA, XX Month 2017** – IEEE, the world's largest professional organization advancing technology for humanity, announced today that the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) Standards Board has approved the IEEE 802.11TM-2016 standard that provides significant enhancements to WLAN (wireless local area network) with the inclusion of the following amendments:

* IEEE Std 802.11ae™-2012: Prioritization of Management Frames
* IEEE Std 802.11aa™-2012: MAC Enhancements for Robust Audio Video Streaming
* IEEE Std 802.11ad™-2012: Enhancements for Very High Throughput in the 60 GHz Band
* IEEE Std 802.11ac™-2013: Enhancements for Very High Throughput for Operation in Bands below 6 GHz
* IEEE Std 802.11af™-2013: Television White Spaces (TVWS) Operation

IEEE Std 802.11™-2016 is an update of the already successful IEEE Std 802.11™-2012 standard in use in wireless networking applications around the world. In addition to the inclusion of the amendments as listed above, many technical corrections and clarifications have also been added to this revision, resulting in a refined and comprehensive edition.

*“The production of the IEEE Std 802.11™-2016 standard supports WLAN evolution in new directions and provides a rich base of technology across multiple frequency bands, enabling product and solution developers to fully exploit the enhancements to this technology” said Adrian Stephens, Chair of the IEEE 802.11 Working Group.*

The IEEE Std 802.11™-2016 standard not only offers enhanced physical layer capabilities within the 2.4 and 5 GHz bands, but now provides a WLAN solution for both the 60 GHz and TV White Space bands. At the medium access control layer enhancements include: flow control of management frames, video and audio streaming enhancements, together with the ability for devices to use database control for TVWS band operation. Timing Measurement mechanisms have been extended to support finer precision applications such as ranging and positioning.

More than 300 individuals from equipment and silicon suppliers, service providers, systems integrators, consultant organizations and academic institutions from more than 20 countries participated in IEEE Std 802.11™-2016 development. The IEEE Std 802.11™-2016 standard was approved and published in December 2016 and is available for purchase at the [IEEE Standards Store](http://www.techstreet.com/ieee/cgi-bin/detail?vendor_id=4359).

IEEE Std 802.11[[1]](#footnote-1) defines the technology for the world’s premier wireless LAN (WLAN) products. IEEE 802.11-based products are often branded as “Wi-Fi®” in the market. IEEE 802.11 standards underpin wireless networking applications around the world, such as wireless access to the Internet from offices, homes, airports, hotels, restaurants, trains and aircraft. IEEE 802.11’s relevance continues to expand with the emergence of new applications, such as the smart grid, wireless docking, and the “Internet of Things.” For more information about the IEEE 802.11 working group, visit <http://standards.ieee.org/develop/wg/WG802.11.html>.

To learn more about IEEE-SA, visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/ieeesa>, follow us on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/ieeesa> or connect with us on LinkedIn at <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1791118> or on the Standards Insight Blog at <http://www.standardsinsight.com>.

**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 900 active standards and more than 500 standards under development. For more information visit <http://standards.ieee.org/>.

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1. IEEE 802.11™-2016 “Standard for Information technology--Telecommunications and information exchange between systems Local and metropolitan area networks--Specific requirements Part 11: Wireless LAN Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) Specifications” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)