IEEE P802.11  
Wireless LANs

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| 11bi D1.0 12.16.5 comments | | | | |
| Date: 2025-03-25 | | | | |
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Abstract

This submission resolves the following CIDs:

675, 676, 847, 848, 965, 649

Revisions:

* Rev 0: Initial version of the document.
* Rev 1: Revision based on the discussion during the meeting
* Rev 2: Revision for CID 965 and add CID 649

Interpretation of a Motion to Adopt

A motion to approve this submission means that the editing instructions and any changed or added material are actioned in the TGbi D1.0 Draft. This introduction is not part of the adopted material.

Editing instructions formatted like this are intended to be copied into the TGbi D1.0 Draft. (i.e. they are instructions to the 802.11 editor on how to merge the text with the baseline documents). TGbi Editor: Editing instructions preceded by “TGbi Editor” are instructions to the TGbi editor to modify existing material in the TGbi draft. As a result of adopting the changes, the TGbi editor will execute the instructions rather than copy them to the TGbi Draft.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CID** | **Clause** | **P.L** | **Comment** | **Proposed Change** | **Resolution** |
| 675 | 122.42 | 12.16.5 | "Include the AKM Suite Selector element indicating the selected IEEE 802.1X AKM." -- include where? This duplicates Clause 9 anyway. Ditto 123.4 | Delete the cited text | Rejected –  The main bullets says “The originator then constructs the first Authentication frame of the exchange as follows:”. Hence, it is in the first Authentication frame. For 123.4, the main bullet says “The responder then constructs the second Authentication frame of the exchange as follows:”. Hence, it is in the second Authentication frame. The text in clause 9 does not say it include what AKM. As a result, we need the texts in 12.16.5. |
| 676 | 0.00 | 12.16.5 | This subclause is lacking in "shall"s | Use "shall"s rather than just the present simple | Revised –  Agree in principle with the commenter.  TGbi editor to make the changes shown in the latest version of 11-25/0536 under all headings that include CID 676 |
| 847 | 123.27 | 12.16.5 | The text indicates that the encapsulation length is 0 if the status is invalid, but does not indicate (as the earlier messages do) that the message might carry an EAPOL PDU. | Add bullet item listing possible EAPOL PDU | Rejected –  If the encapsulation length is 0, then there is no encapsulated EAPOL PDU. |
| 848 | 123.57 | 12.16.5 | Text describing the handling of status code should explicitly state that this is for all messages with sequence numbers of X or greater. | Change text to "If the processing status returned in any frame where the sequence number is X or greater is not SUCCESS, the originator or the responder shall terminate the authentication. | Revised –  Agree in principle with the commenter.  TGbi editor to make the changes shown in the latest version of 11-25/0536 under all headings that include CID 848 |
| 965 | 123.56 | 12.16.5 | It is not described how the EAPOL exchange using Authentication frames is completed. Is Status Code 0 used in all cases? Even with EAP-Failure? Is the non-AP STA support to upper layer information (i.e., EAP-Success or EAP-Failure) to determine when authentication has been completed? If so, that needs to be specified. If not, there needs to be lower layer information (e.g., one new Status Code to indicate EAP exchange continues and Status Code 0 to indicate that EAP completed successfully and new Status Code to indicate that EAP resulted in failure). | Describe the exact rules based on which a non-AP STA or a non-AP MLD concludes that authentication succeeded or failed and can move to the next step (i.e., association in the success case). | Revised –  Agree in principle with the commenter.  Note that when EAPOL PDU is exchange with the data frame, if the authentication fails, then there is a deauthentication frame with reason code “802\_1\_X\_AUTH\_FAILED”. We add this reason code to the status code when the 802.1X authentication fails.  However, when EAPOL PDU is exchanged with the date frame, there is no EAPOL continue or EAPOL success, and we do not add corresponding reason codes.  TGbi editor to make the changes shown in the latest version of 11-25/0536 under all headings that include CID 965 |
| 649 | 110,28 | 12.6.1.2.2 | "The last step is key management. The authentication process, whether SAE authentication, or FILS authentication, or IEEE 802.1X authentication utilizing Authentication frames; or IEEE 802.1X authentication utilizing Data frames post association,; or the OWE exchange utilizing association frames creates cryptographic keys shared between the cryptographic endpoints--the AP and STA, or the IEEE 802.1X AS and the STA, when using SAE/FILS/OWE or IEEE Std 802.1X, respec-tively." -- this is barely comprehensible, but the mixture of commas and semicolons makes it even worse | As it says in the comment | Revised –  Agree to fix the mixture of commas and semicolons by using or exclusively. Also, tweak the sentence of the paragraph.  TGbi editor to make the changes shown in the latest version of 11-25/0536 under all headings that include CID 965 |

***Discussion:***

***Proposal:***

**TGbi Editor: *Instruction: Modify 12.6.1.2.2 as follows***

* Security association in an ESS

***Change item d) of the second paragraph (not all shown) as follows:***

* The last step is key management. The authentication process, whether SAE authentication utilizing Authentication frames, or~~or~~ FILS authentication utilizing Authentication frames, or IEEE 802.1X authentication utilizing Authentication frames, or IEEE 802.1X authentication utilizing Data frames post association, or the OWE exchange utilizing association frames creates cryptographic keys shared between the cryptographic endpoints—the AP and STA, or the IEEE 802.1X AS and the STA, when using SAE/FILS/OWE or IEEE Std 802.1X, respectively. When using IEEE Std 802.1X, the AS transfers these keys to the AP, and if encryption of (Re)Association Request/Response frames is not used, the AP and STA uses one of the key confirmation handshakes, e.g., the 4-way handshake or FT 4-way handshake, to complete security association establishment. When using SAE authentication or OWE there is no AS and therefore no key transfer; if encryption of (Re)Association Request/Response frames is not used, the 4-way handshake is performed directly between the AP and STA. The key confirmation handshake indicates when the link has been secured by the keys and is ready to allow normal data traffic and protected robust Management frames. When FILS authentication is performed or if encryption of (Re)Association Request/Response frames is used, the key confirmation is performed using association frames. Hence, no additional handshake is necessary.(#649)

**TGbi Editor: *Instruction: Modify 12.16.5 as follows***

* IEEE 802.1X authentication utilizing Authentication frames

If an AP sets the IEEE 802.1X Authentication Utilizing Authentication Frame Support field in the RSNXE that it transmits to 1, then a non-AP STA (originator) with dot11EDPIEEE8021XAuthenticationUtilizingAuthenticationFrameActivated equal to true may signal its Supplicant to authenticate with the AP (responder) using IEEE Std 802.1X-2020 utilizing Authentication frames.

If any AP affiliated with an AP MLD sets the IEEE 802.1X Authentication Utilizing Authentication Frame Support field in the RSNXE that it transmits to 1, then a non-AP MLD (originator) with dot11EDPIEEE8021XAuthenticationUtilizingAuthenticationFrameActivated equal to true may signal its Supplicant to authenticate with the AP MLD (responder) using IEEE Std 802.1X-2020 utilizing Authentication frames by transmitting the Authentication frames to the AP through a non-AP STA affiliated with the non-AP MLD.

When the originator is a non-AP MLD and the responder is an AP MLD, the RA field of an Authentication frame in response to an Authentication frame from the peer shall be set to the TA field of the Authentication frame from the peer.

If an originator chooses to initiate IEEE 802.1X authentication utilizing Authentication frames, it first selects an IEEE 802.1X AKM that is supported by the responder.

The originator then shall construct(#676) the first Authentication frame of the exchange as follows:

* Authentication Algorithm Number field is set to 8 (IEEE 802.1X authentication).
* Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field is set to 1.
* The Encapsulation field carries an EAPOL PDU.
* Include the AKM Suite Selector element indicating the selected IEEE 802.1X AKM.

The originator sends the first Authentication frame to the responder.

Upon receiving the first Authentication frame, the responder shall(#676):

* Validate(#676) that the AKM indicated in AKM Suite Selector element is an IEEE 802.1X AKM.
* Validate(#676) that the selected IEEE 802.1X AKM indicated in AKM Suite Selector element is supported. Otherwise processing status is set to STATUS\_INVALID\_AKMP.
* Extract(#676) an EAPOL PDU from the Encapsulation field, and process(#676) it.

The responder then shall construct(#676) the second Authentication frame of the exchange as follows:

* Authentication Algorithm Number field is set to 8 (IEEE 802.1X authentication).
* Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field is set to 2.
* Status Code field indicates the processing status.
* The Encapsulation Length field indicates 0 if the status is set to STATUS\_INVALID\_AKMP.
* The Encapsulation field (if present) carries an EAPOL PDU.
* Include(#676) the AKM Suite Selector element indicating the same IEEE 802.1X AKM indicated in the first Authentication frame.

Once the processing is complete, the responder sends the second Authentication frame to the originator. If the processing status returned in the frame was not SUCCESS, the responder shall terminate the authentication.

Upon receiving the second Authentication frame, the originator shall(#676):

* Validate(#676) that the AKM indicated in AKM Suite Selector element is the same as the one indicated in the first Authentication frame. Otherwise,(#676) processing status is set to STATUS\_INVALID\_AKMP.
* Extract(#676) an EAPOL PDU from the Encapsulation field, and process(#676) it.

The originator then shall construct(#676) the third Authentication of the exchange as follows:

* Authentication Algorithm Number field is set to 8 (IEEE 802.1X authentication).
* Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field is set to 3.
* Status Code field indicates the processing status.
* The Encapsulation Length field indicates 0 if the status is set to STATUS\_INVALID\_AKMP.

Once the processing is complete, the originator sends the third Authentication frame to the responder. If the processing status returned in the frame was not SUCCESS, the originator shall terminate the authentication.

Upon receiving the Authentication frame with Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field set to a value that(#848) is larger than or equal to 3, the originator or the responder:

* Extract(#676) an EAPOL PDU from the Encapsulation field, and process(#676) it.

The originator or the responder then shall construct(#676) the Authentication frame of the exchange in response to the Authentication frame (if needed by the EAP method)(#965) with Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field set to a value that(#848) is larger than or equal to 3, as follows:

* Authentication Algorithm Number field is set to 8 (IEEE 802.1X authentication).
* Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field is set to the value of the Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field of the Authentication frame being responded to(#848, #Ed) +1.
* Status Code field indicates the processing status.
* The Encapsulation field (if present) carries an EAPOL PDU.

NOTE —The number of Authentication frame exchanges depends on the EAP method in use.(#Ed)

Once the processing is complete, the originator or the responder sends the Authentication frame in response to the Authentication frame with Authentication Transaction Sequence Number field set to a value that is larger than or equal to 3,(#848) to its peer (if needed by the EAP method). If the processing status returned in the frame was not SUCCESS, the originator or the responder shall terminate the authentication.

**TGbi Editor: *Instruction: Modify 9.4.1.9 as follows***

* Status Code field

***Insert the following new rows to Table 9-80 (Status codes) while maintaining the numerical order and updating the reserved range (not all lines shown):***

* ANA assignment and update are done
* Status codes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Status code | Name | Meaning |
| … |  |  |
| 145 | SUCCESS\_SIMILAR\_EPOCH | The request to join or create a group EDP(#1012) epoch is successful but the epoch parameters are not exactly those(#22) requested. |
| 146 | SUCCESS\_ALREADY\_EXISTING\_EPOCH(#192) | The STA has successfully joined the requested group EDP(#1012) epoch. The EDP group already exists, no new EDP group is created.(#192) |
| 147 | FAILURE\_MAX\_NUM\_EPOCH\_REACHED(#931) | Failure to create a group EDP(#1012) epoch because the maximum number of group EDP(#1012) epochs at the AP has been reached. |
| 148 | SUCCESS\_AID\_LIST\_PARTIALLY\_STORED | The AID List is too large and the CPE non-AP MLD has stored it only partially. |
| 149 | FAILURE\_AID\_LIST\_NOT\_STORED | No AID value has been stored. |
| 150 | FAILURE\_AID\_STORAGE\_TOO\_SMALL | The request to join or create a group EDP(#1012) epoch has failed, because the AID storage of the non-AP MLD is too small. |
| 151 | NO\_ASSIGNED\_AID | The non-AP MLD has no AID value for the current group EDP(#1012) epoch. |
| <ANA> | 802\_1\_X\_AUTH\_FAILED | IEEE 802.1X authentication failed(#965) |