**IEEE P802.15**

**Wireless Personal Area Networks**

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| Project | IEEE P802.15 Working Group for Wireless Personal Area Networks (WPANs) | |
| Title | **<Liaison Statement from ETSI**> | |
| Date Submitted | [20 Mar 2013] | |
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| Re: | [802.15 Plenary Meeting in Orlando, Florida] | |
| Abstract | [IEEE 802.15 Working Group Liaison statement] | |
| Purpose | [Official minutes of the Working Group Session] | |
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| **Title:** | Standards for Smart Energy and the Smart Grid |
| Date: | 18 Dec. 2012 |
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| **From** (source): | ETSI TC ERM |
| Contact(s): | Chairman Dr. Gabrielle Owen ([gabrielle.owen@agentschaptelecom.nl](mailto:gabrielle.owen@agentschaptelecom.nl)) |
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| **To:** | IEEE 802.15.4 IEEE 802.15.4 Chairman Dr. Bob Heile ( bheile@ieee.org) |
| **Copy to:** | ETSI ERM-TG28 Chairman Mr. Enrico Tosato |
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Dear Dr. Heile,

ETSI TC ERM recognises the importance of the work done by the IEEE 802.15 Working Group in the generation of foundational standards for Smart Energy and the Smart Grid.

The 802.15.4g standard published this year extends to the Smart Energy domain the solid foundation that 802.15.4 has established over the last decade as a very important WPAN standard. New facilities in IEEE 802.15.4e add functionality essential to WPAN technology applied to the energy supply, distribution and retail sectors. 802.15.4 standards are also important components of the M2M infrastructure leading to the Internet of Things.

In publishing these important standards, TC ERM would like to congratulate you and the efforts of your 802.15 Working Group.

As you may be aware, several Standards Development Organisations, including European Standards Organisation - ETSI, are developing regional or market specific standards based on the important published IEEE 802.15.4 standards, particularly 802.15.4g and 802.15.4e.

TC ERM (Task Group 28 – Generic Short Range Devices) proceeds with the development of ETSI specifications on Smart Metering Wireless Access Protocol (Draft ETSI TS 102 887-1 and -2). The main reference documents in our work are your standards mentioned above.

We have identified certain aspects (given in the Annex of this Liaison Statement), which we would like to bring to your attention and to request that the IEEE 802.15 Working Group consider in the maintenance and further enhancement of your 802.15.4 family of standards.

TC ERM looks forward to a favourable reception of these requests and to the continued positive relationship between IEEE and ETSI within the framework of the recently re-confirmed ETSI – IEEE Cooperation agreement.

Best regards,

Dr. Gabrielle Owen, ETSI TC ERM Chairman

# Details of ETSI TC ERM request for maintenance of IEEE 802.15.4

ETSI TC ERM would like to bring to your attention and to request that the IEEE 802.15 Working Group consider in the maintenance and further enhancement of your 802.15.4 family of standards.

Firstly, as for any SDO, ETSI needs to use resources which it can guarantee in the publication of its standards. In particular, resources identifying data structures must be guaranteed to be unique for any SDO published standard to be acceptable in a major marketplace.

**Frame Type and Information Element Identifiers**

The use of Frame Type and Information Element Identifiers to distinguish between different data structures provides committees in ETSI (and other SDOs) with the ideal mechanism to build on 802.15.4 standards. However, the Unmanaged address space for Information Elements does not provide the necessary guarantees for ETSI to use this range of identifiers for its data structures. In the case of Frame Type identifiers, the range of values is almost fully used and there is a need to define further Frame Type identifier values to allow ETSI (and any other external SDO) to add major functionality over and above that possible by adding Information Element definitions.

ETSI TC ERM respectfully requests IEEE 802.15 to seriously consider how certain ranges of Information Element identifiers may be made available for allocation to external SDOs building their standards on IEEE 802.15.4 published standards.

TC ERM also requests that IEEE 802.15 define a mechanism to extend the range of values of the 802.15.4 Frame Type and similarly defines a mechanism to allow use of one or more of the extended Frame Type identifier values by an external SDO. TC ERM recognises the mechanism identified in ANSI/TIA-PN-4957.200 as being a suitable extension of the Frame Type identifier range.

In both of the cases of Frame Type and Information Element identifier values, the mechanism for allocation and management of the values for use by external SDOs should ensure their uniqueness in all product contexts.

**Definition of the structure of Information Elements**

Secondly, TC ERM would like to draw to the attention of the 802.15 Working Group that the definition of the structure of Information Elements in 802.15.4e is contrary to many other standards which use very similar Type-Length-Value structures. TC ERM/TG28 members do not see any value in defining a different structure and would highly recommend revision of the 802.15.4e standard to bring it into line with the many other standards using Information Element TLV structures to allow combination of such standards to have a uniform and consistent definition of Information Element structures.