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**Information technology —
Telecommunications and information
exchange between systems — Local
and metropolitan area networks —**

Part A:

Overview and architecture

**AMENDMENT 2: Local medium access
control (MAC) address usage**

*Technologies de l'information — Télécommunications et échange
d'information entre systèmes — Réseaux locaux et métropolitains —*

Partie A: Présentation et architecture

*AMENDMENT 2: Utilisation de l'adresse de commande d'accès au
support (MAC) locale*



Reference number
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IEEE Std 802c™-2017
(Amendment to
IEEE Std 802®-2014
as amended by IEEE Std 802d™-2017)

IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks: Overview and Architecture

Amendment 2: Local Medium Access Control (MAC) Address Usage

Sponsor

**LAN/MAN Standards Committee
of the
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Approved 15 June 2017

IEEE-SA Standards Board

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Abstract: An optional local medium access control (MAC) address space structure, known as the Structured Local Address Plan (SLAP), is provided in this amendment to IEEE Std 802[®]-2014 in order to allow multiple administrations to coexist. This structure designates a range of local MAC addresses for protocols using a Company ID (CID) assigned by the IEEE Registration Authority. Another range of local MAC addresses is designated for assignment by administrators. The amendment recommends a range of local MAC addresses for use by IEEE 802[®] protocols.

Keywords: AAI, Administratively Assigned Identifier, CID, Company ID, ELI, Extended Local Identifier, global address, IEEE 802[®], IEEE Registration Authority, local address, MAC, medium access control, SAI, SLAP, Standard Assigned Identifier, Structured Local Address Plan

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 802c-2017, IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks: Overview and Architecture—Amendment 2: Local Medium Access Control (MAC) Address Usage.

This amendment to IEEE Std 802-2014 provides an optional local medium access control (MAC) address space structure, known as the Structured Local Address Plan (SLAP), to allow multiple administrations to coexist. This structure designates a range of local MAC addresses for protocols using a Company ID (CID) assigned by the IEEE Registration Authority (RA). Another range of local MAC addresses is designated for assignment by administrators. The amendment recommends a range of local MAC addresses for use by IEEE 802[®] protocols. It also corrects minor errors, ambiguities, omissions, and inconsistencies, including clarifying the use of CID in protocol identifiers.

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IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks: Overview and Architecture

Amendment 2: Local Medium Access Control (MAC) Address Usage

(This amendment is based on IEEE Std 802[®]-2014 as amended by IEEE Std 802d[™]-2017.)

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

Editing instructions are shown *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 either ~~strikethrough~~ (to remove old material) or underline (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 large changes in existing text, subclauses, tables, or figures by removing existing material and replacing it with new material. Editorial notes will not be carried over into future editions because the changes will be incorporated into the base standard.¹

3. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

Insert the following terms into 3.1 in alphabetical order:

local MAC address: A medium access control (MAC) address with the universally or locally administered (U/L) bit set to 1.

Network Unique Identifier (NUI): An identifier that is unique within the IEEE 802[®] local area network (LAN).

¹ Notes in text, tables, and figures are given for information only and do not contain requirements needed to implement the standard.

Structured Local Address Plan (SLAP): An optional standardized specification for the use of local medium access control (MAC) address space entailing the use of Extended Local Identifier (ELI), Standard Assigned Identifier (SAI), and Administratively Assigned Identifier (AAI) addresses in specific disjoint ranges.

3.2 Acronyms and abbreviations

Change the following abbreviation in 3.2 as indicated:

CID ~~C~~ompany ~~ID~~entifier

Insert the following abbreviations into 3.2 in alphabetical order:

AAI Administratively Assigned Identifier

AAI-48 48-bit AAI

AAI-64 64-bit AAI

ELI Extended Local Identifier

ELI-48 48-bit ELI

ELI-64 64-bit ELI

NUI Network Unique Identifier

NUI-48 48-bit NUI

NUI-64 64-bit NUI

SAI Standard Assigned Identifier

SAI-48 48-bit SAI

SAI-64 64-bit SAI

SLAP Structured Local Address Plan

Relative to “EUI-48” and “EUI-64” throughout the entire base standard, change both singular and plural forms of the term “extended unique identifier” to the capitalized form “Extended Unique Identifier.”

Relative to “OUI” throughout the entire base standard, change both singular and plural forms of the term “organizationally unique identifier” to the capitalized form “Organizationally Unique Identifier”.

5. Reference models (RMs)

5.2 RM description for end stations

5.2.2 LLC sublayer

Change the third paragraph of 5.2.2, resulting in two paragraphs, as follows:

IEEE Std 802.3™ is capable of natively representing the EtherType within its MAC frame format, which is used to support EPD. IEEE Std 802.3 also natively supports ISO/IEC 8802-2 LPD (over a limited range of frame sizes). In other IEEE 802 networks, such as ~~for~~ IEEE Std 802.11™, LPD ~~with is also achieved using SNAP is used, as described in Clause 9.~~ In either of these techniques, the EtherType is effectively being

used as a means of identifying an LSAP that provides LLC sublayer service to the protocol concerned. [For further details, refer to Clause 12 of IEEE Std 802.1AC-2016.](#)

New IEEE 802 standards shall support protocol discrimination in the LLC sublayer using EPD.

8. MAC addresses

8.2 Universal addresses

8.2.2 Assignment of universal addresses

Change Note 1 and Note 2 (after Table 1) in 8.2.2 as shown, including deleting footnote 13:

NOTE 1—The terms OUI and OUI-36 were previously used by the IEEE RA to refer both to the globally unique 24-bit OUI and 36-bit identifiers and to the “products” that included the identifier and a block of addresses. The OUI “product” was replaced by the MA-L that, in addition to the address block, includes an assignment of an OUI; likewise, the OUI-36 was replaced by the MA-S that includes the assignment of an address block and an OUI-36. ~~to what are now called MA-L and MA-S, respectively. The acronym OUI without modification was used to refer to the 24-bit field assigned by the IEEE RA. However, while not appropriate, the acronym OUI has been used to refer to generally to all IEEE RA assignments. As a result, the use of the terms OUI is not always consistent within all IEEE standards.~~

NOTE 2—~~The CID comes from the same 24-bit space as the MA-L/OUI. A CID assignment is used to identify a company or organization, but, it is not used to create universal addresses. For more information, see 8.4. A CID assignment has the X bit (the U/L address bit in a MAC address) set to one, which would place any address created with a CID in the locally administered address space.~~¹³

¹³More information on CIDs can be found on the IEEE RA tutorial web page, <http://standards.ieee.org/develop/regauth/tut/index.html>.

Change the sixth paragraph of 8.2.2 as indicated:

The U/L bit indicates whether the MAC address has been assigned by a local or universal administrator. Universal addresses have the U/L bit set to 0. If the U/L bit is set to 1, ~~the address is remaining bits (i.e., all bits except the I/G and U/L bits) are locally administered, as described in 8.4 and should not be expected to meet the uniqueness requirement of the IEEE RA assigned values.~~

In Figure 10 and Figure 11, change the Octet 4 box as indicated:

Octet 4 011114001

Change the note after Figure 10 in 8.2.2 as follows:

NOTE 3—The octet string AC-DE-48-12-7B-80 is used in this standard because it is clear when a bit pattern is reversed. This octet string could be in use and is not a reserved value. While AC-DE-48 is used as the same first 3 octets for the examples of MA-L, MA-M, and MA-S, the first 3 octets are different for valid assigned RA values.

Change the note after the last paragraph in 8.2.2 as follows:

NOTE 4—The upper, bit-stream representation of the EUI-48 in Figure 10 and the EUI-64 in Figure 11 shows the LSB of each octet first; this corresponds to the data-communications convention for representing bit-serial transmission in left-to-right order, applied to the model for transmission of EUI-48 fields (see 5.2.3) and EUI-64 fields. See also 8.6 for further discussion of bit-ordering issues. The lower, octet-sequence representation shows the bits within each octet in the usual order for binary numerals; the order of octet transmission is from the top downward.

8.4 Local MAC addresses

Delete the text of 8.4 as shown, including deleting footnote 14:

~~Local MAC addresses are 48-bit or 64-bit MAC addresses for which there is no guarantee that the MAC address is unique in all IEEE 802 networks. Local MAC addresses may be assigned any value that has the U/L bit set to indicate a local MAC address and an I/G bit value that indicates whether the MAC address is individual or group. Local MAC addresses need to be unique on a LAN or bridged LAN unless the bridges support VLANs with independent learning.~~

~~The I/G bit is set as described in 8.2.2.~~

~~NOTE—MA-L, MA-M, and MA-S assignments do not apply to local MAC addresses. Refer to the IEEE RA web site^{††} or recommendations for management of the local MAC address space.~~

~~^{††}<http://standards.ieee.org/develop/regauth>.~~

Insert the following subclauses (8.4.1 through 8.4.6, including Figure 11a and Figure 11b and Table 1a through Table 1e) after the subclause heading for 8.4:

8.4.1 Concept and overview

The U/L bit of a local MAC address is set to 1, indicating that the remaining bits (i.e., all bits except the U/L bit and the I/G bit, which is set as described in 8.2.2) are locally administered. Local MAC addresses are not presumed globally unique across all IEEE 802 networks. The locally administered bits of local MAC addresses are arbitrarily assignable under the condition that local MAC addresses are unique within a LAN (which may be a bridged LAN or virtual bridged LAN). In a virtual bridged LAN wherein the bridges use Independent VLAN Learning, the uniqueness condition applies to each VLAN rather than to the entire virtual bridged LAN. Any failure of such uniqueness invalidates the fundamental premises of IEEE 802 network operation and may lead to disruption. Therefore, administrators should ensure that the probability of local MAC address non-uniqueness is acceptably small.

While a local administrator may assign addresses throughout the local range, the optional Structured Local Address Plan (SLAP) specifies different assignment approaches in four specified regions of local MAC address space.

Unlike universal addresses, which are persistent to the MAC entity, local MAC addresses are not necessarily persistent. The local MAC address assigned to a MAC entity, including any subsequent change to that assignment, is entirely within the scope of the local administration.

8.4.2 Local MAC address assignment protocols

An address assignment protocol assigning local MAC addresses to devices on a LAN should ensure uniqueness of those addresses, per the description of F.1.2 of IEEE Std 802.1Q. That standard's Annex F also identifies risks of non-uniqueness.

When multiple address assignment protocols operate on a LAN without centralized administration, address duplication is possible even if each protocol alone is designed to avoid duplication. When multiple address assignment protocols operate on a LAN without centralized administration, address duplication is possible, even if each protocol alone is designed to avoid duplication, unless such protocols assign addresses from disjoint address pools.

The subclauses below specify the usage of local MAC address space according to the SLAP. Administrators who deploy multiple protocols on a LAN in accordance with the SLAP will enable the unique assignment of

local MAC addresses within the LAN as long as each protocol maintains unique assignments within its own address subspace.

8.4.3 Structured Local Address Plan (SLAP)

The SLAP specifies use of local MAC address space. Under the SLAP, the use is specified differently in four quadrants of local MAC address space.

The least and second least significant bits of the initial octet of a MAC address are designated the M bit and X bit, respectively, using the terminology specified in the IEEE RA “Guidelines for Use Organizationally Unique Identifier (OUI) and Company ID (CID)” [Ba]. The third and fourth least significant bits of the initial octet in the local MAC address are designated the Y bit and Z bit, respectively, as illustrated for a 48-bit address in Figure 11a (see NOTE 4 of 8.2.2).

Hexadecimal representation: AA-DE-48-12-7B-80

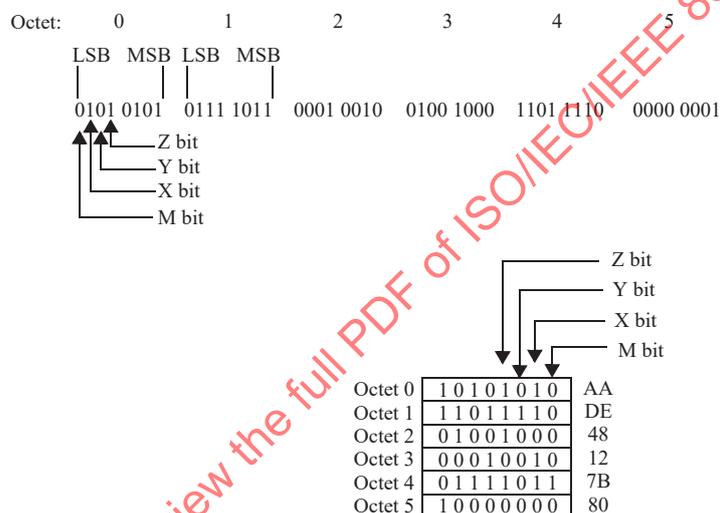


Figure 11a—M, X, Y, and Z bits of local MAC address

A local address exists in one of four SLAP quadrants, each identified by a different combination of the Y and Z bits, as indicated in Table 1a. That table also indicates the SLAP local identifier type specified for each SLAP quadrant. The SLAP local identifier types are specified in 8.4.4.

Table 1a—SLAP quadrants

SLAP quadrant	Y bit	Z bit	SLAP local identifier type	SLAP local identifier
01	0	1	Extended Local	ELI
11	1	1	Standard Assigned	SAI
00	0	0	Administratively Assigned	AAI
10	1	0	Reserved	Reserved

NOTE 1—The specific address used in this example is not a reserved value.

NOTE 2—The bit-stream representation of the addresses in Figure 11a and Figure 11b show the LSB of each octet first; this corresponds to the data-communications convention for representing bit-serial transmission in left-to-right order. See also 8.6 for further discussion of bit-ordering issues.

8.4.4 SLAP local identifier types

8.4.4.1 Extended Local Identifier (ELI)

A SLAP identifier of type “Extended Local” is known as an Extended Local Identifier (ELI). ELIs fall in SLAP Quadrant 01. The X, Y, and Z bits of an ELI are 1, 0, 1, respectively. An ELI may be used as local MAC address; such an address is known as an ELI address.

The IEEE RA uniquely assigns a 24-bit identifier known as the Company ID (CID)² to identify a company, organization, entity, protocol, etc., as described in the IEEE RA “Guidelines for Use Organizationally Unique Identifier (OUI) and Company ID (CID)” [Ba].

An ELI is based on an assigned Company ID. Two different lengths of ELI are specified: ELI-48 is a 48-bit ELI, and ELI-64 is a 64-bit ELI, as described in Table 1b.

Table 1b—IEEE RA CID and ELI summary

IEEE RA assignment	Number of bits (including I/G and U/L) assigned by IEEE RA	Address block size, ELI-48	Address block size, ELI-64
Company ID (CID)	24	2 ²⁴	2 ⁴⁰

The structure of the CID is identical to that of the MA-L/OUI, which is illustrated in Figure 9. However, the CID is not used to create universal addresses. Each CID assignment provided by the IEEE RA has the X bit set to 1, so that any MAC address created by extension of the CID, as shown below in Figure 11b, exists in locally administered address space. Changing the X bit of an RA-assigned OUI is not authorized by the IEEE RA, does not result in a valid CID, may invalidly duplicate a valid CID assignment, and shall not be used as the basis of an ELI. Likewise, changing the X bit of an RA-assigned CID is not authorized by the IEEE RA, does not result in a valid OUI, may invalidly duplicate a valid OUI assignment, and shall not be used as the basis of an EUI.

While each CID assignment provided by the IEEE RA has the M bit (the LSB of the initial octet, using the terminology specified in the IEEE RA “Guidelines for Use Organizationally Unique Identifier (OUI) and Company ID (CID)” [Ba]) set to 0, the corresponding bit of the ELI address represents the I/G bit and is set as described in 8.2.2.

An ELI-48 or ELI-64 created as an extension of the CID consists of two parts: the leading 24 bits are assigned as the CID, with the I/G bit assignable as described in 8.2.2, and the remaining bits are specified as an extension by the CID assignee or by a protocol designated by the CID assignee.

² More information on CIDs can be found on the IEEE RA tutorial web page, <http://standards.ieee.org/develop/regauth/tut/index.html>.

Several CIDs are reserved as Administrator CIDs and not assigned exclusively. The local administrator is an implicitly authorized assignee of the Administrator CIDs and may, within the SLAP, create and assign an ELI as an extension of an Administrator CID. Administrator CIDs are specified in Table 1c.

Table 1c—Administrator CIDs

Administrator CIDs
3AA3F8
CA30BF
4A07D6
FA94F1

An example of an ELI-48 created by extension of a CID is shown in Figure 11b (see NOTE 4 of 8.2.2). An ELI-64 is created with the same method but using two additional octets.

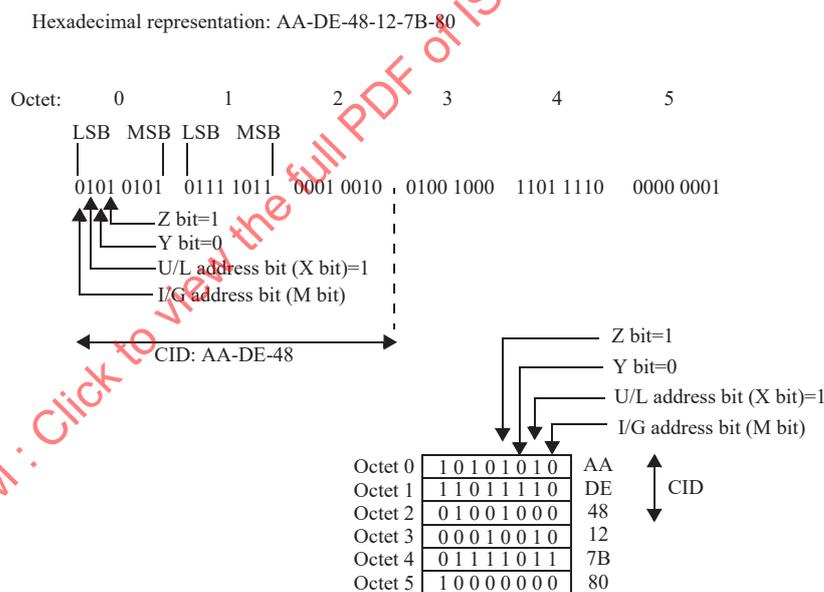


Figure 11b—Example ELI-48 created as an extension of CID

NOTE—The specific CID and ELI-48 used in this example are not reserved values.

As illustrated in Figure 11b, the third and fourth least significant bits of the initial octet in the CID are designated the Y bit and Z bit, respectively. IEEE 802 standards support the use of ELI-48 and ELI-64 based on CID only for CID values that specify 0 for the Y bit and 1 for the Z bit. The IEEE RA assigns CIDs only with 0 for the Y bit and 1 for the Z bit.

In some cases, an ELI assignment protocol may assign the 24-bit or 40-bit extension of the ELI to convey specific information. Such information may be interpreted by receivers and bridges that recognize the CID and are cognizant of the protocol identified by the CID. The functionality of receivers and bridges that do not recognize the protocol is not affected. Such address formats, and their interpretation, are outside the scope of this standard but may be specified by the entity to which the specific CID is assigned by the IEEE RA. Note, in contrast, the IEEE RA admonition against a similar usage in the global address space (from the IEEE RA “Guidelines for Use Organizationally Unique Identifier (OUI) and Company ID (CID)” [Ba]): “any application that calls for subdivision of the available number space, for block allocation to physical equipment without an identifiable physical instance per EUI-48 identifier, or for encoding functional capabilities within significant bits or bit patterns of the identifier, has the potential to rapidly exhaust the address space.”³

8.4.4.2 Standard Assigned Identifier (SAI)

A SLAP identifier of type “Standard Assigned” is known as a Standard Assigned Identifier (SAI). SAIs fall in SLAP Quadrant 11. The X, Y, and Z bits of an SAI are 1, 1, 1, respectively. An SAI may be used as local MAC address; such an address is known as an SAI address. Specification of the use of the SAI quadrant for SLAP address assignments is reserved for the standard forthcoming from IEEE P802.1CQ [Bb].

An SAI is assigned by a protocol specified in an IEEE 802 standard.

Two different lengths of SAI are specified: SAI-48 is a 48-bit SAI, and SAI-64 is a 64-bit SAI.

Multiple protocols for assigning SAI may be specified within various IEEE 802 standards. Coexistence of such protocols may be supported by restricting each to assignments within a subspace of SAI space. In some cases, an SAI assignment protocol may assign the SAI to convey specific information. Such information may be interpreted by receivers and bridges that recognize the specific SAI assignment protocol, as identified by the subspace of the SAI. The functionality of receivers and bridges that do not recognize the protocol is not affected. SAI address formats, and their interpretation, are outside the scope of this standard but may be specified in other IEEE 802 standards.

8.4.4.3 Administratively Assigned Identifier (AAI)

A SLAP identifier of type “Administratively Assigned” is known as an Administratively Assigned Identifier (AAI). AAIs fall in SLAP Quadrant 00. The X, Y, and Z bits of an SAI are 1, 0, 0, respectively. An AAI may be used as local MAC address; such an address is known as an AAI address.

Administrators who wish to assign local MAC addresses in an arbitrary fashion (for example, randomly) and yet maintain compatibility with other assignment protocols operating under the SLAP on the same LAN may assign a local MAC address as AAI.

Two different lengths of AAI are specified: AAI-48 is a 48-bit AAI, and AAI-64 is a 64-bit AAI, as described in Table 1d.

Per IETF RFC 2464 [B2a], a multicast IPv6 packet uses a Ethernet destination address whose first 2 octets are the value 33-33 hexadecimal. Such addresses lie within the AAI quadrant of multicast local MAC address space. Therefore, administrators who wish to support IPv6 should not assign AAIs beginning with 33-33.

³ In August 2017, the IEEE RA tutorial “Guidelines for Use of Extended Unique Identifier (EUI), Organizationally Unique Identifier (OUI), and Company ID (CID),” including discussion of the ELI and the SLAP, superseded the tutorial “Guidelines for Use Organizationally Unique Identifier (OUI) and Company ID (CID).” The tutorial is available at <https://standards.ieee.org/develop/regauth/tut/eui.pdf>.

Table 1d—AAI summary

IEEE 802 assignment	Number of bits (including I/G and U/L) assigned by IEEE Std 802	Address block size, AAI-48	Address block size, AAI-64
Bits M,X,Y,Z	4	2^{44}	2^{60}

8.4.4.4 SLAP Quadrant 10

Under the SLAP, the local identifiers in SLAP Quadrant 10 are reserved for future use.

While SLAP Quadrant 10 identifiers remain reserved, they may be administratively used and assigned in accordance with the considerations specified for AAI usage, without effect on SLAP assignments. However, administrators should be cognizant of possible future specifications regarding SLAP Quadrant 10 that would render administrative assignment incompatible with the SLAP.

8.4.5 SLAP Local MAC address summary

For compliance to the SLAP, local addresses shall be assigned only as valid ELIs, SAIs, or AAIs.

Table 11e summarizes the local MAC address assignments specified within the SLAP.

Table 1e—Local MAC addresses per SLAP (informative)

SLAP local address	M bit	X bit	Y bit	Z bit	SLAP Quadrant	Number of bits (including I/G and U/L) assigned by IEEE RA or IEEE Std 802
ELI-48	I/G	1	0	1	01	24 (CID)
ELI-64	I/G	1	0	1	01	24 (CID)
SAI-48	I/G	1	1	1	11	4
SAI-64	I/G	1	1	1	11	4
AAI-48	I/G	1	0	0	00	4
AAI-64	I/G	1	0	0	00	4
<i>Reserved</i>	I/G	1	1	0	10	—

NOTE—While IEEE Std 802 assigns four SAI bits, additional SAI bits may be also be assigned by IEEE 802 standards.

8.4.6 Network Unique Identifier (NUI)

A Network Unique Identifier (NUI) is an identifier that is unique within the IEEE 802 LAN (which may be a bridged LAN or virtual bridged LAN). An NUI-48 is a 48-bit NUI that is an EUI-48, ELI-48, SAI-48, or AAI-48. An NUI-64 is a 64-bit NUI that is an EUI-64, ELI-64, SAI-64, or AAI-64.

Change the title of Clause 9 as indicated:

9. Protocol identifiers and context-dependent identifiers

9.2 EtherTypes

9.2.1 Format, function, and administration

Delete the first paragraph (“Protocol ... station.”) of 9.2.1.

Change the now second paragraph of 9.2.1 as indicated:

Examples of EtherTypes are 0x0800 and 0x86DD, which are used to identify IPv4 and IPv6, respectively.

9.2.4 OUI Extended EtherType

Change the second and third paragraphs and intervening note of 9.2.4 (including Figure 13) as indicated:

The OUI Extended EtherType is processed by the HLPDE in the same manner as other EtherType values. Immediately following the EtherType value is a protocol identifier, as described in 9.5, consisting of a 3-octet OUI or CID value followed by 2 octets administered by the OUI or CID assignee. The OUI or CID value provides an administrative context within which the assignee can allocate values to a 16-bit protocol subtype. This approach is closely similar to the LPD-based SNAP identifier mechanism specified in 9.5; however, the OUI Extended EtherType is used instead place of the LPD method header.

NOTE—The 2 octets of the protocol identifier that are administered by the OUI or CID assignee can be used in any way that the assignee chooses; however, as OUIs are a scarce finite resource, it is advisable not to choose an allocation approach that is wasteful, as would be the case, for example, if the assignee chose to use these 2 octets to encode a length value.

Figure 13 shows the format of an IEEE 802.3 frame carrying the OUI Extended EtherType in the Length/Type field. The value used for the OUI component of the protocol identifier is an OUI or CID value assigned to the organization that has developed the vendor-specific protocol. The combination of the OUI Extended EtherType, the OUI or CID value, and the 16-bit value administered by the OUI or CID assignee provides a unique protocol identification field identifier for the vendor-specific protocol. The 16-bit values are administered by the organization to which the OUI or CID has been assigned; their meaning can, therefore, be correctly interpreted only by reference to the organization that owns the OUI or CID concerned.

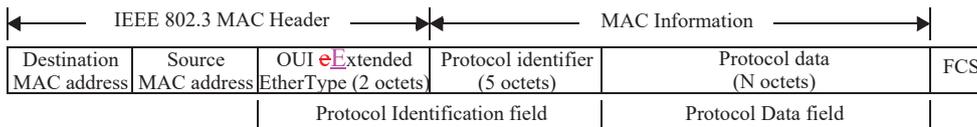


Figure 13—IEEE 802.3 frame with the OUI Extended EtherType encoded in the Length/Type field

