IEEE P802.11  
Wireless LANs

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| SHWMP Liaison Response | | | | |
| Date: 2014-05-15 | | | | |
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Abstract

This submission contains a liaison request from Nevil Brownlee (IETF Individual Submission Editor) and the liaison response from the IEEE 802.11 WG.

# Liaison Request

Email received by Dorothy Stanley from Dan Romascanu and Nevil Brownlee Monday May 5, 2014, included the following concerns and requested review of the draft:

<snip>

IEEE 802.11 and draft-avula-shwmp-01:

Several people from IESG and IAB have pointed out to me that it may

conflict with work being done in IEEE 802.11, particularly in 802.11s.

<snip>

Nevil Brownlee (ISE), [rfc-ise@rfc-editor.org](mailto:rfc-ise@rfc-editor.org)

# Liaison Response:

To: Nevil Brownlee (ISE) <mailto:rfc-ise@rfc-editor.org>;

CC: [ma0004@uah.edu](mailto:ma0004@uah.edu); [yoos@uah.edu](mailto:yoos@uah.edu); [nok60@dongseo.ac.kr](mailto:nok60@dongseo.ac.kr); [dstanley@arubanetworks.com](mailto:dstanley@arubanetworks.com) ; [dromasca@avaya.com](mailto:dromasca@avaya.com) ; [pthaler@broadcom.com](mailto:pthaler@broadcom.com); [iesg@ietf.org](mailto:iesg@ietf.org); [iab@iab.org](mailto:iab@iab.org)

Dear Nevil,

Thank you for bringing draft-avula-shwmp-01.txt (Secure Hybrid Wireless Mesh Protocol) to our attention.

The IEEE 802.11 standard was designed to enable the development of a variety of mesh path selection protocols to extend the range of conditions for which an IEEE 802.11 mesh is suitable. It was intended that path selection protocols could be developed independently of IEEE 802.11. The path selection protocol used in an IEEE 802.11 mesh is identified in the IEEE 802.11 messages used to establish and maintain the mesh. All stations in a particular IEEE 802.11 wireless mesh must use the same path selection protocol to avoid likely interoperability issues.

We have a specific concern with the current draft because it fails to specify a unique code point to identify the mesh path selection protocol it specifies. Therefore, we request that appropriate allocation considerations be incorporated into draft-avula-shwmp. Two allocation methods are described below:

* The draft could specify that the Active Path Selection Protocol Identifier be set to 255, the “Vendor Specific” value, and an appropriate Vendor Specific Information Element included.
* The allocation of a currently reserved IEEE 802.11 Active Path Selection Protocol Identifier value could be requested from the IEEE 802.11 WG. If this alternative is chosen, such a currently reserved code point must be allocated through the IEEE 802.11 ANA (Assigned Number Authority) mechanism to avoid conflict. The IEEE 802.11 WG will consider approval of such an allocation upon request.

Note that the IEEE 802.11 WNG (Wireless Next Generation) Standing Committee currently meets at every IEEE 802.11 WG meeting to provide an opportunity for topics of interest to be presented to IEEE 802.11 WG members.

For your reference, IEEE Std 802.11™-2012 is the current version of the IEEE 802.11 Standard.

Please feel free to contact myself as chair of the IEEE 802.11 Working Group and Dorothy Stanley as IEEE 802.11 to IETF Liaison Officer for further information.

Best Regards,

Adrian Stephens