IEEE P802.11  
Wireless LANs

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| Re**visiting CID 4499 (11MD/D3.9) - exclusionary language** | | | | |
| Date: 2020-07-27 | | | | |
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Abstract

This submission proposes to revisit the resolution of CID4499 from letter ballot on 11md/D3.0.

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| Identifiers | Comment | Proposed change |
| CID 4499  Mark RISON | If the term "slave" is no longer acceptable (CID 2020), is the term "master" still acceptable (other than "master key" contexts)? There are only a few such instances | As it says in the comment |

Discussion:

There is increasing sensitivity to exclusionary language in a number of technical standards bodies (including the IETF, or the recent decision by the Linux community to move to alternative descriptions of hierarchies of technical devices). The term "master" is inherently connected to the word-pair "master/slave", which carries a strong luggage of insensitivity and inequality.

There are more arguments and approach to metaphors in technical documentation available here: <https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-knodel-terminology>

Handling these terminological issues in a piece-meal approach is, however, not feasible, as also underlined in previous discussions in the IEEE 802.11 TGm in 2019 and spring 2020. Raising these topics with more central decision-making authorities in the IEEE-SA community may be necessary.

Proposed resolution:

REVISED

In 9.5.6 Beamformed Link Maintenance field inc. Figure 9-852—Beamformed Link Maintenance field format and Table 9-344—The Beamformed Link Maintenance negotiation, change “isMaster” to “isController” (5x). In 9.5.6 Beamformed Link Maintenance field change “master of the data transfer” to “controller of the data transfer”.

In 11.1.2.1 TSF for an infrastructure BSS or a PBSS change “timing master” to “timing source”.

In 3.3 change “master white space device” to “authoritative white space device”. In B.4.26 TVWS functions change “Master STA TVWS operation” to “Authoritative STA TVWS operation”.

NOTE: WG Chair should be requested to raise in the appropriate forum guidance from the IEEE-SA staff and management with respect to exclusionary language.