**IEEE P802.15**

**Wireless Personal Area Networks**

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| Project | IEEE P802.15 Working Group for Wireless Personal Area Networks (WPANs) | |
| Title | Positive Train Control 5 Criteria | |
| Date Submitted | [January 10, 2011] | |
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| Re: |  | |
| Abstract | [5 Criteria draft for the SG PTC.] | |
| Purpose | [Working document for the 5 Criteria to the P802.15 PTC Group] | |
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**Five Criteria - 802.15 PTC, Amendment to 802.15.4 current revision**

**1. Broad Market Potential**

**a) Broad sets of applicability.**

Development of an amendment to IEEE 802.15.4 to support US federally mandated Positive Train Control will not only have immediate applicability on equipment that must begin to be in operation by end of 2015, but may also find broad applicability in other transportation industries that interact with the rail system. As well, with the establishment of a 802.15 PTC standard, this may encourage use of other existing IEEE 802.15 standards for low data rate command and control applications, that might be of use to expanded transportation monitoring and control, and information exchange systems.

**b) Multiple vendors and numerous users**

The number of participants and the breadth of participation in the PTC Study and Interest Groups demonstrates the level of interest in this class of networks. Participants include US Federal and foreign agencies, systems integrators, equipment manufacturers, silicon manufacturers, transportation engineering consultancies, academic researchers, telecommunications service providers, and rail and transit system operators.

The value of a standard is demonstrated by the Rail Safety Improvement Act, passed into law by the US Government in 2008, mandating the development and deployment of Positive Train Control systems intended to prevent train-to-train collisions; enforce train speed restrictions; provide safety for road and rail workers; and to prevent movement through misaligned switches. Agencies of the US Department of Transportation have been tasked with oversight of the implementation of this law by industry, and were some of the first participants of the group.

**c) Balanced costs (LAN versus attached stations)**

Based upon the known costs of existing or planned IEEE 802.15.4-compliant devices, the proposed amendment can be implemented with connectivity costs that are reasonably small as compared to the cost of devices or the value of the applications served.

**2. Compatibility**

IEEE 802 defines a family of standards. All standards shall be in conformance with the IEEE 802.1 Architecture, Management, and Interworking documents as follows: 802 Overview and Architecture, 802.1D, 802.1Q, and parts of 802.1f. If any variances in conformance emerge, they shall be thoroughly disclosed and reviewed with 802.1.

Each standard in the IEEE 802 family of standards shall include a definition of managed objects which are compatible with systems management standards.

This standard will be compatible with the IEEE 802 requirements of Architecture, Management, and Inter-networking documents as required. There is no specific technology feature anticipated in the standard that could preclude this compliance.

**3. Distinct Identity**

1. **Substantially different from other IEEE 802 standards**

There are no other IEEE 802 wireless projects specifically addressing narrow channel width, high reliability operation optimized for use in high-mobility (500km/h) information exchange, sensor, command and control applications, and suitable for energy-harvesting end devices.

**b) One unique solution per problem (not two solutions to a problem)**

The proposed amendment will add to the existing 802.15.4 standard the ability to operate in mobility environments, and to operate in bands not considered in the current standard. Consequently, this is the only optimized solution to this particular problem.

**c) Easy for the document reader to select the relevant specification**

The proposed standard will produce an clearly distinguishable amendment to the IEEE 802.15.4 specification.

**4. Technical Feasibility**

**a) Demonstrated system feasibility**

Existing train communications and control protocols (including ITCS, ACSES, and ETMS) have been implemented and are operational. Use of unlicensed band IEEE 802.11 (WiFi) to provide data transfer in terminal and yard areas from wayside to onboard is successfully operating. Testing in the “220 MHz” band is ongoing at the American Association of Railroads (AAR) Transportation Technology Center (TTC). Operation of ITCS (Intelligent Train Control System) at 220 MHz in the Michigan MDOT/Amtrack corridor have been authorized to 160km/h (100 mph). Operations in 44 MHz spectrum have demonstrated some aspects of the required functionality, at speeds up to 50 mph (80km/h).

**b) Proven technology, reasonable testing**

The technologies and uses mentioned in the previous paragraph demonstrate that standards-based systems can be designed and fabricated.

**c) Confidence in reliability**

The proposed functionality will be designed to meet relevant reliability standards.

**5. Economic Feasibility**

**a) Known cost factors, reliable data**

As the proposed amendment is largely the addition of a new frequency band, there are existing silicon devices that operate near these frequencies. These devices are manufactured in large volume and these volumes are expected to increase dramatically as other industries, including Smart Utility Networks, begin to scale up.

**b) Reasonable cost for performance**

Based on existing systems deployed for rail communications applications, and upon similar systems being deployed today for Smart Utility Networks, it is expected that the wireless connectivity components wll meet the expected cost, size and power requirements.

**c) Consideration of installation costs**

Devices compliant to a future IEEE 802.15.4 PTC specification are intended to reduce operator maintenance costs through improved equipment interoperability..