Title:      Liaison on Inclusive Terminology in IEEE Std 802.1AS-2020
From:       IEEE 802.1 Working Group
For:        Action
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Date:       March 16, 2021


Dear Colleagues,

The IEEE 802.1 Working Group would like to inform you that efforts are being made in our organization to use inclusive and neutral language in our standards.

IEEE SA has recently resolved that IEEE standards should be written in such a way as to avoid non-inclusive and insensitive terminology.

The IEEE 802.1 WG has submitted a new project for approval by the IEEE SA Standards Board at their March 2021 meeting, IEEE P802.1ASdr - IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks--Timing and Synchronization for Time-Sensitive Applications Amendment: Inclusive Terminology (https://1.ieee802.org/maintenance/802-1asdr-amendment-inclusive-terminology/). The scope of this amendment to IEEE Std 802.1AS-2020, which includes a profile of IEEE Std 1588-2019, is to identify non-inclusive terms, including those identified by IEEE P1588g and IEEE editorial staff, replacing them with their suitable and inclusive terminology wherever possible. The IEEE 802.1 WG would like to maintain consistency with IEEE Std 1588 and align with the terms IEEE P1588g determines are suitable and inclusive. In order to avoid confusion in industry, it is necessary to have a single set of alternative terms.

Since the IEEE P802.1ASdr project will rely on IEEE P1588g, we request that you keep us informed on the progress of IEEE P1588g and help us expedite the elimination of non-inclusive and insensitive terminology in our standards.  The IEEE 802.1 Working Group requests records of proposals and comments in the IEEE 1588 Working Group on the alternate terms for master/slave. In addition, we suggest that an officer of IEEE 1588 provide an update to the IEEE 802.1 Maintenance Task Group

Note that the IEEE 802 work is open and contribution driven. Participation is on an individual basis and technical discussion can be conducted based on individual contributions. The IEEE 802.1 Maintenance Task Group holds electronic meetings: details are available at https://1.ieee802.org/wg-calendar.


Respectfully submitted,
Glenn Parsons
Chair, IEEE 802.1 Working Group