



### Standards Project Authorization

1. <u>8/25/79 revised 8/17/82</u> <small>Date of Request</small>	Project No <u>802</u> Approved: <u>3/13/80 revised 12/9/82</u> <small>Date</small> <small>For Standards Committee Use Only</small>
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> Revision of _____ <small>Standard No</small>
3. Project Title: <u>Local Network for Computer Interconnection</u>	
4. Scope and Purpose of Proposed Standard: The proposed standard will apply to Data Processing devices which need to communicate with each other at a moderate data rate (1-20Mbit/sec) and within a local area (physical data path up to 4km). The purpose of the proposed standard is to provide compatibility between devices of different manufacture so that the hardware and software customization necessary for effective data communication is minimized or eliminated. The standard will also encompass the metropolitan area network suitable for intra-city data communications with a normal data path length of 50km.	
5. Sponsor: <u>Technical Committee on Computer Communications</u> _____ <u>Computer Society</u> _____ <small>Technical Committee</small> <small>Society</small>	
5a. Proposed ANSI Committee: <u>X3</u>	ANSI Project #: _____ Date Approved: _____
6. Proposed Coordination: <u>Computer Society Representative to X3.</u> Also coordination with IEC Committees will be undertaken. Minutes will be mailed to ANSI X3 Secretary and Communications Society.	
7. Name of Group that will Write the Standard: <u>Local Area Networking</u> _____ <small>Subcommittee</small> <small>Working Group</small>	
8. Estimated Final Ballot Date: <u>December 1982</u> _____ <u>March 1983</u> _____ <small>To Technical Committee</small> <small>To Standards Board</small>	
9. Person Delegated to Receive Communications and Conduct Liaison with Interested Parties: <u>Maris Graube</u> _____ <small>Name</small> <u>Tektronix, Inc.</u> _____ <small>Company</small> <u>P.O. Box 500, M/S 58-188</u> _____ <small>Street address</small> <u>Beaverton, OR 97077</u> _____ <u>(503) 644-0161, ext. 6234</u> _____ <small>City State Zip Code Telephone</small>	
10. Submitted by: <u>Robert Rosenthal</u> _____ <small>Name</small> <u>TCCC Chairperson</u> _____ <small>Company</small> <u>National Bureau of Standards, Bldg 225, Rm. B226</u> _____ <small>Street address</small> <u>Washington, D.C. 20234</u> _____ <u>(301) 921-3516</u> _____ <small>City State Zip Code Telephone</small>	



### Standards Project Authorization

1. <u>August 25, 1979</u> Date of Request		Project No <u>802</u> Approved: <u>3/13/80</u> Date For Standards Committee Use Only	
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Standard <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of _____ Standard No _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal of _____ Standard No _____	
3. Project Title: <u>Local network for Computer Interconnection.</u>			
4. Scope and Purpose of Proposed Standard: <u>The proposed standard will apply to Data Processing devices which need to communicate with each other at a moderate data rate (1 M bit/sec) and within a local area (physical data path up to 4 km). The purpose of the proposed standard is to provide compatibility between devices of different manufacture so that the hardware and software customization necessary for effective data communication is minimized or eliminated.</u>			
5. Sponsor <u>Computer Standards</u> Technical Committee		<u>Computer Society</u> Society	
5a. Proposed ANSI Committee: <u>X3</u>		ANSI Project #: _____ Date Approved: _____	
6. Proposed Coordination: <u>Dr. Herbert Hecht Computer Society Representative to X3. Also coordination with IEC Committees will be undertaken. Minutes will be mailed to ANSI x 3 Secretary.</u>		Method of Coordination: <u>Communications Society</u> <u>Computer Stds. Committee (added by amendment 9/17/81 StB meeting)</u>	
7. Name of Group that will Write the Standard: <u>Microprocessor Standards</u> Subcommittee		<u>Local Network</u> Working Group	
8. Estimated Final Ballot Date: <u>December 1982</u> To Technical Committee		<u>March 1983</u> To Standards Board	
9. Person Delegated to Receive Communications and Conduct Liaison with Interested Bodies: <u>Maris Graube</u> Name <u>Tektronix, Inc.</u> Company <u>P. O. Box 500, M/S 58-188</u> Street address <u>Beaverton, OR 97077 (503) 644-0161 Ext. 6234</u> City State Zip Code Telephone			
10. Submitted by: <u>Dr. Robert G. Stewart</u> Name <u>Stewart Research Enterprises</u> Company <u>1658 Belvoir Drive</u> Street address <u>Los Altos, CA 94022 (415) 941-6699</u> City State Zip Code Telephone			



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December 21, 1979

Mr. Thomas Harrison  
IBM Corporation, 3A57  
Old Orchard Road  
Armonk, NY 10504

Dear Tom:

Enclosed is a copy of IEEE Standards Project Authorization request number 802, which we discussed over the phone the other day. Enclosed also is a photocopy of an article from Computer Business News which I gather is similar to the one you were reading from another journal.

I called Maris Graube shortly after we finished our discussion, but he was in a meeting and I did not get to talk to him. It may be that I will be before leaving today.

The significant thing of interest to you, I think, is that the IEEE Standards Board voted to table the request which means that it cannot now be approved before the March meeting of that Board. The reason for deferral was that there was insufficient indication of coordination with other IEEE activities, in particular the Communications Society. I express to you also my personal concern of lack of understanding as to what really is going on here.

As the press release reads it does sound as though the approach is reasonably orderly, namely to "determine the functional requirement". This suggests to me that the task closely resembles the one that has been underway for some time in IEC TC 65 and TC 66 and also somewhere in the complex structure of ISO TC 97, to say nothing of the Purdue Workshop.

We will do our best to sort this thing out and keep it on track, but I am sure you realize that as far as the IEEE Standards Board is concerned, it is almost duty bound to support a project provided it is proposed by a recognized entity in the Institute and properly coordinated within the Institute. Nevertheless, that Board is increasingly sensitive to coordination within the total ANSI framework as well as the international activities.

We will keep you posted and I hope that you can forestall any hasty action in the X3 family in the next month or two.

Cordially,

Ivan G. Easton  
Consulting Director of Standards

IGE/jdc  
Enclosures

IGE

*Geis*

*JRF*

# IEEE to Establish Local Networking Standards

## Suggestions Sought For Feb. 29 Meeting

By Deborah de Peyster  
*CBN Staff*

BEAVERTON, Ore. — The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) hopes to take the chaos out of building a local network by establishing interface and protocol standards.

With standards, you don't have to "reinvent the wheel" each time you build a local network. Maris Graube, chairman of the IEEE local network standards

committee, said. "There have been various networks built on an experimental basis and some working networks, but there is no standard at all to say how to build a local network," he said.

Graube will be leading a two-day meeting beginning Feb. 29 in San Francisco at the Jack Tarr Hotel to determine what aspects of the local network should be standardized and how to do it, he said.

Anyone who is interested in participating in the meeting is invited to attend, Graube said. The recommendations formed during the meeting will be sent to the IEEE for final approval.

Graube works for Tektronix, Inc. as corporate interface engineer and from experience knows the advantages of having standards.

"Having standards would eliminate the

systems integration problem and reduce cost," he said. "Once it becomes a standard it becomes inexpensive."

The companies designing the product can produce it in high volume if the product is a standard and save money, he said. That cost savings is passed on to the systems builder who can then integrate a system for less cost, Graube said.

The type of local network the committee will be dealing with is defined as roughly two kilometers in length with a data speed of about one megabit per second, he said.

In setting standards for the local network there are several alternatives to consider, he said. "We're not out to take anybody's existing system and pass it off as the standard."

What the committee hopes to do is determine the functional requirement of

what is necessary to communicate over a certain distance, at a certain rate of speed and with a certain error correction capability, and then determine how that be done.

Standards pertain to the cables used, connectors, electrical signals, protocol involved and error checking methods, he said. "It really depends on how far people want to go in setting standards."

Some people classify as many as 27 different protocols that can be used. "If we could achieve as many as three of these to be used as standards, we would have come a long way," he said.

"We will be looking at the alternative ways of doing the job and picking the best ways to do it," he added.

For more information, Graube can be reached at Tektronix, Inc., (503) 644-0161, Ext. 6234.

## MicroAge Moves To Hedge DEC In Retail Sales

TEMPE, Ariz. — The Phoenix Group, Inc. is expanding its existing chain of MicroAge Computer Stores to prevent DEC from overtaking the retail marketplace.

"We're taking on DEC," a MicroAge spokesman said at the recent Comdex '79 conference. MicroAge wants to expand before DEC begins to open its retail stores in all the major cities.

The MicroAge Computer Store, which began as a hobby store three years ago, has been steadily increasing its emphasis on commercial products. The franchisees will also heavily emphasize commercial products instead of the personal computing products, the spokesman said.

The newly formed subsidiary, MicroAge Computer Stores, Inc., plans to

# FIRMING UP THE HARDWARE SOFT SPOT IN SMALL