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From: xRAN Forum Front Haul Working Group (xRAN FHWG)

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To: IEEE 1914 NGFI WG

Jinri Huang Chair of IEEE 1914 NGFI WG

Liaison Subject: Use of 1914.3 RoE EtherType and packet format in xRAN Fronthaul Specification

1. Introduction

The xRAN Forum is a nonprofit organization formed to develop, standardize and promote a software-based, extensible Radio Access Network (xRAN) and to promote standardization interfaces between critical of the next generation RAN architecture. The xRAN Forum FHWG focuses on producing an “Open” specification for next generation front haul between the remote radio unit/head (RRU/RRH) and the virtualized baseband unit (BBU), to address future use cases and deployment scenarios. Some detail work of the xRAN FHWG are documented in the [xRAN front haul white paper](#) and shared with IEEE 1914 NGFI WG earlier. We have reached first stage agreement, and expect to complete the FHWG specification in December 2017.

We have explored the work and draft specifications published by the IEEE 1914 NGFI WG. We believe there is strong synergy and would like to leverage some of the IEEE 1914.3 specification for xRAN front haul proposal. We would like IEEE 1914 NGFI WG to kindly consider the following requests from xRAN FHWG.

2. Request to IEEE 1914 Working Group

A. The xRAN Forum FHWG would like to use the IEEE 1914.3 EtherType that is defined in the Figure 4-5 of the RoE specification. We would like to use the RoE EtherType and RoE header format for the xRAN front haul packets in an Ethernet transport network.

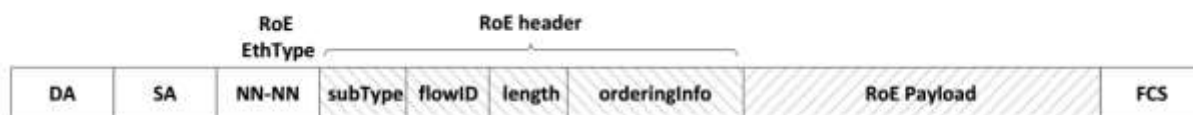


Figure 4-5 - RoE encapsulation in Ethernet packets

B. The xRAN Forum FHWG requests that the IEEE 1914.3 specification reserve some RoE subType values, defined in the Table 4-1 RoE subType values, for xRAN FHWG to use. The xRAN FHWG will define its own subtypes packets to serve the lower physical layer split options. More specifically, if possible, we would like the IEEE1914.3 specification to reserve the following RoE subTpe values for xRAN FHWG to use.

Binary value	Function	Description
0010 0000b – 0011 1111b	xRAN front haul sub type	Reserved for the xRAN front haul specification

If you need any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your consideration, we are looking forward to hearing back from you and to a productive partnership going forward.