Written by Marco Attard 12 September 2012

The IEEE 802.3 standard (better known as plain old ethernet) gets its first full revision since 2008-- IEEE 802.3-2012 "Standard for Ethernet" as approved by the IEEE Standards Association.



First published in 1985, according to the IEEE the 802.3 standard "defines the physical (PHY) and media access control (MAC) layers of ethernet transmission across wired connections of multiple media."

The latest revision addresses 10Gbit/s Ethernet Passive Optical Networks (EPONs), energy efficiency, extension to 40 and 100Gbit/s speeds (while maintaining compatibility with previous IEEE 802.3 installations), enhanced support for loss-sensitive applications and time synchronisations.

The curious and interested can get a copy of the updated standard from the IEEE standards store.

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