



**MET Laboratories, Inc.** Safety Certification - EMI - Telecom Environmental Simulation  
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February 7, 2008

Reviewer Steven Dayhoff  
Federal Communications Commission  
7435 Oakland Mills Road  
Columbia, MD 21046

**RE: Ubiquiti Networks, FCC ID: SWX-XR3, Correspondence Reference Number: 34437**

Hello Mr. Dayhoff,

Please see our response to your inquiry below:

**1. You have submitted parts of the 802.11 standard, but it is not clear how you are fully implementing 802.11y, since it is still being finalized.**

**A.) What is the longest TX frame duration:**

-The PHY header (17 Bytes: 12B PLCP preamble, 3B signal, and 2B service) + MAC header (30 Bytes) + Data (up to 2312 Bytes) + CRC (4 Bytes) + Tail (6 bit) + Pad (number of bits that make the data field a multiple of the number of coded bits in an OFDM symbol (48, 96, 192, or 288)). The PLCP preamble and signal field are always sent at 6 Mbps while the rest can be sent at 6 ~ 54 Mbps. Based on the total number of bits in the longest frame and lowest bit-rate (6Mbps), you can easily calculate the duration of the frame. Using the above,  $17\text{Bytes}+30\text{Bytes}+2312\text{Bytes}+4\text{Bytes}+6\text{Bit}+288\text{Bit}= 19,198\text{bit}$  if full frame is sent at 6Mbps (longest duration case), this would mean  $.019198\text{Mb}/6\text{Mbps} = .00319\text{sec}$ . So, 3.19 ms is the absolute longest TX frame duration possible

**A.) How long is the carrier sense/collision avoidance mechanism active?:**

When CA detects the channel is busy, it will choose a backoff interval in the range  $[0,cw]$ , where  $cw$  is contention window, 31. It will count down the backoff interval when medium is idle, and the Count-down is suspended if medium becomes busy (and resumed after the channel is idle again). It will transmit the frame after backoff interval reaches 0 and the channel is free. If collision, then double the  $cw$  up to a maximum of 1024.

So, CA keeps detecting the channel status no matter it's in count-down phase or transmission phase. The time to wait for a transmission can be mutiple backoff windows, and the longest backoff window is 1024 time slots.



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**2. The first sentence of the standard raises a question :**

*“The basic medium access protocol is a DCF that allows for automatic medium sharing between compatible PHYs through the use of CSMA/CA and a random backoff time following a busy medium condition.”* **Please explain what happens if there is a system with non-compatible PHY? How does the system do sharing? Also, it is not clear from the specification if the devices have enhanced threshold detection or frame size limits.**

The 802.11 standard calls for automatic medium sharing between compatible PHY's, but XR3 (based on Atheros AR5414 Chipset) employs a carrier sense mechanism through use of an energy detector that will conclude a busy medium condition if energy (from compatible PHY or non-compatible PHY) is present 15dB above noise floor (typically -80dBm or higher signal level).

If you need any additional information, please let me know.

Thanks!

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