IEEE P802.11
Wireless LANs

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| 802.11 ARC - 802REV 802\_11 RM proposal |
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Abstract

This document presents a proposed replacement for 802REV D1.2 sub-clause B.2 (802.11 Reference Model).

*Replace the contents of sub-clause B.2 (including Figure B.4) with the following:*

**B.2 802.11 RM**

The 802.11 Reference Model is based on the general station (STA) model, as shown in Figure B.x.



**Figure B.x—802.11 STA RM**

The interconnections between 802.11 STAs follow two general models.

Several types of peer-to-peer, direct, pair-wise communication between STAs are defined, each applicable in differing use scenarios. In these direct communications, the pair STAs are symmetrical, with each STA generally matching the simple STA model, although they may take on different behavioral roles for the purpose of establishing and maintaining the interconnection link.

The other interconnection model supports multiple STAs, collected into one or more wireless access domains. These access domains are interconnected via the Distribution System, and can interwork with other 802 networks via one or more Portals.

Each access domain in the infrastructure model is established by an Access Point (AP), which extends the basic STA model to include repeating and bridging functions that allow communications between non-AP STAs which do not directly interconnect. The AP acts as a repeater to enable communications between non-AP STAs within the access domain. The AP acts as a bridge, via the Distribution System, to enable communications between non-AP STAs in different 802.11 wireless access domains. Finally, via Portals, APs support communications between 802.11 STAs and stations attached to other 802 networks.

Figure B.y illustrates the Reference Model for an AP, and its relationship to the Distribution Server and Portals.



**Figure B.y—802.11 AP RM**