

# Weakness in Uniqueness

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## 1 Overview

One of our former standards representatives who now does real work has pointed out that the definition of Server Provided MAC Address could easily be construed to require a distinct SPMA for each VN\_Port at the same ENode MAC. He identified the key weakness in the definition to be its requirement for uniqueness for an SPMA without stating what is unique about it. He observed that the confusion is compounded by exactly the same language, with the same weakness, describing FPMA. He further noted that the weak language likely originated from the same language used to describe Worldwide Names in FC-FS-3, but that's the subject of another proposal.

I note that the scope of uniqueness of FPMA is insufficiently broad: It must be unique within the Lossless Ethernet network, not just within the Fabric.

I note also that the common concept of a Server does not cover storage devices, which we would hate to exclude from eventual participation.

## 2 Instructions to editor

### 2.1 Conventions

This proposal references FC-BB-5 version 1.03 for numbers of clauses, subclauses, tables, figures, etc. Deletions are indicated by ~~red-strikeout-text~~. Additions are indicated by blue text.

**3.5.2 Fabric Provided MAC Address (FPMA):** A MAC address that is assigned by an FCF ~~and is fabric-wide-unique~~ to a single ENode MAC, and is not assigned to any other MAC within the same Ethernet VLAN. A Fabric Provided MAC Address is associated with a single VN\_Port at that ENode MAC.

**3.5.12 Server Provided MAC Address (SPMA):** A MAC address that is assigned by ~~a-server and is world-wide-unique~~ an ENode to a single one of its ENode MACs, and is not assigned to any other MAC within the same Ethernet VLAN. A Server Provided MAC address may be associated with more than one VN\_Port at that ENode MAC.

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Editors Note 1 - xxx: The editor may move some of this text into the model subclause as he sees fit.

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