

BROCADE



**SPMA - Do we really want to obsolete it
(now)?**

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SPMA - Goodness

- No change to how host/server obtains MAC address
 - Burnt-in MAC addresses
 - Server created virtual MAC addresses
- Scalability
 - Number of MAC addresses that need to be handled by Ethernet edge switches (compared to FPMA) is reduced
 - FPMA needs two addresses per VM
 - MAC address for FCoE
 - MAC address for everything else
 - Reduces L2 forwarding tables and associated learning/aging/flooding overhead in edge switches



SPMA - Goodness

- Network Reliability
 - Using MAC addresses already in use in the Fabric increases network reliability
 - No address conflicts using globally administered addresses
 - Risk of address conflicts if network uses locally administered addresses
- Simplified administration/management
 - less chance of user error!



Interoperability

- Some have indicated there is an interoperability issue if SPMA and FPMA co-exist
 - FPMA is required to be implemented and SPMA is allowed to be implemented
 - So, what is the interoperability issue?



Summary

- Even “The Obsoleter” doesn’t propose to obsolete functionality in the next version of a standard...
 - Good functionality needs to be allowed to age 😊
- No harm with leaving SPMA in BB-6 at this time

