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**Information technology —  
Telecommunications and information  
exchange between systems — Local and  
metropolitan area networks — Specific  
requirements**

**Part 11:  
Wireless LAN Medium Access Control  
(MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY)  
specifications**

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**AMENDMENT 6: Medium Access Control  
(MAC) Security Enhancements**

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*Partie 11: Spécifications pour le contrôle d'accès au support et la  
couche physique*

*AMENDEMENT 6: Perfectionnements de la sécurité de moyens de  
contrôle d'accès (MAC)*

**ISO/IEC 8802-11:2005/Amd.6:2006(E)**  
**IEEE Std 802.11i-2004**  
**(Amendment to IEEE Std 802.11-1999)**

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# 802.11i™

**IEEE Standard for  
Information technology—  
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Local and metropolitan area networks—  
Specific requirements**

**Part 11: Wireless LAN Medium Access Control  
(MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) specifications**

**Amendment 6: Medium Access Control (MAC)  
Security Enhancements**

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Sponsored by the  
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This amendment is an approved IEEE  
Standard. It will be incorporated into the  
base standard in a future edition.



**IEEE Std 802.11i™-2004**

[Amendment to IEEE Std 802.11™, 1999 Edition (Reaff 2003)  
as amended by IEEE Stds 802.11a™-1999, 802.11b™-1999,  
802.11b™-1999/Cor 1-2001, 802.11d™-2001,  
802.11g™-2003, and 802.11h™-2003]

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Approved 24 June 2004

**IEEE-SA Standards Board**

**Abstract:** Security mechanisms for IEEE 802.11 are defined in this amendment, which includes a definition of WEP for backward compatibility with the original standard, IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition. This amendment defines TKIP and CCMP, which provide more robust data protection mechanisms than WEP affords. It introduces the concept of a security association into IEEE 802.11 and defines security association management protocols called the 4-Way Handshake and the Group Key Handshake. Also, it specifies how IEEE 802.1X may be utilized by IEEE 802.11 LANs to effect authentication.

**Keywords:** AES, authentication, CCM, CCMP, confidentiality, countermeasures, data authenticity, EAPOL-Key, 4-Way Handshake, Group Key Handshake, IEEE 802.1X, key management, key mixing, Michael, RC4, replay protection, robust security network, RSN, security, security association, TKIP, WEP

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**(Amendment to IEEE Std 802.11-1999)**

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## Introduction

[This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 802.11i™-2004, IEEE Standard for Information Technology—Telecommunications and Information Exchange Between Systems—Local and Metropolitan Area Networks—Specific Requirements—Part 11: Wireless Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) Specifications—Amendment 6: Medium Access Control (MAC) Security Enhancements.])

Enhanced security services and mechanisms for the IEEE 802.11 medium access control (MAC) beyond those features and capabilities provided by the wired equivalent privacy (WEP) mechanism of the base standard, IEEE Std 802.11, 1999 Edition, are defined in this amendment. This amendment retains the WEP feature for purposes of backwards compatibility with existing IEEE 802.11 devices, but WEP is deprecated in favor of the new security features provided in this amendment.

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