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Qi Specification version 2.0 –
Part 7: Foreign Object Detection

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The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
100/4257/FDIS	100/4282/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

The structure and editorial rules used in this publication reflect the practice of the organization which submitted it.

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Version 2.0

April 2023

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RELEASE HISTORY

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v2.0 Final Draft	April 2023	Initial release of the 2.0 Qi Specification.

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1 General

The Wireless Power Consortium (WPC) is a worldwide organization that aims to develop and promote global standards for wireless power transfer in various application areas. A first application area comprises flat-surface devices such as mobile phones and chargers in the Baseline Power Profile (up to 5 W) and Extended Power Profile (above 5 W).

1.1 Structure of the Qi Specification

General documents

- Introduction
- Glossary, Acronyms, and Symbols

System description documents

- Mechanical, Thermal, and User Interface
- Power Delivery
- Communications Physical Layer
- Communications Protocol
- Foreign Object Detection
- NFC Tag Protection
- Authentication Protocol

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1.2 Scope

The *Qi Specification, Foreign Object Detection* (this document) defines methods for ensuring that the power transfer proceeds without heating metal objects in the magnetic field of a Power Transmitter. Although the Power Transmitter may optionally use any of these methods, some of them require assistance by the Power Receiver.

1.3 Compliance

All provisions in the *Qi Specification* are mandatory, unless specifically indicated as recommended, optional, note, example, or informative. Verbal expression of provisions in this Specification follow the rules provided in ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

Table 1: Verbal forms for expressions of provisions

Provision	Verbal form
requirement	“shall” or “shall not”
recommendation	“should” or “should not”
permission	“may” or “may not”
capability	“can” or “cannot”

1.4 References

For undated references, the most recently published document applies. The most recent WPC

publications can be downloaded from <http://www.wirelesspowerconsortium.com>.

1.5 Conventions

1.5.1 Notation of numbers

- Real numbers use the digits 0 to 9, a decimal point, and optionally an exponential part.
- Integer numbers in decimal notation use the digits 0 to 9.
- Integer numbers in hexadecimal notation use the hexadecimal digits 0 to 9 and A to F, and are prefixed by "0x" unless explicitly indicated otherwise.
- Single bit values use the words ZERO and ONE.

1.5.2 Tolerances

Unless indicated otherwise, all numeric values in the *Qi Specification* are exactly as specified and do not have any implied tolerance.

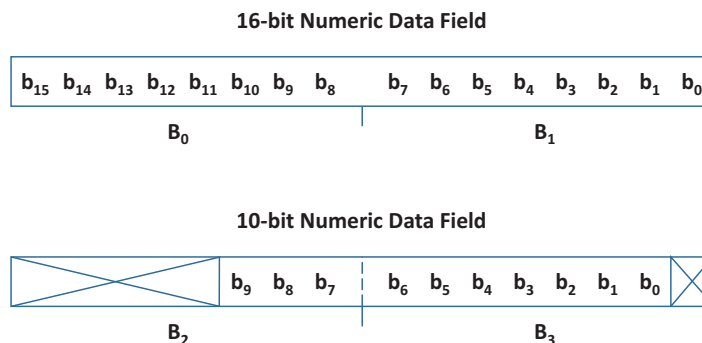
1.5.3 Fields in a data packet

A numeric value stored in a field of a data packet uses a big-endian format. Bits that are more significant are stored at a lower byte offset than bits that are less significant. Table 2 and Figure 1 provide examples of the interpretation of such fields.

Table 2: Example of fields in a data packet

	b ₇	b ₆	b ₅	b ₄	b ₃	b ₂	b ₁	b ₀	
B ₀	(msb) 16-bit Numeric Data Field								
B ₁	(lsb)								
B ₂	Other Field					(msb)			
B ₃	10-bit Numeric Data Field						(lsb)		Field

Figure 1. Examples of fields in a data packet



1.5.4 Notation of text strings

Text strings consist of a sequence of printable ASCII characters (i.e. in the range of 0x20 to 0x7E) enclosed in double quotes ("). Text strings are stored in fields of data structures with the first character of the string at the lowest byte offset, and are padded with ASCII NUL (0x00) characters to the end of the field where necessary.

EXAMPLE: The text string "WPC" is stored in a six-byte fields as the sequence of characters 'W', 'P', 'C', NUL, NUL, and NUL. The text string "M:4D3A" is stored in a six-byte field as the sequence 'M', ':', '4', 'D', '3', and 'A'.

1.5.5 Short-hand notation for data packets

In many instances, the *Qi Specification* refers to a data packet using the following shorthand notation:

<MNEMONIC>/<modifier>

In this notation, <MNEMONIC> refers to the data packet's mnemonic defined in the *Qi Specification, Communications Protocol*, and <modifier> refers to a particular value in a field of the data packet. The definitions of the data packets in the *Qi Specification, Communications Protocol*, list the meanings of the modifiers.

For example, EPT/cc refers to an End Power Transfer data packet having its End Power Transfer code field set to 0x01.

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1.6 Power Profiles

A Power Profile determines the level of compatibility between a Power Transmitter and a Power Receiver. [Table 3](#) defines the available Power Profiles.

- *BPP PTx*: A Baseline Power Profile Power Transmitter.
- *EPP5 PTx*: An Extended Power Profile Power Transmitter having a restricted power transfer capability, i.e. $P_L^{(pot)} = 5 \text{ W}$.
- *EPP PTx*: An Extended Power Profile Power Transmitter.
- *BPP PRx*: A Baseline Power Profile Power Receiver.
- *EPP PRx*: An Extended Power Profile Power Receiver.

Table 3: Capabilities included in a Power Profile

Feature	BPP PTx	EPP5 PTx	EPP PTx	BPP PRx	EPP PRx
Ax or Bx design	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
MP-Ax or MP-Bx design	No	No	Yes	N/A	N/A
Baseline Protocol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Extended Protocol	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Authentication	N/A	Optional	Yes	N/A	Optional

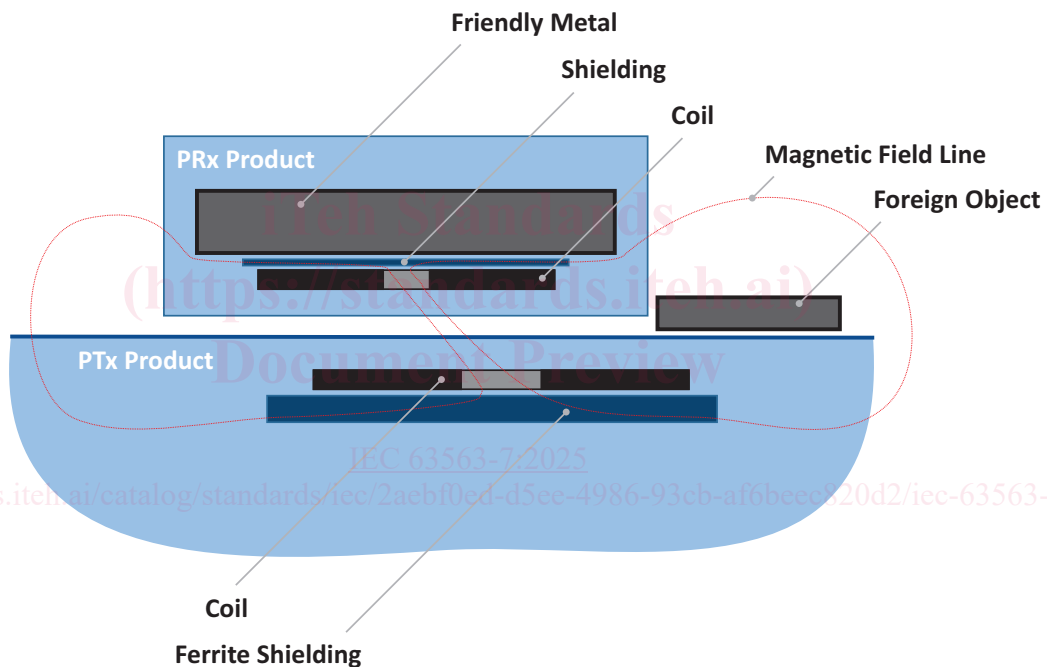
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2 Introduction

In a normal use case of a power transfer according to the *Qi Specification*, the Power Signal (magnetic field) of the Power Transmitter interacts with the Power Receiver Product only. However, sometimes a user accidentally places metallic objects such as coins, paper clips, keys, or pieces of aluminum foil next to or underneath the Power Receiver Product, either before the power transfer starts, or while it is ongoing. The *Qi Specification* refers to such objects as Foreign Objects. A problem with Foreign Objects is that they can dissipate power from the magnetic field, and as a result heat up to unsafe temperature levels. The system should therefore not initiate the power transfer, limit the power level, or stop the power transfer when it detects that one or more Foreign Objects are present.

Figure 2. Power transfer system including a Foreign Object



A factor complicating Foreign Object Detection (FOD) is the presence of Friendly Metals in the magnetic field. A Friendly Metal is similar to a Foreign Object in the sense that it can dissipate power from the magnetic field. However, unlike a Foreign Object, it is an integral part of the Power Receiver Product or Power Transmitter Product. In many cases, it is hard for a Power Transmitter to distinguish properly between Foreign Objects and Friendly Metals. Typically, no single method is sufficient to solve the problem. Accordingly, the Power Transmitter should use multiple methods to maximize the probability of detecting Foreign Objects, while minimizing the probability of false alarms.