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Digital audio interface –
Part 3: Consumer applications

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DIGITAL AUDIO INTERFACE –**Part 3: Consumer applications**

FOREWORD

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This consolidated version of the official IEC Standard and its amendments has been prepared for user convenience.

IEC 60958-3 edition 3.2 contains the third edition (2006-05) [documents 100/1009/CDV and 100/1070/RVC], its amendment 1 (2009-10) [documents 100/1513/CDV and 100/1592/RVC] and its amendment 2 (2015-06) [documents 100/2464/FDIS and 100/2494/RVD].

In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendments 1 and 2. Additions and deletions are displayed in red, with deletions being struck through. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.

International Standard IEC 60958-3 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition.

- Electrical and optical requirements are removed from IEC 60958-3; they should be specified in IEC 60958-1. The third edition of IEC 60958-1 will include these.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The list of all the parts of the IEC 60958 series, under the general title *Digital audio interface*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
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INTRODUCTION to Amendment 1

The revision of IEC 60958-3 (2006) has become necessary to transmit the audio signal and its information of the current improved audio formats and systems. The revised items apply to the small parts of IEC 60958-3.

Additional sampling frequencies have been defined for the use of audio transmission of IEC 60958 conformant data format for the new formats of the IEC 61937 series.

CGMS-A validity is added to clarify the use of CGMS-A information.

The identification of the embedded MPEG Surround information to LPCM and its normative Annex U are added.

Table 2 includes the new additions and Table 3 has been clarified.

INTRODUCTION to Amendment 2

The revision of IEC 60958-3:2006 has become necessary to document the protocol for transmitting the audio signal and its information in current improved audio formats and systems.

To apply IEC 60958-3 and its IEC 60958 conformant data format transmitting as part or whole of the multichannel audio data, a general channel assignment number specified in IEC 62574 is added to the C-bit.

Loudness information is added to the U-bit to enable loudness control.

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DIGITAL AUDIO INTERFACE –

Part 3: Consumer applications

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60958 specifies the consumer application of the interface for the inter-connection of digital audio equipment defined in IEC 60958-1.

NOTE When used in a consumer digital processing environment, the interface is primarily intended to carry stereophonic programmes, with a resolution of up to 20 bits per sample, an extension to 24 bits per sample being possible.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60841:1988, *Audio recording – PCM encoder/decoder system*

IEC 60908:1999, *Audio recording – Compact disc digital audio system*

IEC 60958-1:2004, *Digital audio interface – Part 1: General*

IEC 61119-1:1992, *Digital audio tape cassette system (DAT) – Part 1: Dimensions and characteristics*

IEC 61119-6:1992, *Digital audio tape cassette system (DAT) – Part 6: Serial copy management system*

IEC 62574:2011, *Audio, video and multimedia systems – General channel assignment of multichannel audio*

IEEE 1394:2004, *IEEE standard for high-performance serial bus bridges*

ISO/IEC 23003-1, *Information technology – MPEG audio technologies – Part 1: MPEG Surround*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60958-1 apply.

4 Interface format

The interface format as defined in IEC 60958-1 shall be used.

Unless otherwise specified in the annexes, the following specification is applicable.

- Audio sample word has a length of 20 bits/sample. The auxiliary sample bits are an optional expansion of the audio sample, if not used = “0”.
- User data is not used, all bits = “0”.

- Channel status is identical for both subframes of the interface, with the exception of the channel number, if that is not equal to zero.

5 Channel status

5.1 General

For every subframe, the channel status bit provides information related to the audio channel that is carried in that same subframe.

Channel status information is organized in a 192-bit block, subdivided into 24 bytes, numbered 0 to 23 (see Table 1). The first bit of each channel status block is carried in the frame with preamble “B”.

The individual bits of a channel status block are numbered 0 to 191.

The primary application is indicated by channel status bit 0.

As stated in IEC 60958-1, for the consumer digital audio applications described in this standard, this first channel status bit equals “0”.

NOTE As stated in IEC 60958-1, for professional application this first channel status bit equals “1”.

Secondary applications may be defined within the framework of these primary applications.

5.2 Application

5.2.1 Channel status general format

For each channel, the channel status block provides the information described in this clause and summarized in Table 1.

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Table 1– Channel status general format for consumer use

Byte

0	a = "0"	b	c	d			Mode	
bit	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1								
bit	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2								
bit	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3								
bit	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
4								
bit	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
5								
bit	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
6								
bit	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
7								
bit	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
8								
bit	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
9								
bit	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79
10								
bit	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
11								
bit	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95
12								
bit	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
13								
bit	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111
14								
bit	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119
15								
bit	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127
16								
bit	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135
17								
bit	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143
18								
bit	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151
19								
bit	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159
20								
bit	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167
21								
Bit	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175
22								
Bit	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183
23								
Bit	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191
a: use of channel status block b: linear PCM identification				c: copyright information d: additional format information				