

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Electricity metering – Payment systems –
Part 41: Standard transfer specification (STS) – Application layer protocol for
one-way token carrier systems**

**Comptage de l'électricité – Systèmes de paiement –
Partie 41: Spécification de transfert normalisé (STS) – Protocole de couche
application pour les systèmes de supports de jeton unidirectionnel**

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Application layer protocol for one-way token carrier systems****FOREWORD**

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International Standard IEC 62055-41 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 13: Electrical energy measurement and control.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition issued in 2007. It constitutes a technical revision. The main technical changes with regard to the previous edition are as follows:

- Class 2 token is extended to include credit transfer for gas and water with associated extensions in the display/test tokens.
- MfrCode is extended from 2 to 4 digits.
- Three token identifier base dates are defined to provide for more frequent key changes with TID roll-over procedures.
- A code of practice for the management of TID roll-over key changes in association with the revised set of base dates.
- Some clarifications and additional examples have been added.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

CDV	Report on voting
13/1530/CDV	13/1553/RVC

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 62055 series, published under the general title *Electricity metering – Payment systems*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication 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

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INTRODUCTION

The IEC 62055 series covers payment systems, encompassing the customer information systems, point of sale systems, token carriers, payment meters and the respective interfaces that exist between these entities. At the time of preparation of this standard, IEC 62055 comprised the following parts, under the general title, *Electricity metering – Payment systems*:

- Part 21: Framework for standardization
 - Part 31: Particular requirements – Static payment meters for active energy (classes 1 and 2)
 - Part 41: Standard transfer specification – Application layer protocol for one-way token carrier systems
 - Part 51: Standard transfer specification – Physical layer protocol for one-way numeric and magnetic card token carriers
 - Part 52: Standard transfer specification – Physical layer protocol for a two-way virtual token carrier for direct local connection
- Part 4x series specify application layer protocols and Part 5x series specify physical layer protocols.

The standard transfer specification (STS) is a secure message protocol that allows information to be carried between point of sale (POS) equipment and payment meters and it caters for several message types such as credit, configuration control, display and test instructions. It further specifies devices and codes of practice that allow for the secure management (generation, storage, retrieval and transportation) of cryptographic keys used within the system.

The token carrier, which is not specified in this part of IEC 62055, is the physical device or medium used to transport the information from the POS equipment to the payment meter. Three types of token carriers are currently specified in IEC 62055-51 and IEC 62055-52; the magnetic card, the numeric token carrier and a virtual token carrier, which have been approved by the STS Association. New token carriers can be proposed as new work items through the National Committees or through the STS Association.

<https://standards.iec.ch/standards/iec62055-41/2ae4b-d003-4ab2-8b4e-51f6ce3b2f35/iec-62055-41-2014>

Although the main implementation of the STS is in the electricity supply industry, it inherently provides for the management of other utility services such as water and gas. It should be noted that certain functionalities may not apply across all utility services, for example, MaximumPowerLimit in the case of a water meter. Similarly, certain terminology may not be appropriate in non-electrical applications, for example, Load Switch in the case of a gas meter. Future revisions of the STS may allow for other token carrier technologies like smart cards and memory keys with two-way functionality and to cater for a real-time clock and complex tariffs in the payment meter.

Not all the requirements specified in this standard are compulsory for implementation in a particular system configuration and as a guideline, a selection of optional configuration parameters are listed in Clause C.11.

The STS Association is registered with the IEC as a Registration Authority for providing maintenance services in support of the STS (see Clause C.1 for more information).

Publication of IEC 62055-41 Ed 1 in May 2007 resulted in its rapid adoption as the preferred global standard for prepayment meters in many IEC member countries and a majority of IEC affiliate member countries. Prepayment electricity meters and their associated Payment Systems are now produced, operated and maintained by an ecosystem of utilities, meter manufacturers, meter operators, vending system providers, vending agents, banking institutions and adjacent industries. Multi-stakeholder interests are served by the STS Association comprising of more than 130 organisations located in over 24 countries. Interoperability and conformance to the Standard Transfer System (STS) are guaranteed by

Conformance test specifications developed and administered by the STS Association. A full list of the STS Association services can be found at <http://www.sts.org.za>.

Developed originally for prepayment electricity meters in Africa – via an IEC TC13 WG15 D-type liaison with the STS Association – this IEC standard now serves more users in Asia than Africa, with a total of approximately 35 million meters operated by 400 utilities in 30 countries. Management of the technology has been administered by the STS Association in fulfilment of its role as the IEC appointed Registration Authority.

Global success has brought about an urgent need to extend the range of the numerical elements contained in IEC 62055-41 tables. In particular, the range of manufacturer numbers need to be extended beyond the 99 numbers originally provided. Also, application of the standard has been extended to cater for multi-energy systems including gas and water meters. Accordingly, there is a need to ensure that the content of IEC 62055-41 is maintained to cater for this market growth and multi-energy extensions.

Several corrections and clarifications are also required to bring Ed 1 up to date with current practice. This was considered by TC13 WG15 at its meeting on the 20 September 2012 in London, where it was agreed that IEC 62055-41 should be revised.

Only the most urgently required revisions have been incorporated in Edition 2 due to timing constraints, but it is anticipated that Edition 3 will consider further revisions to incorporate the following functionalities:

- Currency transfer
- Enhanced security on par with contemporary industry practice
- Complex functions fully harmonized with DLMS/COSEM suite
- Decentralized key management system with distributed architecture
- Conformance certification test suite in conjunction with IECEE CB scheme

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) draws attention to the fact that it is claimed that compliance with this document may involve the use of a patent concerning a special reserved token identifier given in 6.3.5.2.

IEC takes no position concerning the evidence, validity and scope of this patent right.

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The provider of the maintenance service has assured the IEC that he is willing to provide services under reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions with applicants throughout the world. In this respect, the statement of the provider of the maintenance service is registered with the IEC. Information may be obtained from:

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