SLOVENSKI STANDARD
SIST EN 300 751 V1.2.1:2003

01-december-2003

Sistemi radiodifuzije ï Podatkovni radijski kanal (DARC) ï Sistem za brezǵiļ no podajanje informacijske zabave in daljinsko distribucijo

Radio broadcasting systems; DAta Radio Channel (DARC); System for wireless infotainment forwarding and teledistribution

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: EN 300 751 Version 1.2.1

ICS:

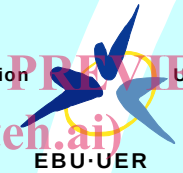
33.170	Televizijska in radijska difuzija	Television and radio broadcasting

SIST EN 300 751 V1.2.1:2003 **en**

ETSI EN 300 751 V1.2.1 (2003-01)

European Standard (Telecommunications series)

Radio broadcasting systems; DAta Radio Channel (DARC); System for wireless infotainment forwarding and teledistribution



Reference
REN/JTC-DARC-R1

Keywords
broadcasting, FM, multimedia, radio

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Sous-Préfecture de Grasse (06) N° 7803/88

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Foreword

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NOTE: The EBU/ETSI JTC Broadcast was established in 1990 to co-ordinate the drafting of standards in the specific field of broadcasting and related fields. Since 1995 the JTC Broadcast became a tripartite body by including in the Memorandum of Understanding also CENELEC, which is responsible for the standardization of radio and television receivers. The EBU is a professional association of broadcasting organizations whose work includes the co-ordination of its members' activities in the technical, legal, programme-making and programme-exchange domains. The EBU has active members in about 60 countries in the European broadcasting area; its headquarters is in Geneva.

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National transposition dates	
Date of adoption of this EN:	24 January 2003
Date of latest announcement of this EN (doa):	30 April 2003
Date of latest publication of new National Standard or endorsement of this EN (dop/e):	31 October 2003
Date of withdrawal of any conflicting National Standard (dow):	31 October 2003

Introduction

A multiplex is necessary to optimize the use of the radio channel by sharing it between several applications. For example, a dGPS application has some precise constraints such as real time (one message per second), size (2 kbits per message). This application requires a continuous channel of perhaps 3 kbit/s. Assuming a DARC channel has a minimum useful bit rate of 6 kbit/s, it would be interesting to use the remaining 3 kbit/s for another application, newspapers broadcasting for example.

On the opposite, in a newspaper application, it is necessary to broadcast the news twice a day for example in a maximum time (1 hour). This is a low rate service with a big amount of data and without real time. It would be interesting to stop for some time this service if hot news have to be sent (higher service priority).

Sometimes, the network operator can offer the same application (class of application/service) to different service providers, for example, different newspapers. It would be interesting to multiplex this newspapers on the same radio channel in a transparent manner for the service provider point of view.

The multiplex can be made:

- in the Transmitter Station Equipment (TSE), for splitting the radio channel into logical channels using a given mapping at a given time. The characteristic of the logical channels is a constant bit rate enabling real time applications and/or applications requiring constant bit rate all the time;
- in the TSE, for repeating regularly or inserting some information into the multiplex. In this case, a local priority management is required;
- on the network server, based on a priority mechanism. This enables for example the mixing of several applications with different priorities, but not real time and on demand (news and hot news, pictures preloading and weather information);
- on the network server, for multiplexing different processes of an application (for example, different newspapers for the application newspapers broadcasting). This is useful if it should offer a quicker "average" service (for example, the reading of a newspaper page by page before the complete loading).

As described above, there are different multiplexing levels/functions for different reasons. Each function is necessary and it shall be possible to make them running together.

1 Scope

The present document establishes a broadcasting standard of a System for Wireless Infotainment Forwarding and Teledistribution (DARC) designed for delivery of data services for mobile, portable and fixed receivers in the FM band. The present document defines the nature and content of the transmitted DARC signal. It describes also the organization of the multiplex for the DARC standard.

2 References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

- References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific.
- For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.
- For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies.

Referenced documents which are not found to be publicly available in the expected location might be found at http://docbox.etsi.org/Reference.

[1] EN 62106: "Specification of the radio data system (RDS) for VHF/FM sound broadcasting in the frequency range from 87,5 to 108,0 MHz".

[2] ETSI ETS 300 075: "Terminal Equipment (TE); Processable data; File transfer".

[3] ETSI ETS 300 174: "Network Aspects (NA); Digital coding of component television signals for contribution quality applications in the range 34 - 45 Mbit/s".

[4] ETSI EN 300 401: "Radio Broadcasting Systems; Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) to mobile, portable and fixed receivers".

[5] ISO 7498: "Information technology - Open systems Interconnection - Basic Reference Model".

[6] ITU-T Recommendation X.200: "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Basic Reference Model: The basic model".

[7] ITU-R Recommendation BS.1194: "System for multiplexing frequency modulation (FM) sound broadcasts with a sub-carrier data channel having a relatively large transmission capacity for stationary and mobile reception".

[8] ITU-R Recommendation BS.412: "Planning standards for terrestrial FM sound broadcasting at VHF".

[9] RFC 1950: "ZLIB Compressed Data Format Specification version 3.3", Peter Deutsch, Jean-Loup Gailly.

[10] RFC 1951: "DEFLATE Compressed Data Format Specification version 1.3", Peter Deutsch.

[11] Greg Roelofs, "zlib Home Page".

[12] ETSI EN 301 234: "Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB); Multimedia Object Transfer (MOT) protocol".

3 Definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions apply:

Several carriers may be associated to one transmitter. Every carrier transports only one physical DARC channel.

This physical channel will be identified by the frequency of its carrier. It is time-divided in Layer 2 data units (frames or blocks) continuously broadcast with the same number of Bytes in it.

One physical channel is shared between several logical channels. Four logical channels with different broadcasting characteristics are described in the present document:

a) the service channel SeCh, especially dedicated to information about the local transmitter and multiplex organization;

b) the short message channel SMCh, for low bit-rate or real time applications;

c) the long message channel LMCh, for files with low priority;

d) the block message channel BMCh, for block based applications.

Each **logical channel** carries a lot of subchannels distinguishable by an address and/or a type. Each **0** corresponds to one service.

Services with some common broadcasting characteristics are classified in a same category, or **class of services**.

3.2 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the following abbreviations apply:

ACS	Access Control System
ADD	ADDress
AFT	Alternative Frequency Table
BACh	Block Application Channel
BIC	Block Identification Code
BMCh	Block Message channel
BPF	Band-Pass Filter
CA	Conditional Access
CAId	Conditional Access Identifier
COT	Channel Organization Table
CW	Control Word
DAB	Digital Audio Broadcasting
DARC	DAta Radio Channel
DGCA	Data Group Conditional Access
dGPS	differential Global Positioning System
ECM	Entitlement Checking Message
EMM	Entitlement Management Message
FIG	Fast Information Groups

NOTE: See EN 300 401 [4].

FM	Frequency Modulation
GPS	Global Positioning System
IM	Initialization Modifier
LMCCA	Long Message Channel Conditional Access
LMCh	Long Message Channel
LMSK	Level-controlled Minimum Shift Keying
LPF	Low-Pass Filter

MOT	Multimedia Object Transport

NOTE: See EN 301 234 [12].

MM	Messaging Mode
MSK	Minimum Shift Keying
NWS	NetWork Server
OSI	Open Systems Interconnection
PRBS	Pseudo-Random Binary Sequence
RFA	Reserved for Future Addition
SAFT	Service Alternative Frequency Table
SCA	Service Conditional Access
SCOT	Synchronous Channel Organization Table
SMCCA	Short Message Channel Conditional Access
SMCh	Short Message Channel
SNT	Service Name Table
SPS	Service Provider Server
TDPNT	Time Date Position Network Table
TDT	Time Date Table
TLV	Type Length Value
TSE	Transmitter Station Equipment

4 Multiplex requirements

The multiplex system shall cope with specific requirements. A list of these requirements is given below:

- flexible usage of a given subchannel according to the requirements of each individual service;
- an optimum management of the transmission resource by dynamic reallocation of the subchannels;
- to recover any service clock at the receiver side;

- to ensure that the impact of the demultiplexing method on the decoder price is low;
- to take into account the needs of the Conditional Access system which operates on a service basis;
- to take into account class of services based upon common broadcasting characteristics at the multiplex level;
- to inform receivers on the broadcast services and carriers configuration by offering all the information required to easily select a service and change carrier especially when mobile and of course, without return channel;
- to keep under a defined value the access time to a selected service;
- to keep under a defined value the change time from one service to another, on the same or on a different carrier;
- to take into account possible power/battery saving for some services;
- to take into account possible fast access for some services;
- to take into account possible interworking with DAB services.

5 Functions of the multiplexing unit

The multiplexing (demultiplexing) unit is located between the source coding (decoding) and the modulator (demodulator). The functions of the following list take place between these two functions and define what is intended by a multiplexing unit:

1) **source coding/decoding:** out of mux scope, on top of mux functions;
2) **end to end scrambling and access control management:** this scrambling function may apply all over the transmission chain;

3) **service multiplexing information insertion/extraction:** each service is described when needed (type of data, coding algorithm, type of segmentation and reassembling technique, type of error correction/detection, etc.). Information relative to the end to end scrambling or the time base of the service may also be inserted/extracted;

4) **error correction/detection:** optional, a service may require an improved quality (additional error correction) or error detection may be required by the above functions (source coding);

5) **segmentation and reassembling:** the bit stream of each service has to be segmented in order to allow a time division multiplex;

6) **multiplex technique:** several multiplexing techniques are available (position multiplex, fixed or variable length packets with headers, etc.). The most appropriate one may be chosen for each layer. It should however allow a time division multiplex;

7) **transmission media scrambling and access control management:** identical to function 2) but only performed on one transmission link at the transport level, between the mux and demux functions;

8) **channel multiplexing information:** at this level is inserted/extracted tables containing mapping between physical channels information and the logical organization of the services;

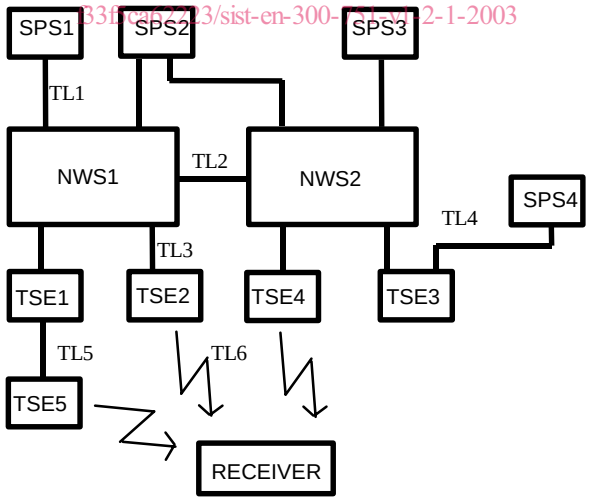
9) **frame generation/delineation:** for a frame based transmission, it is the capability to recover the boundaries;

10) **express data transfer:** it is the capability to reserve a subchannel with a high priority access to the data contained in it;

11) **channel coding/decoding and modulation/demodulation:** this is out of the mux unit scope. This function may include error correction facilities in order to ensure the correct transmission quality.

The multiplexing/demultiplexing unit is expected to ensure functions 2) to 10).

6 Reference model



Transmission Link TL1 is between a service provider server and a network server.
Transmission Link TL2 is between two (different) network servers.
Transmission Link TL3 is between network servers and transmission station equipment TSE.
Transmission Link TL4 is between a service provider server and a TSE.
Transmission Link TL5 is between two TSE.
Transmission Link TL6 is between TSE and receivers.

Figure 1: Reference model

Service organization hypothesis:

- a service provider server can be connected to several network servers;
- two different networks can be connected via their network servers. These networks are not necessarily DARC networks;
- a TSE belongs to only one network;
- one TSE can be connected to several other TSE.

Consequences:

- TL1 and TL2 should be independent of the network organization and transmission mechanisms;
- TL3 and TL4 should permit service multiplexing and insertion at transport level;
- TL5 should permit service multiplexing and insertion at network level.

7 Layers organization OSI reference model

Open Systems Interconnection reference model (OSI reference model) is a means of structuring communication between entities, which may be located at different sites. The OSI reference model is committed to ISO 7498 [5] and ITU-T Recommendation X.200 [6].

7.1 Functional layers

As a main principle of structuring, the model subdivides functionality into 7 functional layers.

Layers 1 to 4 include functions needed for transferring data between computers (transport functions), and Layers 5 to 7 include functions needed to facilitate common transactions between different users at different sites (application functions).

For Layers 1 to 4, functions support the transfer of data, independently of what happens with these data after their transfer.

For Layers 5 to 7, functions should deal with establishment and release of a common understanding between users, which act as the source and sink of the data.

Application functions and transmission functions should be independent of each other, as far as possible.

7.1.1 Physical layer (Layer 1)

OSI systems are connected by a physical medium, consist of copper conductor, optical fibres, radio waves, or any other medium. The physical layer does not contain the physical medium, but ensures the transmission of data bits (synchronous or asynchronous). Of course, these functions are highly media-dependent.

7.1.2 Data link layer (Layer 2)

The data link layer adds error recovery and flow control functions to the physical layer. Especially, it processes errors non-corrected by Layer 1. The Layer 2 protocol generally organizes the data into frames.

7.1.3 Network layer (Layer 3)

The network layer serves to establish, maintain, and clear network connections or to provide connectionless transmission of data units between OSI systems. This layer implies functions such as rooting and relaying. Routeing deals with establishing a route between two systems and relaying with the use of intermediate systems data transfer from one data link (or more generally speaking, sub-network) to another data link (belonging to a sub-network which is possibly dissimilar). The functions of this layer are highly dependent on the technology of those communication (sub-) networks.

7.1.4 Transport layer (Layer 4)

The transport layer serves to establish, maintain, and clear transport connections or to provide connectionless transmission of data units between applications (end-users). It is in charge of the segmentation of the Layer 5 data into packets. Depending on the class of service, the transport layer ensures the transfer of application-relevant data between users in the right order, without any loss or duplication.

It controls the data flow between the two end-users (global flow control).

7.1.5 Session layer (Layer 5)

The session layer supports the service of enabling users to agree on the beginning or the end of a session or of inserting synchronization points in the structure of a session.

7.1.6 Presentation layer (Layer 6)

Although data transferred between applications can be interpreted in different ways, the presentation layer provides services which facilitate consistent interpretation of them.

7.1.7 Application layer (Layer 7)

All functions to be agreed upon between applications, which are not provided by Layers 1 to 6, have to be provided by Layer 7. Therefore, the application layer includes open-ended functionality.

7.2 Services and protocols

A (N) service is the set of facilities provided to a (N+1) entity by the Layer N at the interface between Layer N et Layer N+1. A protocol is a set of rules and formats managing the exchanges between two entities at the same layer. The purpose of a protocol is to provide a service to users (entities) residing above the respective layer boundary. More precisely, a service which is accessible at the boundary between the Layers (N+1) and (N) is provided to (N+l) entities and those above by the functionality of Layers (l) to (N) below it.

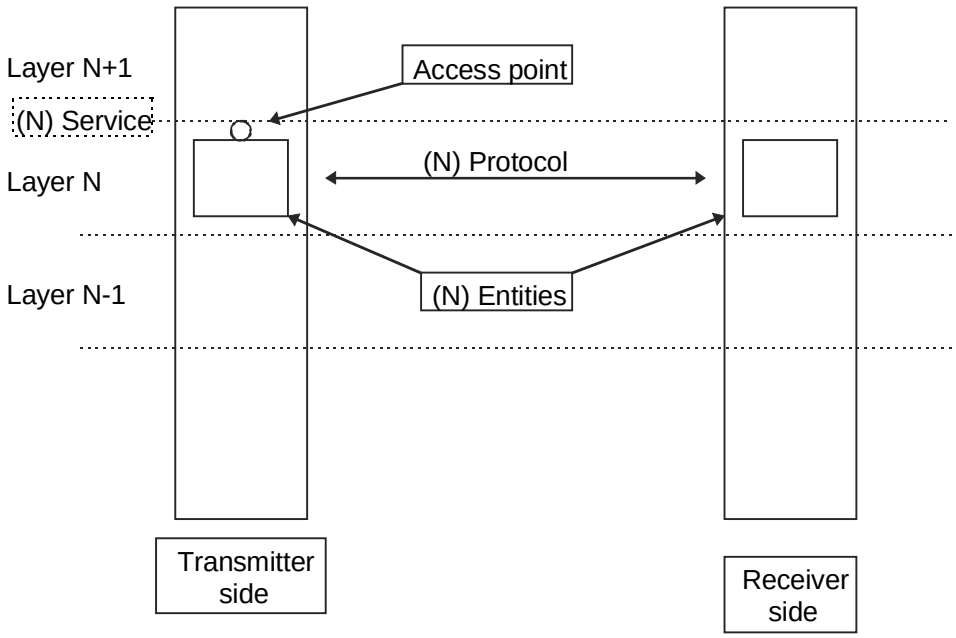


Figure 2