INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC 61162-1

Second edition
2000-07

Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems – Digital interfaces –

Part 1: Single talker and multiple listeners

Matériels et systèmes de navigation et de radiocommunication maritimes – Interfaces numériques –

Partie 1: Emetteur unique et récepteurs multiples

Reference number
IEC 61162-1:2000(E)

Numbering

As from 1 January 1997 all IEC publications are issued with a designation in the 60000 series.

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For general terminology, readers are referred to IEC 60050: *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary* (IEV).

For graphical symbols, and letter symbols and signs approved by the IEC for general use, readers are referred to publications IEC 60027: *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology*, IEC 60417: *Graphical symbols for use on equipment. Index, survey and compilation of the single sheets* and IEC 60617: *Graphical symbols for diagrams*.

* See web site address on title page.

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

PRICE CODE XC

For price, see current catalogue

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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MARITIME NAVIGATION AND RADIOCOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS – DIGITAL INTERFACES –

Part 1: Single talker and multiple listeners

FOREWORD

1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, the IEC publishes International Standards. Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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International Standard IEC 61162-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 80: Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 1995, and constitutes a technical revision. This part of IEC 61162 is closely aligned with NMEA 0183 version 2.30.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
80/240/FDIS	80/264/RVD

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

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

Annex C forms an integral part of this standard.

Annexes A and B are for information only.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2004. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

INTRODUCTION

IEC TC 80 interface standards are developed with input from manufacturers, private and government organisations and equipment operators. The information contained in this standard is intended to meet the needs of users at the time of publication, but users must recognise that as applications and technology change, interface standards must change as well. Users of this document are advised to immediately inform the IEC of any perceived inadequacies in this standard.

The following notes provide the background to changes introduced to the first edition of this standard.

NOTE 1 The sentences in IEC 61162-1:1995-11 which were indicated as "(to be further developed)" have now been developed. The sentences involved are:

DSC – Digital selective calling (DSC) (see also DSE, DSI and DSR)

DTM – Datum reference

ASD – Autopilot system data has been deleted and renamed in line with IMO definitions – see HTC and HTD below.

NOTE 2 New sentences have been added:

ACK	Acknowledge alarm
ALR	Set alarm state
DSE	Expanded digital selective calling
DSI	DSC transponder initiate
DSR	DSC transponder response
GNS	GNSS fix data
HMS	Heading monitor set
HMR	Heading monitor receive
HTC	Heading/track control command
HTD	Heading/track control data
MLA	GLONASS almanac data
MWD	Wind direction and speed
TLB	Target label
TXT	Text transmission

NOTE 3 The following sentences have been deleted, as the systems referred to are no longer in operation:

GXA – TRANSIT position, OLN – OMEGA lane numbers, TRF – TRANSIT fix data.

NOTE 4 Detailed modifications have been made to the following sentences:

FSI, GBS, GGA, GRS, MSK, MSS, OSD, RMA, RMB, RMC, SFI, TLL, TTM, VBW, XDR and ZDA.

Details of the changes are given in the relevant pages.

NOTE 5 A mode indicator character field "a" has been added as a new last data field to specific sentences, namely APB, BWC, BWR, GLL, RMA, RMB, RMC, VTG, WCV and XTE.

The mode indicator character "a" has been defined to include the following when used in the designated sentences:

A = Autonomous mode
D = Differential mode
E = Estimated (dead reckoning) mode
M = Manual input mode
S = Simulator mode
N = Data not valid

NOTE 6 A note has been added to sentences APB, GLL, RMA, RMB, RMC and XTE (which contain a status field "A") as follows:

"Note: the mode indicator field supplements the status field (field n), the status field shall be set to V = Invalid for all values of mode indicator except for A = Autonomous and D = Differential."

NOTE 7 A note has been added to all appropriate sentences to state that "the quality indicator, mode indicator, operating mode and status fields shall not be null fields."

MARITIME NAVIGATION AND RADIOCOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS – DIGITAL INTERFACES –

Part 1: Single talker and multiple listeners

1 General

1.1 Scope

This part of IEC 61162 contains the requirements for data communication between maritime electronic instruments, navigation and radiocommunication equipment when interconnected via an appropriate system.

This standard is intended to support one-way serial data transmission from a single talker to one or more listeners. This data is in printable ASCII form and may include information such as position, speed, depth, frequency allocation, etc. Typical messages may be from about 20 to a maximum of 79 characters in length and generally require transmission no more rapidly than one message per second.

The electrical definitions in this standard are not intended to accommodate high-bandwidth applications such as radar or video imagery, or intensive database or file transfer applications. Since there is no provision for guaranteed delivery of messages and only limited error checking capability, this standard should be used with caution in all safety applications.

For applications where a faster transmission rate is necessary, reference should be made to IEC 61162-2.

Annex A contains a list of relevant International Maritime Organization (IMO) resolutions and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) recommendations to which this standard applies.

1.2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of IEC 61162. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of IEC 61162 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

IEC 61162-2:1998, *Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems – Digital interfaces – Part 2: Single talker and multiple listeners, high-speed transmission*

ISO/IEC 8859-1:1998, *Information technology – 8-bit single-byte coded graphic character sets – Part 1: Latin alphabet No.1*

ITU-R M.493-9:1997, *Digital selective-calling system for use in the maritime mobile service*

ITU-R M.821-1:1997, *Optional expansion of the digital selective-calling system for use in the maritime mobile service*

ITU-R M.825-3:1998, *Characteristics of a transponder system using digital selective calling techniques for use with vessel traffic services and ship-to-ship identification*

ITU-T X.27/V.11:1996, *Electrical characteristics for balanced double-current interchange circuits operating at data signalling rates up to 10 Mbit/s*

NMEA 0183:1998, *National Marine Electronics Association (USA) – Standard for interfacing marine electronic devices, version 2.30*

RTCM:1998, *RTCM (Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services) SC-104 Recommended standards for differential GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite Systems) service, version 2.2*

IHO:1994, *Special publication No. 60*, *User's handbook on datum transformations involving WGS 84*

GLONASS:1995, *Interface control document*

Rockwell International Corporation ICD-GPS-200:1987, *Interface control document*, *Navstar GPS space segment/navigation user interface*

1.3 Definitions

Common terms are defined in the glossary of annex B. Where there is a conflict, terms shall be interpreted wherever possible in accordance with the references in 1.2.

For the purposes of this part of IEC 61162, the following definitions apply.

talker
any device which sends data to other devices. The type of talker is identified by a 2-character mnemonic as listed in 6.2 (Table 4)

listener
any device which receives data from another device

2 Manufacturer's documentation

Operator manuals or other appropriate literature provided for equipment that is intended to meet the requirements of this standard shall contain the following information:

a) identification of the A and B signal lines;

b) the output drive capability as a talker;

c) a list of approved sentences, noting unused fields, proprietary sentences transmitted as a talker and transmission interval for each sentence;

d) the load requirements as a listener;

e) a list of sentences and associated data fields that are required as a listener;

f) the current software and hardware revision if this is relevant to the interface;

g) an electrical description or schematic of the listener/talker input/output circuits citing actual components and devices used, including connector type and part number;

h) the version number and date of update of the standard for which compliance is sought.

3 Hardware specification

One talker and multiple listeners may be connected in parallel over an interconnecting wire. The number of listeners depends on the output capability and input drive requirements of individual devices.

3.1 Interconnecting wire

Interconnection between devices may be by means of a two-conductor, shielded, twisted-pair wire.

3.2 Conductor definitions

The conductors referred to in this standard are the signal lines A and B, and shield.

3.3 Electrical connections/shield requirements

All signal line A connections are connected in parallel with all device A connections and all signal line B connections are connected in parallel with all device B connections. The shields of all listener cables should be connected to the talker chassis only and should not be connected at each listener.

3.4 Connector

No standard connector is specified. Wherever possible readily available commercial connectors shall be used. Manufacturers shall provide means for user identification of the connections used.

3.5 Electrical signal characteristics

This subclause describes the electrical characteristics of transmitters and receivers.

3.5.1 Signal state definitions

The idle, marking, logical 1, OFF or stop bit states are defined by a negative voltage on line A with respect to line B.

The active, spacing, logical 0, ON or start bit states are defined by a positive voltage on line A with respect to line B.

It should be noted that the above A with respect to B levels are inverted from the voltage input/output requirements of standard UARTs and that many line drivers and receivers provide a logic inversion.

3.5.2 Talker drive circuits

No provision is made for more than a single talker to be connected to the bus. The drive circuit used to provide the signal A and the return B shall meet, as a minimum, the requirements of ITU-T X.27/V.11.

3.5.3 Listener receive circuits

Multiple listeners may be connected to a single talker. The listener receive circuit shall consist of an opto-isolator and shall have protective circuits to limit current, reverse bias and power dissipation at the opto-diode as shown in figure 1. Reference is made to example circuits in 7.2.

The receive circuit shall be designed for operation with a minimum differential input voltage of 2,0 V [1)] and shall not take more than 2,0 mA from the line at that voltage.

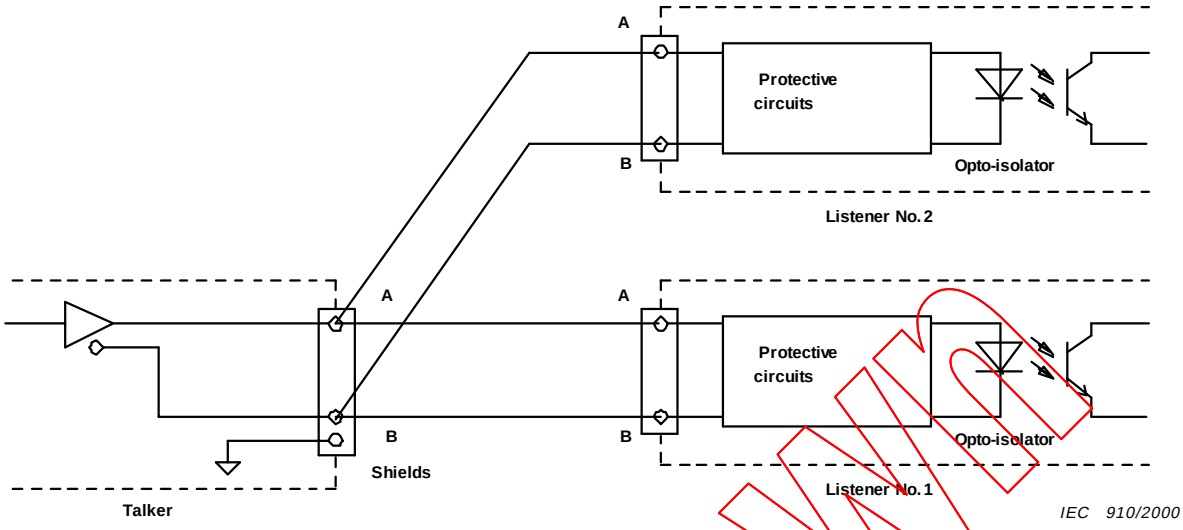

Figure 1 – Listener receive circuit

3.5.4 Electrical isolation

Within a listener there shall be no direct electrical connection between the signal line A, return line B, or shield and ships' ground or power. Isolation from ships' ground is required.

3.5.5 Maximum voltage on bus

The maximum applied voltage between signal lines A and B and between either line and ground shall be in accordance with ITU-T X.27/V.11.

For protection against mis-wiring and for use with earlier talker designs, all receive circuit devices shall be capable of withstanding 15 V between signal lines A and B and between either line and ground for an indefinite period.

4 Data transmission

Data is transmitted in serial asynchronous form in accordance with the standards referenced in 2.1. The first bit is a start bit and is followed by data bits, least-significant-bit first, as illustrated by figure 2.

The following parameters are used:

– baud rate 4 800;
– data bits 8 (D7 = 0), parity none;
– stop bits 1.

[1)] For reasons of compatibility with equipment designed to comply with earlier versions of NMEA 0183, it is noted that the idle, marking, logical "1", OFF or stop bit state had previously been defined to be in the range –15,0 V to +0,5 V. The active, spacing, logical "0", ON or start bit state was defined to be in the range +4,0 V to +15,0 V while sourcing was not less than 15 mA.

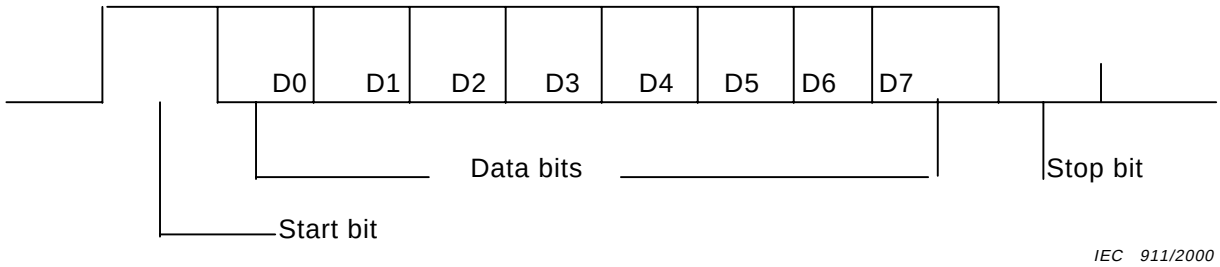

Figure 2 – Data transmission format

5 Data format protocol

5.1 Characters

All transmitted data shall be interpreted as ASCII characters. The most significant bit of the eight-bit character shall always be transmitted as zero (D7 = 0).

5.1.1 Reserved characters

The reserved character set consists of those ASCII characters shown in 6.1 (Table 1). These characters are used for specific formatting purposes, such as sentence and field delimiting, and except for code delimiting, shall not be used in data fields.

5.1.2 Valid characters

The valid character set consists of all printable ASCII characters (HEX 20 to HEX 7E) except those defined as reserved characters. The list of the valid character set is given in 6.1 (Table 2).

5.1.3 Undefined characters

ASCII values not specified as either "reserved characters" or "valid characters" are excluded and shall not be transmitted at any time.

When it is necessary to communicate an 8-bit character defined by ISO/IEC 8859-1 that is a reserved character (Table 1) or not listed in Table 2 as a valid character (e.g. in a proprietary sentence or text sentence), three characters shall be used.

The reserved character "^" (HEX 5E) is followed by two ASCII characters (0-9, A-F) representing the HEX value of the character to be communicated. For example:

– to send heading as "127.5°", transmit "127.5 ^F8";
– to send the reserved characters <CR><LF>, transmit "^0D^0A";
– to send the reserved character "^", transmit "^5E".

5.1.4 Character symbols

When individual characters are used in this standard to define units of measurement, to indicate the type of data field, type of sentence, etc. they shall be interpreted according to the character symbol in 6.1 (Table 3).

5.2 Fields

A field consists of a string of valid characters, or no characters (null field), located between two appropriate delimiter characters.

5.2.1 Address field

An address field is the first field in a sentence and follows the "$" delimiter; it serves to define the sentence. Characters within the address field are limited to digits and upper case letters. The address field shall not be a null field. Only sentences with the following three types of address fields shall be transmitted.

5.2.1.1 Approved address field

Approved address fields consist of five characters defined by this standard. The first two characters are the talker identifier, listed in 6.2 (Table 4). The talker identifier serves to define the nature of the data being transmitted.

Devices that have the capability to transmit data from multiple sources shall transmit the appropriate talker identifier (e.g., a device with both a GPS receiver and a Loran-C receiver shall transmit GP when the position is GPS-based, LC when the position is Loran-C-based, and IN for integrated navigation shall be used if lines of position from Loran-C and GPS are combined into a position fix).

Devices capable of re-transmitting data from other sources shall use the appropriate identifier (e.g. GPS receivers transmitting heading data shall not transmit $GPHCD unless the compass heading is actually derived from the GPS signals).

The next three characters form the sentence formatter used to define the format and the type of data. A list of approved sentence formatters is given in 6.2 (Table 5).

5.2.1.2 Query address field

The query address field consists of five characters and is used for the purpose of requesting transmission of a specific sentence on a separate bus from an identified talker.

The first two characters are the talker identifier of the device requesting data, the next two characters are the talker identifier of the device being addressed and the final character is the query character Q.

5.2.1.3 Proprietary address field

The proprietary address field consists of the proprietary character P followed by a three-character manufacturer's mnemonic code, used to identify the talker issuing a proprietary sentence, and any additional characters as required. A list of valid manufacturer's mnemonic codes may be obtained from NMEA (see 5.3.3).

5.2.2 Data fields

Data fields in approved sentences follow a "," delimiter and contain valid characters (and code delimiters “^”) in accordance with the formats illustrated in 6.2 (Table 6). Data fields in proprietary sentences contain only valid characters and the delimiter characters “,” and “^”, but are not defined by this standard.

Because of the presence of variable data fields and null fields, specific data fields shall only be located within a sentence by observing the field delimiters ",". Therefore, it is essential for the listener to locate fields by counting delimiters rather than counting the total number of characters received from the start of the sentence.

5.2.2.1 Variable length fields

Although some data fields are defined to have fixed length, many are of variable length in order to allow devices to convey information and to provide data with more or less precision, according to the capability or requirements of a particular device.

Variable length fields may be alphanumeric or numeric fields. Variable numeric fields may contain a decimal point and may contain leading or trailing zeros.

5.2.2.2 Data field types

Data fields may be alpha, numeric, alphanumeric, variable length, fixed length or fixed/ variable (with a portion fixed in length while the remainder varies). Some fields are constant, with their value dictated by a specific sentence definition. The allowable field types are summarized in 6.2 (Table 6).

5.2.2.3 Null fields

A null field is a field of length zero, i.e. no characters are transmitted in the field. Null fields shall be used when the value is unreliable or not available.

For example, if heading information were not available, sending data of "000" is misleading because a user cannot distinguish between "000" meaning no data and a legitimate heading of "000". However, a null field, with no characters at all, clearly indicates that no data is being transmitted.

Null fields with their delimiters can have the following appearance depending on where they are located in the sentence:

",," ",*"

The ASCII NULL character (HEX 00) shall not be used as the null field.

5.2.3 Checksum field

A checksum field shall be transmitted in all sentences. The checksum field is the last field in a sentence and follows the checksum delimiter character "*". The checksum is the eight-bit exclusive OR (no start or stop bits) of all characters in the sentence, including "," delimiters, between but not including the "$" and the "*" delimiters.

The hexadecimal value of the most significant and least significant four bits of the result is converted to two ASCII characters (0-9, A-F) for transmission. The most significant character is transmitted first.

Examples of the checksum field are:

$GPGLL,5057.970,N,00146.110,E,142451,A*27 and

$GPVTG,089.0,T,,,15.2,N,,*7F .

5.3 Sentences

This subclause describes the general structure of sentences. Details of specific sentence formats are found in 6.3. Some sentences may specify restrictions beyond the general limitations given in this part of this standard. Such restrictions may include defining some fields as fixed length, numeric or text only, required to be non-null, transmitted with a certain frequency, etc.