

Digital audio interface —

Part 3: Consumer applications

The European Standard EN 60958-3:2000 has the status of a British Standard

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National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 60958-3:2000. It is identical with IEC 60958-3:1999. Together with BS EN 60958-1:2000 and BS EN 60958-4:2000, it supersedes BS EN 60958:1995 which is withdrawn.

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
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Foreword

The text of document 100C/248/FDIS, future edition 1 of IEC 60958-3, prepared by SC 100C, Audio, video and multimedia subsystems and equipment, of IEC TC 100, Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment, was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 60958-3 on 2000-01-01.

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Annexes designated "normative" are part of the body of the standard.
In this standard, annexes A to O and ZA are normative.
Annex ZA has been added by CENELEC.

Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 60958-3:1999 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

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DIGITAL AUDIO INTERFACE –

Part 3: Consumer applications

1 Scope

This International Standard describes an application of a serial, uni-directional, self-clocking interface as defined in IEC 60958-1, for the interconnection of digital audio equipment for consumer applications.

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 normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard 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 60268-11:1987, *Sound system equipment – Part 11: Application of connectors for the interconnection of sound system components*

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

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

IEC 60958-1:1999, *Digital audio interface – Part 1: General*

IEC 60958-4:1999, *Digital audio interface – Part 4: Professional applications*

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*

3 Interface format

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

4 Channel status

4.1 General

For every sub-frame, the channel status provides information related to the audio channel that is carried in that same sub-frame.

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 block is carried in the frame with preamble "B".

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

The primary application is indicated by channel status bit 0.

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

For the consumer digital audio applications described in this standard, this first channel status bit equals "0".

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

4.2 Application

4.2.1 Channel status general format

For each channel, channel status is used for the following information.

Table 1 – Channel status general format for consumer use

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

a: use of channel status block.
b: linear PCM identification.

c: copyright information.
d: additional format information.

Byte 0: General control and mode information

Control:

Bit 0	“0”	Consumer use of channel status block.
-------	-----	---------------------------------------

NOTE The significance of byte 0, bit 0 is such that transmission from an interface conforming to IEC 60958-4 can be identified.

Bit 1	“0”	Audio sample word represents linear PCM samples.
	“1”	Audio sample word used for other purposes.

Bit 2	“0”	Software for which copyright is asserted.
	“1”	Software for which no copyright is asserted.

NOTE Bit 2 is referred to as the “Cp-bit”. It should be indicated whether copyright protection has been asserted.

The copyright status may be unknown for certain applications. The above interpretation is therefore not valid in combination with some category codes (see annexes). The Cp-bit can alternate between 0 and 1 at a rate between 4 Hz and 10 Hz (see annex A).

Bits 3-5	Additional format information, meaning depends on bit 1.
-------------	--

When bit 1 = “0”, linear PCM audio mode:

bit	3 4 5	
state	“0 0 0”	2 audio channels without pre-emphasis.
	“1 0 0”	2 audio channels with 50/15 µs pre-emphasis.
	“0 1 0”	Reserved (for 2 audio channels with pre-emphasis).
	“1 1 0”	Reserved (for 2 audio channels with pre-emphasis).

All other states of bits 3-5 are reserved and shall not be used until further defined.

When bit 1 = “1”, other than linear PCM applications:

bit	3 4 5	
state	“0 0 0”	Default state for applications other than linear PCM.

All other states of bits 3-5 are reserved and shall not be used until further defined.

Bits 6-7	Channel status mode, indicates one of four possible channel status formats (bytes 1 to 23). There are four possible modes for each of the states of bit 1.
-------------	--

bit	6 7	
state	“0 0”	Mode 0, refer to 4.2.2.

All other states of bits 6-7 are reserved and shall not be used until further defined.

The contents of bits 8 to 191 depend on the mode as indicated by bits 6 and 7. If not defined otherwise, the default value is “0”.

4.2.2 Mode 0 channel status format for digital audio equipment for consumer use

When the audio sample word represents linear PCM and the channel status mode is mode 0, the following channel status format should be applied:

Table 2 – Mode 0 channel status format for consumer use

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

Byte 0 as defined in 4.2.1, with:

Bit 1	“0”	Audio sample word represents linear PCM samples.
Bits 6-7	“0 0”	Mode 0.

Byte 1: Category code

The category code indicates the kind of equipment that generates the digital audio interface signal. See the relevant annexes for the assignments. Bit 8 = LSB, bit 15 = MSB.

Byte 2: Source and channel number

Bits 16-19	Source number, bit 16 = LSB, bit 19 = MSB.	
bit	16	17 18 19
state	“0 0 0 0”	Do not take into account.
	“1 0 0 0”	1
	“0 1 0 0”	2
	“1 1 0 0”	3
		
	“1 1 1 1”	15
Bits 20-23	Channel number (audio channel), bit 20 = LSB, bit 23 = MSB.	
bit	20	21 22 23
state	“0 0 0 0”	Do not take into account.
	“1 0 0 0”	A (left channel for stereo channel format).
	“0 1 0 0”	B (right channel for stereo channel format).
	“1 1 0 0”	C
		
	“1 1 1 1”	O

Byte 3: Sampling frequency and clock accuracy

Bits 24-27	Sampling frequency	
bit	24	25 26 27
state	“0 0 0 0”	44,1 kHz
	“0 1 0 0”	48 kHz
	“1 1 0 0”	32 kHz
	All other combinations are reserved and shall not be used until further defined.	
Bits 28-29	Clock accuracy.	
bit	28	29
state	“0 0”	Level II.
	“1 0”	Level I.
	“0 1”	Level III.
	“1 1”	Reserved.

Byte 4: Word length

Bit 32	"0"	Maximum audio sample word length is 20 bits.
	"1"	Maximum audio sample word length is 24 bits.

Bits 33-35 Sample word length

bit	33 34 35	Audio sample word length if maximum length is 24 bits as indicated by bit 32.	Audio sample word length if maximum length is 20 bits as indicated by bit 32.
state	"0 0 0"	Word length not indicated (default)	Word length not indicated (default)
	"1 0 0"	20 bits	16 bits
	"0 1 0"	22 bits	18 bits
	"0 0 1"	23 bits	19 bits
	"1 0 1"	24 bits	20 bits
	"0 1 1"	21 bits	17 bits

All other combinations are reserved and shall not be used until further defined.

NOTE The first edition of IEC 60958 had bits 32 to 35 reserved and set to zero. Therefore, the all zero state for these bits on a received signal may be an indicator that the word length indication has not been implemented.

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 all channels, with the exception of the channel number, if not equal to zero.

4.3 Copyright management guidelines for consumer application of the digital audio interface

4.3.1 General

Category codes are defined for all consumer products that are capable of supplying a digital signal to consumer digital audio recorders, except for products that are fully transparent from input to output.

Category codes for products have been grouped by general function of the product. This makes it possible to take into account future digital recording products not yet defined in detail. Such a product then deals with the group code under a general rule. These rules define whether a digital recorder is enabled to record a copyright protected digital signal.

Unless otherwise specified, any consumer equipment capable of transferring digital audio information from an input terminal to an output terminal, if not fully transparent and regardless of the delay or kind of transformation of the audio content of the signal, shall copy channel status bits 0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 from the source. Bit 2 shall be copied from the source, unless otherwise specified in the annexes.

Bit 15 is referred to as the "L-bit". It shall indicate the "generation status" of the digital audio signal.

“Generation status” means:

- whether the signal emanates from a source that has been produced or published or authorized by the rights owner of the material, such as commercially released pre-recorded compact discs or DAT tapes or a digital broadcast (referred to herein as “original”) and for which copyright has been asserted;
- or whether the signal emanates from a recording made from such “original” material (referred to herein as “a home-copy of generation 1 or higher”).

Generally the L-bit is specified as:

Bit 15	“0”	No indication.
	“1”	Commercially released pre-recorded software.

For historical reasons, the reverse situation is valid for the signals originating from:

laser optical products (category code “100 XXXXL”);
broadcast reception (category codes “001 XXXXL” and “011 1XXXXL”).

For these category codes the L-bit shall indicate:

Bit 15	“0”	Commercially released pre-recorded software.
	“1”	No indication.

The generation status may be unknown for certain applications. The above interpretation is therefore not valid in combination with some category codes such as:

- general (category code “000 00000”);
- analogue/digital converters for analogue signals without copyright information (category code “011 00XXXL”).

4.3.2 Category code groups

4.3.2.1 The category code groups are defined in table 3.

Table 3 – Category code groups

Bit 8... 15	Category
“000 00000”	General. Used temporarily
“100 XXXXL”	Laser optical products
“010 XXXXL”	Digital/digital converters and signal processing products
“110 XXXXL”	Magnetic tape or disc based products
“001 XXXXL” and “011 1XXXXL”	Broadcast reception of digitally encoded audio signals with or without video signals
“101 XXXXL”	Musical instruments, microphones and other sources without copyright information
“011 00XXXL”	Analogue/digital converters for analogue signals without copyright information
“011 01XXXL”	Analogue/digital converters for analogue signals which include copyright information in the form of “Cp-bit and L-bit status”
“000 1XXXXL”	Solid state memory based products
“000 0001L”	Experimental products not for commercial sale
“111 XXXXL”	Not defined. Reserved
“000 0XXXXL”	Not defined. Reserved, except “000 00000” and “000 0001L”

4.3.2.2 Within a group a further indication of the kind of source is given.

4.3.2.2.1 For the general category code ("000 00000") the following applies:

- used temporarily;
- applied specifically for digital audio broadcast reception with or without a video signal, for example digital satellite reception in Japan in the case where no copyright information is transmitted. (See also annex H.)

4.3.2.2.2 For the group of laser optical products (category code = "100 XXXXL") the category codes are defined in table 4.

Table 4 – Category code groups for laser optical products

Bit 8... 15	Category
"100 00000"	Compact disc digital audio signal compatible with IEC 60908 (see annex A)
"100 1000L"	Laser optical digital audio systems for which no other category code is defined (see annex D)
"100 1001L"	Mini disc system (see annex N)
"100 1100L"	Digital versatile disc (DVD)
"100 others"	Reserved

4.3.2.2.3 For the group of digital/digital converters and signal processing products (category code = "010 XXXXL"), the category codes are defined in table 5.

Table 5 – Category code groups for digital/digital converter and signal processing products

Bit 8... 15	Category
"010 0000L"	PCM encoder/decoder (see annex B)
"010 0100L"	Digital signal mixer (see annex E)
"010 1100L"	Sampling rate converter (see annex F)
"010 0010L"	Digital sound sampler (see annex G)
"010 1010L"	Digital sound processor (see annex O)
"010 others"	Reserved

4.3.2.2.4 For the group of magnetic tape or magnetic disc based products (category code = "110 XXXXL"), the category codes are defined in table 6.

Table 6 – Category code groups for magnetic tape or magnetic disc based products

Bit 8... 15	Category
"110 0000L"	DAT (see annex C)
"110 1000L"	Video tape recorder with digital sound
"110 0001L"	Digital compact cassette (see annex M)
"110 others"	Reserved