

IEEE Standard for Medical Device Communications— Transport Profile—IrDA Based— Cable Connected

Sponsor

IEEE 1073 Committee
of the
IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society

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Abstract: A connection-oriented transport profile and physical layer suitable for medical device communications in legacy devices is established. Communications services and protocols consistent with specifications of the Infrared Data Association are defined. These communication services and protocols are optimized for use in patient-connected bedside medical devices.

Keywords: bedside, Infrared Data Association, IrDA, legacy device, medical device, medical device communications, MIB, patient, SNTP

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Introduction

(This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1073.3.2-2000, IEEE Standard for Medical Device Communications—Transport Profile—IrDA Based—Cable Connected.)

This standard defines a communications transport profile. This profile is for a cable-connected local area network (LAN) for the interconnection of computers and medical devices. This standard is suitable for new device designs, but is particularly targeted to modifications of legacy devices.

The term “legacy devices” refers to equipment that is

- Already in use in clinical facilities
- In active production at the facilities of medical device manufacturers, or
- Beyond the initial stages of engineering development

Specifically, this standard describes connection-oriented communications services and protocols consistent with standards of the Infrared Data Association (IrDA), adapted as appropriate for IEEE 1073 applications and optimized for use in patient-connected bedside medical devices.

This standard is one part of the family of IEEE 1073 standards. It is compatible with the upper layer standards (see IEEE P1073.1 and IEEE P1073.2). It is presented as an alternative to IEEE Std 1073.3.1-1994 and IEEE Std 1073.4.1-1994.

The primary users of this standard are technical personnel who are creating or interfacing with a medical device communications system. Familiarity with the IEEE 1073 family of standards is recommended. Familiarity with communications and networking technologies is also recommended.

This standard is intended to satisfy the following objectives:

- a) Allow compatibility with existing medical device communications designs to minimize design risk, contain product costs, and simplify field upgrades
- b) Specify hardware and software elements that are available from multiple vendors
- c) Make use of other computer industry communication technology to allow for continuous cost decreases
- d) Meet the requirements of IEEE Std 1073-1996
- e) Be compatible with the current published and draft IEEE/ANSI standard upper layers

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IEEE Standard for Medical Device Communications— Transport Profile—IrDA Based— Cable Connected

1. Overview

This standard is divided into 11 clauses, as follows:

- Clause 1 provides an overview of this standard.
- Clause 2 lists references to other standards that are useful in applying this standard.
- Clause 3 provides definitions and abbreviations.
- Clause 4 provides requirements.
- Clause 5 provides an overview of network topology and layering.
- Clause 6 provides a profile of the physical layer.
- Clause 7 provides a profile of the data link layer.
- Clause 8 provides a profile of the network layer.
- Clause 9 provides a profile of the transport layer.
- Clause 10 describes the optional time synchronization service.
- Clause 11 provides labeling and conformance requirements.

This standard also contains 15 annexes, as follows:

- Annex A describes the physical layer.
- Annex B provides information on the maximum cable length.
- Annex C provides examples of physical link media.
- Annex D provides example schematics for modular adapters.
- Annex E provides a detailed rationale for pin assignments.
- Annex F describes the use of 10BASE-T with this standard.
- Annex G provides a discussion of power delivery considerations.
- Annex H provides examples of simple bedside communications controller (BCC) and device communications controller (DCC) designs.
- Annex I provides an example of an isolated BCC design.
- Annex J provides an optical isolator design example.
- Annex K provides marking guidelines.
- Annex L provides protocol examples, particularly of connection establishment.

- Annex M defines the Infrared Data Association (IrDA) profile specifications adapted from the IrDA implementation guidelines.
- Annex N provides guidelines for using the SNTP time synchronization protocol.
- Annex O provides bibliographical references.

1.1 Scope

The scope of this standard is an IrDA-based, cable-connected local area network (LAN) for the interconnection of computers and medical devices. This standard is suitable for new device designs, but is particularly targeted to modifications of legacy devices.

The term “legacy devices” refers to equipment that is

- Already in use in clinical facilities
- In active production at the facilities of medical device manufacturers, or
- Beyond the initial stages of engineering development

In each of these cases, the degree of effort to add a standardized communications capability might normally be prohibitive, unless special care is taken in developing a suitable standard.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to provide connection-oriented communications services and protocols consistent with IrDA specifications and adapted as appropriate for IEEE 1073 applications.

1.3 Standards compatibility

This standard is one part of the family of IEEE 1073 standards. It is compatible with the upper layer standards (see IEEE P1073.1/D0.13 [B3]¹ and IEEE P1073.2/D0.4 [B4]). It is presented as an alternative to IEEE Std 1073.3.1-1994² and IEEE Std 1073.4.1-1994.

1.4 Audience

The primary users of this standard are technical personnel who are creating or interfacing with a medical device communications system. Familiarity with the IEEE 1073 family of standards is recommended. Familiarity with communications and networking technologies is also recommended.

2. References

This standard shall be used in conjunction with the following publications. When the following standards are superseded by an approved revision, the revision shall apply.

ANSI/TIA/EIA-232-F-1997, Interface Between Terminal Equipment and Data Circuit-Terminating Equipment Employing Serial Binary Data Interchange.³

¹The numbers in brackets correspond to those of the bibliography in Annex O.

²Information on references can be found in Clause 2.

³ANSI publications are available from the Sales Department, American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42nd Street, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036, USA (<http://www.ansi.org/>).

ANSI/TIA/EIA-561-1990, Simple 8 Position Non-Synchronous Interface Between Data Terminal Equipment and Data Circuit-Terminating Equipment Employing Serial Binary Data Interchange.

ANSI/TIA/EIA-562-1989, Electrical Characteristics for an Unbalanced Digital Interface.

ANSI/TIA/EIA-568-A-1995, Commercial Building Telecommunications Cabling Standard.

IEC 60603-7: 1996, Connectors for Frequencies Below 3 MHz for Use with Printed Circuit Boards—Part 7: Detailed specification for connectors, 8-way, including fixed and free connectors with common mating features, with assessed quality.⁴

IEC 60417-1:1998, Graphical Symbols for Use on Equipment—Part 1: Overview and Application.

IEEE Std 802.3, 1998 Edition, IEEE Standard for Information Technology—Telecommunications and information exchange between systems—Local and metropolitan area networks—Specific requirements—Part 3: Carrier sense multiple access with collision detection (CSMA/CD) access method and physical layer specifications.⁵

IEEE Std 1073-1996, IEEE Standard for Medical Device Communications—Transport Profiles—Overview and Framework.

IEEE Std 1073.3.1-1994, IEEE Standard for Medical Device Communications—Transport Profile—Connection Mode.

IEEE Std 1073.4.1-1994, IEEE Standard for Medical Device Communications—Physical Layer Interface—Cable Connected.

IrDA, Link Management Protocol, Version 1.1, Jan. 23, 1996.⁶

IrDA, Serial Infrared Link Access Protocol (IrLAP), Version 1.1, June 16, 1996.

IrDA, Tiny TP: A Flow-Control Mechanism for use with IrLMP, Version 1.1, Oct. 20, 1996.

ISO/IEC 8877:1992(E), Information technology—Telecommunications and information exchange between systems—Interface connector and contact assignments for ISDN Basic Access Interface located at reference points S and T.

RFC-1305, Internet Engineering Task Force, Network Working Group Report, Mar. 1992, “Network Time Protocol Specification, Implementation and Analysis,” Mills, D., University of Delaware.^{7,8}

RFC-2030, Internet Engineering Task Force, Network Working Group Report, Oct. 1996, “Simple Network Time Protocol (SNTP) Version 4 for IPv4, IPv6 and OSI,” Mills, D., University of Delaware.

⁴IEC publications are available from the Sales Department of the International Electrotechnical Commission, Case Postale 131, 3, rue de Varembe, CH-1211, Genève 20, Switzerland/Suisse (<http://www.iec.ch/>). IEC publications are also available in the United States from the Sales Department, American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42nd Street, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036, USA.

⁵IEEE publications are available from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, 445 Hoes Lane, P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331, USA (<http://www.standards.ieee.org/>).

⁶IrDA publications are available at <http://www.irda.org>.

⁷Internet Engineering Task Force publications are available at <http://www.ietf.org/>.

⁸Information on the Network Time Protocol is available at <http://www.eecis.udel.edu/~ntp/>.

3. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following terms and definitions apply. The IEEE Dictionary of Electrical and Electronics Terms should be referenced for terms not defined in this clause.

3.1.1 10BASE-T: IEEE Std 802.3, 1998 Edition, physical layer specification for Ethernet over two pairs of unshielded twisted-pair (UTP) media at 10 Mb/s. (Adapted from [B2])

3.1.2 baud: A unit of signaling speed, expressed as the number of times per second the signal can change the electrical state of the transmission line or other medium.

NOTE—Depending on the encoding strategies, a signal event may represent a single bit, more, or less, than one bit.

3.1.3 bedside communications controller (BCC): A communications controller, typically located at a patient bedside, that serves to interface between one or more medical devices. The BCC may be embedded into local display, monitoring, or control equipment. Alternatively, it may be part of a communications router to a remote hospital host computer system.

3.1.4 beginning of frame (BOF): An octet specified by infrared link access protocol (IrLAP).

3.1.5 category 5 (CAT-5) balanced cable: The designation applied to 100 Ω unshielded twisted-pair (UTP) cables and associated connecting hardware whose transmission characteristics are specified up to 100 MHz. (ANSI/TIA/EIA-568-A-1995)

3.1.6 cyclic redundancy check (CRC): The result of a calculation carried out on the octets within an IrLAP frame; also called a frame check sequence. The CRC is appended to the transmitted frame. At the receiver, the calculation creating the CRC may be repeated, and the result compared to that encoded in the signal. *Syn:* **frame check sequence.** (Adapted from [B2])

3.1.7 device communications controller (DCC): A communications interface associated with a medical device. A DCC may support one or more physically distinct devices acting as a single network communications unit. Its purpose is to provide a point-to-point serial communication link to a BCC.

3.1.8 electromagnetic compatibility (EMC): The ability of a device, equipment, or system to function satisfactorily in its electromagnetic environment without introducing intolerable electromagnetic disturbances to anything in that environment.

3.1.9 electromagnetic interference (EMI): Signals emanating from external sources (e.g., power supplies, transmitters) or internal sources (e.g., adjacent electronic components, energy sources) that disrupt or prevent operation of electronic systems.

3.1.10 electrostatic discharge (ESD): The sudden transfer of charge between bodies of differing electrostatic potentials that may produce voltages or currents that could destroy or damage electrical components. (Adapted from [B2])

3.1.11 frame check sequence: *See:* **cyclic redundancy check.**

3.1.12 high-level data link control (HDLC): A standard protocol defined by ISO for bit-oriented, frame-delimited data communications.

3.1.13 information access service (IAS): A component of infrared link management protocol (IrLMP).

3.1.14 local area network (LAN): A communication network to interconnect a variety of intelligent devices (e.g., personal computers, workstations, printers, file storage devices) that can transmit data over a limited area, typically within a facility.

3.1.15 medical information bus (MIB): The informal name for the IEEE 1073 family of standards.

3.1.16 octet: A group of eight adjacent bits.

3.1.17 primary station: As defined by the infrared link access protocol (IrLAP), the station on the data link that assumes responsibility for the organization of data flow and for unrecoverable data link error conditions. It issues commands to the secondary stations and gives them permission to transmit.

3.1.18 protocol data unit (PDU): Information delivered as a unit between peer entities that contains control information and, optionally, data.

3.1.19 quality of service (QoS): The four negotiated parameters for a link: signaling speed, maximum turn-around time, data size, and disconnect threshold.

3.1.20 radio frequency (RF): (A) (Loosely) The frequency in the portion of the electromagnetic spectrum that is between the audio-frequency portion and the infrared portion. **(B)** A frequency useful for radio transmission.

NOTE—The present practicable limits of radio frequency are roughly 10 kHz to 100 000 MHz. Within this frequency range, electromagnetic radiation may be detected and amplified as an electric current at the wave frequency.

3.1.21 radio frequency interference (RFI): See: **radio interference**.

3.1.22 radio interference: Degradation of the reception of a wanted signal caused by radio frequency (RF) disturbance.

NOTES

1—RF disturbance is an electromagnetic disturbance having components in the RF range.

2—The words “interference” and “disturbance” are often used indiscriminately. The expression “radio frequency interference” is also commonly applied to an RF disturbance or an unwanted signal.

3.1.23 RJ-45: (A) AT&T Registered Jack designation for the eight-pin modular connectors that meet the requirements of IEC 60603-7:1996 and ISO/IEC 8877:1992. **(B)** An eight-pin modular telephone plug.

NOTES

1—Also called a programmable connection, an RJ-45 plug is generally used on four-wire circuits, but can be used on eight-wire circuits.

2—Definition (B) reflects colloquial usage. Standards referencing this term should point to the precise standardized connector specification.

3.1.24 RS-232: The serial interface defined in ANSI/TIA/EIA-232-F-1997.

3.1.25 secondary station: As defined by the infrared link access protocol (IrLAP), any station on the data link that does not assume the role of the primary station. It will initiate transmission only as a result of receiving explicit permission to do so from the primary station.

3.1.26 service access point (SAP): An address that identifies a user of the services of a protocol entity.

3.1.27 service data unit (SDU): Information that is delivered as a unit between peer service access points (SAPs). See: service access point.

3.1.28 set normal response mode (SNRM): A high-level data link control (HDLC) message sent by a bedside communications controller (BCC) to a device communications controller (DCC) when a successful connection to the network has occurred.

3.2 Acronyms and abbreviations

API	application program interface
AWG	American Wire Gage
BCC	bedside communications controller
BOF	beginning of frame
BPWR	bedside communications controller power
CAT-5	category 5
CRC	cyclic redundancy check
CS	connection sense
DCC	device communications controller
DPWR	device communications controller power
DTE	data terminal equipment
DTR	data terminal ready
EMC	electromagnetic compatibility
EMI	electromagnetic interference
EOF	end of frame
ESD	electrostatic discharge
EUI	extended unique identifier
GND	ground
HDLC	high-level data link control
IAS	information access service
IrDA	Infrared Data Association; the set of infrared data communications standards
IrLAP	IrDA link access protocol
IrLMP	IrDA link management protocol
IV	intravenous
LAN	local area network
LED	light-emitting diode
LI	leap indicator
LSAP	link service access point
LSB	least significant bit
MDDL	medical device data language
MIB	medical information bus
MSB	most significant bit
MTU	maximum transfer unit
NTP	network time protocol
PLL	phase-locked loop
PDU	protocol data unit
QoS	quality of service
RAC	IEEE Registration Authority Committee
RD	receive data
RF	radio frequency
RFI	radio frequency interference
RJ	registered jack
RR	receive ready
RTS	request to send
RxD	receive data
SAP	service access point
SAR	segmentation and reassembly

SDLC	synchronous data link control
SDU	service data unit
SNRM	set normal response mode
SNTP	simple network time protocol
TD	transmit data
TinyTP	tiny transport protocol
TTPSAP	TinyTP service access point
TxD	transmit data
UTC	coordinated universal time
UTP	unshielded twisted pair
VN	version number

4. Goals for this standard

The following are the main goals for this standard:

- a) The standard shall allow the use of existing RS-232 port designs to minimize design risk, contain product costs, and simplify field upgrades.
- b) The standard shall specify hardware and software elements that are available from multiple vendors.
- c) The standard should make use of other computer industry communication technology to allow for continuous cost decreases.
- d) The standard should meet the requirements of IEEE Std 1073-1996.
- e) The standard should be compatible with the current published and draft IEEE/ANSI standard upper layers.

5. Architecture

This clause is intended to define IEEE 1073.3.2 network topology and protocol layering.

5.1 Topology

The IEEE 1073.3.2 network defines a star topology, requiring each device to have its own connection directly into the network. On the communications network, two types of communications nodes are allowed:

- a) The BCC is the primary node and functions as the network controller and the hub of the star.
- b) DCCs are secondary nodes and limited in number to the loading capacity of the BCC and/or number of physical port sockets.

The devices connect to the network through the DCC. The BCC can interface directly to a local host computer, as in Figure 1, or to a remote host computer over a network, as in Figure 2. The portion of the BCC performing IEEE 1073.3.2 operations would be the same in both configurations. However, the BCC would also include internet-working functions in the latter case.

Unless otherwise noted, all references to a BCC in this standard refer only to the components performing IEEE 1073.3.2 functions, as indicated in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

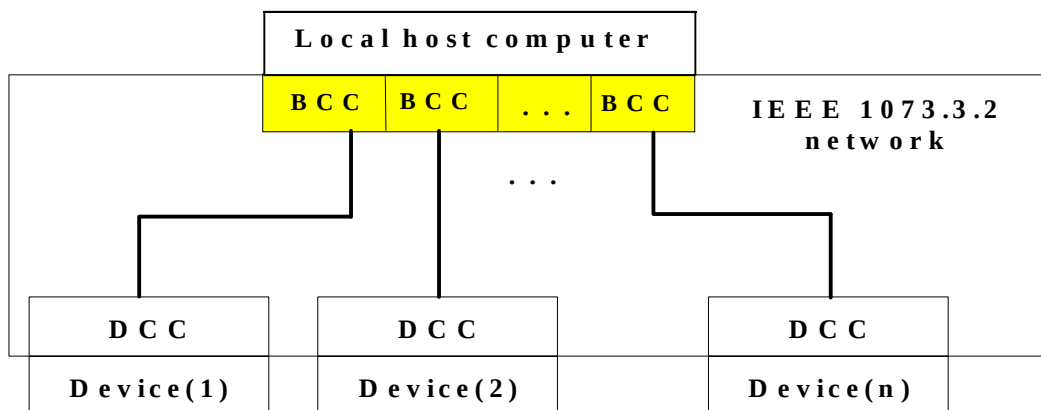


Figure 1—Connection topology with a local host

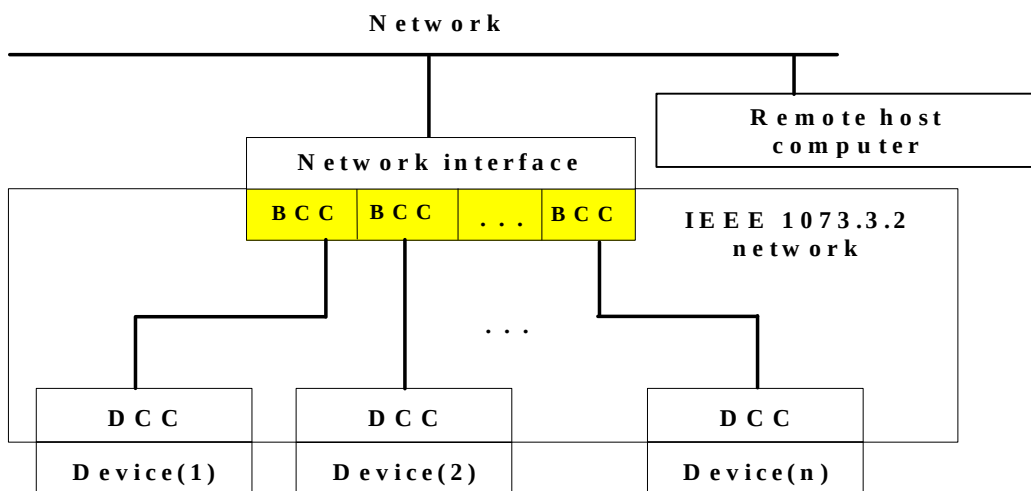


Figure 2—Connection topology with a remote host

The cable-connected network described by this standard consists of individual point-to-point connections between the BCC and each DCC: it is not a multidrop network. Only a single DCC is supported on each physical port connection.

5.2 Layering

Layering is consistent with the IrDA standards, as shown in Figure 3.

Briefly, the components of the stack are as follows.

- a) Physical layer, defining a standard connector and electrical characteristics (see Clause 6)
- b) Infrared link access protocol (IrLAP), providing a device-to-host connection for the reliable, ordered transfer of data, including device discovery procedures (see Clause 7)

- c) Infrared link management protocol (IrLMP), providing multiplexing of the IrLAP layer (see Clause 8)
- d) Tiny transport protocol (TinyTP), providing flow control on IrLMP connections (see Clause 9)
- e) Simple network time protocol (SNTP) service access point (SAP), a SAP for an optional time synchronization service (see Clause 10)
- f) Medical device data languages (MDDL) SAP, as described in other IEEE 1073 standards

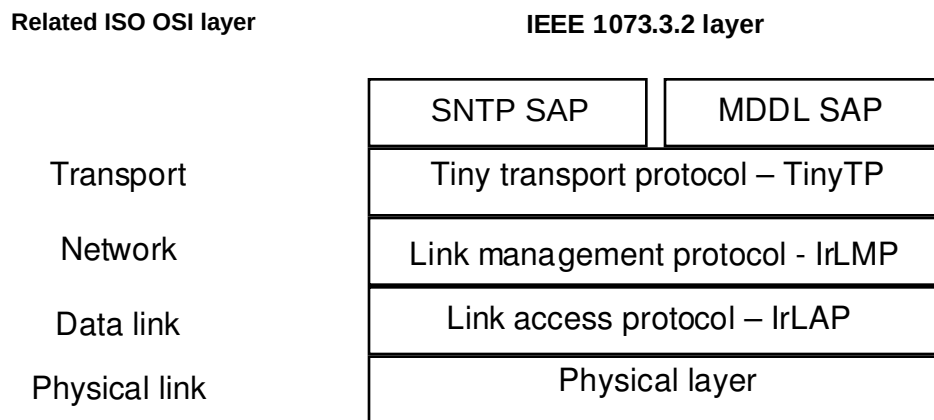


Figure 3—IEEE 1073.3.2 layering

Service primitives are specified for some of the layers. This definition of service does not imply any specific interface implementation. These primitives do not constitute an application program interface (API). Conformance to this standard is judged by performance at the communications port only.

6. Physical layer

The physical layer provides point-to-point connection sensing, data transmission and power delivery between the BCC and DCC using an eight-pin RJ-45 modular connector. The physical layer requirements are defined in Annex A.

Refer to the following additional informative annexes for more information about the physical layer:

- Annex B provides information on the maximum cable length.
- Annex C provides examples of physical link media.
- Annex D provides example schematics for modular adapters.
- Annex E provides a detailed rationale for pin assignments.
- Annex F describes the use of 10BASE-T with this standard.
- Annex G provides a discussion of power delivery considerations.
- Annex H provides examples of simple BCC and DCC designs.
- Annex I provides an example of an isolated BCC design.
- Annex J provides an optical isolator design example.
- Annex K provides marking guidelines.

7. Data link layer

The data link layer is adopted from the IrLAP, which implements ISO/OSI layer 2, the data link layer. It is based on standard asynchronous high-level data link control (HDLC) and synchronous data link control (SDLC) half-duplex protocols.

IrLAP provides the following features:

- a) Dynamic address and address conflict resolution
- b) Error recovery mechanism
- c) Station discovery and identification procedure
- d) Connectionless and connection-oriented services
- e) Negotiation of connection characteristics

This standard follows some of the recommendations of IrDA Lite [B6] for IrLAP. IrLAP capabilities not specified here are out of scope for an IEEE 1073.3.2 interface. Examples of these capabilities are sniffing, connectionless data transfer, test frames, role exchange, and 2400 Bd operation.

IrLAP communication partners act in one of two roles: one primary station and one or more secondary stations. The primary station discovers all available secondary stations and establishes a connection to specific stations. The primary station is always the initiator of data transfer; the secondary station reacts to commands from the primary.

As shown in Figure 4, a BCC performs the functions of a primary station, and a DCC performs the functions of a secondary station. Although IrLAP supports multidrop communications in the infrared medium, this standard defines a single DCC at each cable-connected port on the BCC. Each port on a BCC represents a separate instance of the transport profile stack.

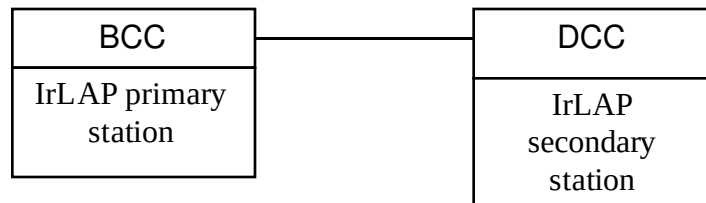


Figure 4—Logical network model

7.1 IrLAP frame

IrLAP defines a physical layer frame wrapper and a data link frame. The physical layer uses the ASYNC frame wrapper. The ASYNC frame wrapper has beginning frame (BOF), ending frame (EOF), and field check sequence fields. This frame encloses the data link frame, shown in Figure 5. IrLAP defines a transparency algorithm that allows the use of the framing characters (BOF and EOF) inside the data frame.

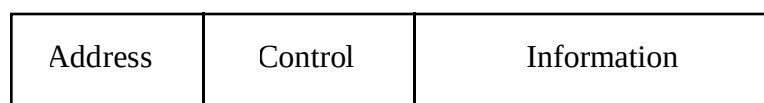


Figure 5—IrLAP frame

7.2 Procedure model

The simplified procedure model in Figure 6 illustrates the different procedures within an IrDA communication.

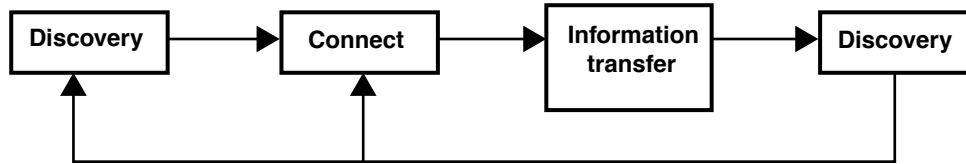


Figure 6— IrDA communication procedure model

7.2.1 Discovery

A primary station (the initiator) performs a discovery procedure to detect all available secondary devices. The secondary device (the responder) responds with address information and minimal device information (service hints and a device nickname). The discovery phase is done with a fixed set of communication parameters (e.g., 9600 Bd).

Discovery begins when the initiator broadcasts a discovery command frame. This command frame specifies the number of time slots for the discovery process—more time slots means more devices can be discovered and reduces the likelihood of collisions between responders during discovery.

Because this standard specifies a cable-connected topology, there is a maximum of one responder at each BCC port. In order to minimize the time spent during discovery, the BCC should provide only a single time slot for this procedure.

7.2.2 Negotiation and connection

The primary station establishes a connection by negotiating the maximum communication capabilities (e.g., signaling speed, data size, window size) supported by both devices. In the case of the BCC, this quality of service (QoS) may be constrained by available system bandwidth and the bandwidth requirements at other ports on the BCC.

After acknowledgement from the secondary station, both stations switch to the new communication parameters.

7.2.3 Information transfer

The primary station periodically polls the secondary station for data or status information. The stations communicate using a reliable data transport service. Stations may also use an unreliable expedited data transport service for time synchronization.

7.2.4 Disconnect

Both stations, primary or secondary, can normally disconnect the connection. In addition, timeout mechanisms on both sides detect a broken or aborted connection. All communication parameters are reset to negotiation values upon disconnect.

7.3 Minimum data link layer requirements

The minimum data link layer services support the capabilities of device discovery, connection, data transfer, and disconnection.

7.3.1 Minimum data link layer services

The status of the data link layer service primitives provided by a BCC or DCC is specified in Table 1 as follows:

M: Mandatory
C: Conditional

Table 1—Data link layer service requirements

Service primitives	Status	
	BCC	DCC
Device discovery		
IrLAP_Discovery.request(gen addr bit)	M	N/A
IrLAP_Discovery.confirm(list of discovery logs)	M	N/A
IrLAP_Discovery.indication(discovery log)	N/A	M
Connection		
IrLAP_Connect.request(target device address, requested QoS, sniff ^a)	M	C ^b
IrLAP_Connect.confirm(connection handle, returned QoS)	M	C ^b
IrLAP_Connect.indication(source device addr, connection handle, returned QoS)	C ^b	M
IrLAP_Connect.response(source device addr, connection handle, requested QoS)	C ^b	M
Data transfer		
IrLAP_Data.request(connection handle, user data, expedited unreliable flag = false)	M	M
IrLAP_Data.indication(connection handle, user data, expedited unreliable flag = false)	M	M
IrLAP_Data.request(connection handle, user data, expedited unreliable flag = true)	C ^c	C ^c
IrLAP_Data.indication(connection handle, user data, expedited unreliable flag = true)	C ^c	C ^c
Disconnection		
IrLAP_Disconnect.request(connection handle)	M	M
IrLAP_Disconnect.indication(connection handle, unacked data)	M	M

^aUse of the sniffing feature is out of the scope of this standard.

^bIndicated connect services are required in a BCC or DCC that supports SNTP.

^cThe expedited unreliable IrLAP_Data services are required for the LM_UData/TTP_UData service in a BCC or DCC that supports SNTP.

7.3.2 Wrapping layer

Asynchronous framing and transparency shall be used, as defined by IrLAP.

7.3.3 Negotiation

At a minimum, the IrLAP negotiation parameters in Table 2 shall be supported.

Table 2—IrLAP minimum negotiation parameters

Signaling speed	9600 Bd
Maximum turnaround time	500 ms
Data size ^a	64 octets
Window size	1 frame window
Additional BOFs	0 BOFs
Link disconnect time	3 s
Link threshold time	0 s

^aThe data size parameter is the maximum number of data octets allowed in any received frame. A data size parameter of 64 octets is required for negotiation. A larger data size may also be required to support the range of transfer protocol data unit (PDU) sizes provided by this profile.

7.3.4 Link disconnect time

IrLAP supports the negotiation of the link disconnect time, i.e., the time a station will wait without receiving valid frames before it disconnects the link. IrLAP stations may support a variety of link disconnect times, ranging from 3 s to 40 s. An IEEE 1073.3.2 station should exclusively support the minimum value for the link disconnect time of 3 s. A longer disconnect timeout might be useful for devices using an infrared medium, but is not necessary for a cable-connected device. The minimum disconnect time is preferred, in order to permit rapid identification of the disconnected state.

7.3.5 Contention state

In the contention state, 11 BOFs shall be used on every frame. The first 10 BOFs shall be FFh. The eleventh BOF shall be C0h.

7.3.6 Signaling speed

A station shall operate at 9600 Bd. A station may operate at other signaling speeds supported by IrLAP that use asynchronous framing: 19 200 Bd, 38 400 Bd, 57 600 Bd, or 115 200 Bd.

7.3.7 Data size

The maximum size of a PDU is negotiated at the time of the connection. The IrLAP “data size” parameter is negotiated independently for each direction of the link; therefore, the primary and secondary stations may support different maximum PDU sizes.

The negotiated signaling speed and turnaround time may constrain the actual data size by limiting the amount of time available to transfer the frame. If the requested data size cannot be supported, the link shall be renegotiated.

7.3.8 Poll interval

When a BCC transmits an information frame, IrLAP permits the turnaround time to be as short as the negotiated minimum turnaround time.

When a BCC has no information frame to transmit, it shall wait for some interval before issuing a “receive ready” poll frame. The polling interval is not specified in IrLAP, but shall be bounded by the negotiated minimum and maximum turnaround times. Maximum turnaround time shall be negotiated as shown in Table 3. IrLAP does not provide a mechanism for negotiating the polling interval, represented by the P-Timer-Expired event in the XMIT state of the primary role state machine.

Many applications of medical information bus (MIB) may expect the DCC to consume the bulk of the available bandwidth at low signaling speeds. If the BCC were to frequently wait for 500 ms to issue a poll frame, a substantial proportion of the potential bandwidth would go unused. If the BCC were to simply issue a poll frame after the minimum turnaround time, it could drive the device to spend an inordinate amount of time servicing an inactive communications link. Therefore, it is reasonable to allow the negotiation of an intermediate polling interval that optimizes bandwidth usage without interfering with device performance.

Table 3—Maximum turnaround time

Signaling speed (Bd)	Timing
9600	Stations are restricted to a fixed maximum turnaround time of 500 ms.
19 200	
38 400	
57 600	
115 200	Stations select a maximum turnaround time during negotiation.

A DCC may advertise the preference to be polled at a shorter interval than 500 ms. The available selections are shown in Table 4. The preferred polling interval is advertised through the information access service (IAS) (see Clause 8).

Table 4—Polling interval selections

0 ms
50 ms
100 ms
250 ms

BCCs shall poll at the maximum turnaround time unless a shorter polling interval is advertised by the DCC. A BCC shall not poll faster than the advertised polling interval. A BCC shall not poll faster than the minimum turnaround time. A polling interval of 0 ms means that the DCC will accept polling as fast as the minimum turnaround time.

NOTE—Selecting a shorter poll interval should not interfere with the maximum turnaround time that determines the time allotted to the DCC to transmit.

8. Network layer

The network link layer is adopted from the IrLMP, which implements ISO/OSI layer 3.

IrLMP consists of the following components:

- a) IAS maintains an information base with information about offered services and device information.
- b) Link management multiplexer provides multiple connections over IrLAP.

This standard follows some of the recommendations of IrDA Lite [B6] for IrLMP. IrLMP capabilities not specified here are out of scope for an IEEE 1073.3.2 interface. Examples of these capabilities are sniffing, connectionless data transfer, and exclusive mode.

8.1 Discovery information

IrLMP as service user for the IrLAP services provides the discovery information shown in Figure 7. This information is a maximum of 23 octets long.



Figure 7—Discovery information field

Service hints are mandatory and contain at least 1 octet. They provide information about the general device class (e.g., computer, printer, modem). More hint octets can be appended to the first one. An IEEE 1073.3.2 BCC or DCC shall assert the reserved service hint bit 12 and the extension bit 7, as shown in Table 5.

Table 5—Service hint bit assignment

Octet 1		Octet 2	
Bit	Function	Bit	Function
0		8	
1		9	
2		10	
3		11	
4		12	IEEE 1073 = 1
5		13	
6		14	
7	Extension = 1	15	

Not all IrDA devices that assert hint bit 12 are assured of supporting this standard. To be certain, the primary station should query the IAS of the secondary station for the IEEE:1073:3:2 object class (described in 8.2.6).

A BCC or DCC shall report a device nickname with the discovery information. The device nickname should be a short, recognizable name for the device. That name shall begin with the acronym “MIB” followed by a space. The format of the device nickname encoding is shown in Figure 8. This encoding shall include a character set code, as described in IrLMP. Examples of device nicknames are shown in Table 6.

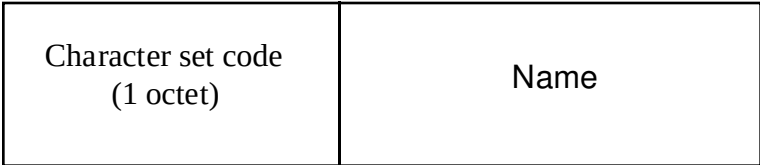


Figure 8—Device nickname format

Table 6—Sample device nicknames

Name	Encoding	Octets	Length
“MIB IV Pump”	ASCII	00 4D 49 42 20 49 56 20 50 75 6D 70	12 octets
“MIB Ventilator”	ASCII	00 4D 49 42 20 56 65 6E 74 69 6C 61 74 6F 72	15 octets
“MIB NIBP”	ASCII	00 4D 49 42 20 4E 49 42 50	9 octets
NOTE—IrLAP restricts the length of the discovery information (device nickname plus service hints) to 23 octets.			

8.2 Information access requirements

The information access requirements support the capabilities of a global identifier number, node type identification, and dynamic access point identification.

8.2.1 IAS

The IAS shall provide the service primitives described in Table 7. The status of an IAS primitives is specified as follows:

- M:Service is mandatory
- R:Service is recommended

Table 7—IAS requirements

IAS primitives	Status
LM_GetValueByClass.request(address, class name, attribute name)	M
LM_GetValueByClass.confirm(list of (object id, attribute value))	M
LM_GetValue.request(address, id, attribute name1, [attribute name2, ...])	R
LM_GetValue.confirm(list of attribute values)	R

8.2.2 Global identifier number

A BCC or DCC should report a global identifier number in the IAS object database, as shown in Table 8. The global identifier number is the 64 b global identifier [64 b extended unique identifier (EUI-64)] parameter for that BCC or DCC. This parameter consists of a 3-octet (24 b) company identifier (company_id) number followed by a 5-octet (40 b) extension identifier. The format, shown in Figure 9, follows the IrLMP conventions for an octet sequence.

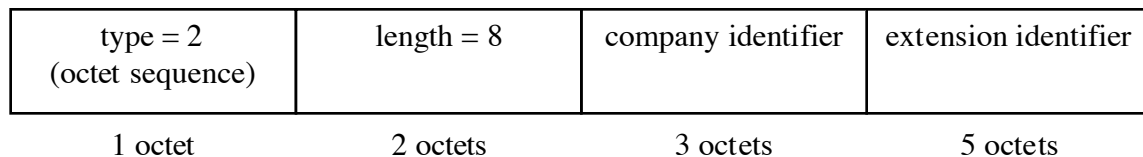


Figure 9—Global identifier format in IAS

The individual company_id number is assigned by the IEEE Registration Authority Committee (RAC) and represents a unique code for a particular manufacturing company or other organization.

The 40 b extension identifier number is assigned by the particular manufacturer or other organization. It is the responsibility of the individual manufacturer to assign a unique (nonduplicate) extension identifier number to each BCC or DCC.

No more than one 64 b global identifier value shall be contained within each component that is manufactured. For legacy devices that use a communications protocol adapter, the global identifier can reside in the adapter.

The use of the EUI-64 global identification number enables unique global identification of IEEE 1073 communication controllers. This identification allows for distinguishing between multiple devices of the same type that are connected to the same patient and facilitates device tracking and maintenance within an institution.

8.2.3 Interface type

A BCC or DCC shall report the type of interface supported (BCC or DCC) using the NodeType attribute as shown in Table 8 and Table 9.

8.2.4 Port identifier number

A BCC or DCC shall report a unique port number value for each port on the device, as described in Table 8 and Table 9.

8.2.5 Service access points

A BCC should specify a service connection endpoint for the SNTP upper layers to an IrDA TinyTP service, as shown in Table 8.

A DCC shall specify a service connection endpoint for the MDDL upper layers to an IrDA TinyTP service, as shown in Table 9.