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SMPTE RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

RP 135-2004

Revision of RP 135-1999

Use of Binary User Groups in Motion-Picture Time and Control Codes



Page 1 of 4 pages

1 Scope

This practice specifies a method of coding data into the binary user groups of time and control codes for motion-picture systems. The type of data recorded is useful in the production of motion pictures.

This practice also specifies a directory system to accommodate the various types of data that may need to be recorded. Whether or not to use a particular type of data (and, if used, the repetition frequency) is left to the discretion of the equipment manufacturer and/or the user.

This practice also specifies the use of a checksum in one of the binary user groups.

2 Normative reference

The following standard contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this practice. At the time of publication, the edition indicated was valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this practice are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the standard indicated below.

SMPTE RP 136-2004, Time and Control Codes for 24, 25 or 30 Frame-Per-Second Motion-Picture Systems

3 Binary group flag bits

When the data format corresponding to this practice is used, the binary group flag bits specified in SMPTE RP 136 shall be set as follows:

Bit 43 of the type C code or bit 67 of the type B code shall be set to a zero. Bit 59 of the type C code or bit 83 of the type B code shall be set to a one.

4 Data structure

4.1 There are 8 binary groups specified in SMPTE RP 136, each consisting of four bits. Unless otherwise specified, when a group of these bits is used to represent a number of characters, the bit with the lowest number specified in SMPTE RP 136 shall be the least significant bit, and the unit with the highest number shall be the most significant bit.

4.2 The first binary group shall be used as a data identification index, identifying the data in the second through seventh binary groups as specified below, and as shown in table 1. There are 16 possible index values, numbered 0 through 15. Each frame of time and control code may thus contain only one type of data, depending on the value of the data identification index. A sequence or more than one frame may be required, therefore, to record all the required data. However, the choice of which data types to use (and their repetition frequency) is left to the discretion of the user and/or manufacturer.