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Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB); Guidelines on implementation and usage of Service Information (SI)

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ETSI

650 Route des Lucioles
F-06921 Sophia Antipolis Cedex - FRANCE

Tel.: +33 4 92 94 42 00 Fax: +33 4 93 65 47 16

Siret N° 348 623 562 00017 - NAF 742 C
Association à but non lucratif enregistrée à la
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Foreword

This Technical Report (TR) has been produced by Joint Technical Committee (JTC) Broadcast of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Comité Européen de Normalisation ELECtrotechnique (CENELEC) and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

The present document is based on the DVB document TM1324, rev. 8/162 rev. 22, and it may be converted into a standard after market feedback. For this purpose, the wording of a standard (normative elements) rather than of a technical report (informative elements) has been used.

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.

European Broadcasting Union
CH-1218 GRAND SACONNEX (Geneva)
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 717 21 11
Fax: +41 22 717 24 81

Founded in September 1993, the DVB Project is a market-led consortium of public and private sector organizations in the television industry. Its aim is to establish the framework for the introduction of MPEG-2 based digital television services. Now comprising over 200 organizations from more than 25 countries around the world, DVB fosters market-led systems, which meet the real needs, and economic circumstances, of the consumer electronics and the broadcast industry.

1 Scope

The present document provides implementation guidelines for the use and implementation of the DVB Service Information (SI) coding in a DVB digital TV environment including satellite - cable - and terrestrial networks.

The guidelines are intended to be highly recommended rules for the usage of the DVB SI syntax specified in EN 300 468 [i.1]. As such, they facilitate the efficient and reliable implementation of basic user-interaction functions in Integrated Receiver-Decoders (IRD).

The rules apply to broadcasters, network operators as well as manufacturers.

The rules are specified in the form of constraints on the DVB SI streams or in terms of intended interpretation by IRDs.

The specification of these functions in no way prohibits IRD manufacturers from including additional features, and should not be interpreted as stipulating any form of upper limit to the performance.
The guidelines do not cover features related to user-interface details or advanced Electronic Program Guides (EPG). Such issues are left to the marketplace.

NOTE: It is highly recommended that the IRD should be designed to allow for future compatible extensions to the DVB SI syntax. All the fields "reserved" (for ISO), "reserved_future_use" (for ETSI), and "user defined" in the EN 300 468 [i.1] should be ignored by IRDs designed not to make use of them. The "reserved" and "reserved_future_use" fields may be specified in the future by the respective bodies, whereas the "user defined" fields will not be standardized.

The present document uses the terminology defined in EN 300 468 [i.1] and should be read in conjunction with that EN.

It is envisaged that the present document become a Technical Specification (TS), and therefore the text used throughout the present document is that of a TS.

2 References

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2.1 Normative references

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Not applicable.