



BSI Standards Publication

# Digital audio interface

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Part 1: General

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN IEC 60958-1:2021. It is identical to IEC 60958-1:2021. It supersedes BS EN 60958-1:2008+A1:2014, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee EPL/100, Audio-visual equipment.

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Published by BSI Standards Limited 2022

ISBN 978 0 539 00407 6

ICS 33.160.01

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This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 30 April 2022.

**Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication**

Date

Text affected

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN IEC 60958-1**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

October 2021

ICS 33.160.01

Supersedes EN 60958-1:2008 and all of its amendments  
and corrigenda (if any)

English Version

**Digital audio interface - Part 1: General  
(IEC 60958-1:2021)**Interface audionumérique - Partie 1: Généralités  
(IEC 60958-1:2021)Digitalton-Schnittstelle - Teil 1: Allgemeines  
(IEC 60958-1:2021)

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## European foreword

The text of document 100/3544/CDV, future edition 4 of IEC 60958-1, prepared by IEC/TC 100 “Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment” was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 60958-1:2021.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2022-07-06
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IEC 60793-2 NOTE Harmonized as EN IEC 60793-2

IEC 60794-2 NOTE Harmonized as EN 60794-2

IEC 60874-1 (series) NOTE Harmonized as EN 60874-1 (series)

IEC 61883-6:2014 NOTE Harmonized as EN 61883-6:2014 (not modified)

IEC 62105:1999 NOTE Harmonized as EN 62105:2002 (not modified)



# IEC 60958-1

Edition 4.0 2021-09

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Digital audio interface –  
Part 1: General**





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# IEC 60958-1

Edition 4.0 2021-09

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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## Digital audio interface – Part 1: General

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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ICS 33.160.01

ISBN 978-2-8322-1017-0

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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**DIGITAL AUDIO INTERFACE –****Part 1: General****FOREWORD**

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IEC 60958-1 has been prepared by technical area 20: Analogue and digital audio, of IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2008, and Amendment 1:2014. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) The relevant part of IEC 60958-5 is supported.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

| Draft        | Report on voting |
|--------------|------------------|
| 100/3544/CDV | 100/3593/RVC     |

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

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

A list of all parts of the IEC 60958 series, under the general title *Digital audio interface*, can be found on the IEC website.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

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

# DIGITAL AUDIO INTERFACE –

## Part 1: General

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60958 describes a serial, uni-directional, self-clocking interface for the interconnection of digital audio equipment for consumer and professional applications.

It provides the basic structure of the interface. Separate documents define items specific to particular applications.

The interface is primarily intended to carry monophonic or stereophonic programmes, encoded using linear PCM and with a resolution of up to 24 bits per sample.

When used for other purposes, the interface is able to carry audio data coded other than as linear PCM coded audio samples. Provision is also made to allow the interface to carry data related to computer software, multimedia technologies, or signals coded using non-linear PCM. The format specification for these applications is not part of this document.

The interface is intended for operation at audio sampling frequencies of 32 kHz and above. Auxiliary information is transmitted along with the programme.

### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60268-11:1987, *Sound system equipment – Part 11: Application of connectors for the interconnection of sound system components*

IEC 60958-3, *Digital audio interface – Part 3: Consumer applications*

IEC 60958-4 (all parts), *Digital audio interface – Part 4: Professional applications*

IEC 60958-5, *Digital audio interface – Part 5: Consumer application enhancement*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

#### 3.1

##### **sampling frequency**

frequency of the samples representing an audio signal