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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Digital audio interface –
Part 1: General

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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. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- 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- withdrawn,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