

Data-Over-Cable Service Interface Specifications DOCSIS 1.1

Radio Frequency Interface Specification

CM-SP-RFiv1.1-C01-050907

**CLOSED
SPECIFICATION**

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Document Status Sheet

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|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Document Control Number: | CM-SP-RFiv1.1-C01-050907 | | | |
| Reference: | Radio Frequency Interface Specification | | | |
| Revision History: | I01 — First Issued Release, March 11, 1999 I02 — Second Issued Release, July 31, 1999 I03 — Third Issued Release, November 5, 1999 I04 — Fourth Issued Release, April 7, 2000 I05 — Fifth Issued Release, July 14, 2000 I06 — Sixth Issued Release, December 15, 2000 I07 — Seventh Issued Release, August 29, 2001 I08 — Eighth Issued Release, March 1, 2002 I09 — Ninth Issued Release, August 30, 2002 I10 — Tenth Issued Release, July 30, 2003 C01— Closed this specification on September 7, 2005 | | | |
| Date: | September 7, 2005 | | | |
| Status Code: | Work in Process | Draft | Issued | Closed |
| Distribution Restrictions: | CableLabs-only | GL Reviewers | GL Vendor | Public |

Key to Document Status Codes

Work in Process An incomplete document, designed to guide discussion and generate feedback, that may include several alternative requirements for consideration.

Draft A document in specification format considered largely complete, but lacking review by cable industry and vendors. Drafts are susceptible to substantial change during the review process.

Issued A stable document, which has undergone rigorous member and vendor review and is suitable for product design and development, cross-vendor interoperability, and for certification testing.

Closed A static document, reviewed, tested, validated, and closed to further engineering change requests to the specification through CableLabs.

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5 Downstream Transmission Convergence Sublayer

5.1 Introduction

This section applies to the first technology option referred to in Section 1.1(Scope). For the second option, refer to Appendix N.

In order to improve demodulation robustness, facilitate common receiving hardware for both video and data, and provide an opportunity for the possible future multiplexing of video and data over the PMD sublayer bitstream defined in Section 4, a sublayer is interposed between the downstream PMD sublayer and the Data-Over-Cable MAC sublayer.

The downstream bitstream is defined as a continuous series of 188-byte MPEG [ITU-T H.222.0] packets. These packets consist of a 4-byte header followed by 184 bytes of payload. The header identifies the payload as belonging to the Data-Over-Cable MAC. Other values of the header may indicate other payloads. The mixture of MAC payloads and those of other services is optional and is controlled by the CMTS.

Figure 5-1 illustrates the interleaving of Data-Over-Cable (DOC) MAC bytes with other digital information (digital video in the example shown).

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| header=DOC | DOC MAC payload |
| header=video | digital video payload |
| header=video | digital video payload |
| header=DOC | DOC MAC payload |
| header=video | digital video payload |
| header=DOC | DOC MAC payload |
| header=video | digital video payload |
| header=video | digital video payload |
| header=video | digital video payload |

Figure 5-1. Example of Interleaving MPEG Packets in Downstream

5.2 MPEG Packet Format

The format of an MPEG Packet carrying DOCSIS data is shown in Figure 5-2. The packet consists of a 4-byte MPEG Header, a pointer_field (not present in all packets) and the DOCSIS Payload.