INDUSTRY GUIDELINE
G642:2016

Installation of Broadcast Cabling and connection of Digital Broadcast Equipment to a Telecommunications Network
Industry Guideline – Installation of Broadcast Cabling and connection of Digital Broadcast Equipment to a Telecommunications Network

This Guideline was issued in draft form for public comment as DR G642:2015.

First published as G642:2010

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FOREWORD

General

This Guideline was prepared by the Communications Alliance WC18: Digital Broadcast Interface Working Committee and most recently revised by the WC73: Broadcast Cabling and Digital Equipment Working Committee.

Under Schedule 1 of the Telecommunications (Types of Cabling Work) Declaration 2013 (‘the Cabling Work Declaration’), Broadcast Cabling Providers performing cabling work are exempt from the requirements of the Telecommunications Cabling Provider Rules 2014 (‘the Cabling Provider Rules’) provided they install a Broadcaster Line Isolation Unit (LIU) as the interface to the Telecommunications Network of a C/CSP. The Broadcaster LIU must comply with the applicable technical standards in the Telecommunications Labelling Notice (ACA TS 024-1997 [9] and AS/NZS 60950.1 [7]).

2010 edition

With the introduction of digital video and audio broadcasting, the development of new Standards was considered. However, a review carried out by the Communications Alliance CECRP/WG29 Working Group concluded that new Standards were not required and that a Guideline would be a sufficient way to manage the installation of Broadcast Cabling and connection of Digital Broadcast Equipment to a Telecommunications Network.

In coming to this conclusion the Working Group considered the following issues:

(a) Current industry practices generally take into account digital broadcast interface requirements (such as the necessary minimum mandatory requirements for audio/video interfaces e.g., impedance balance, plugs and sockets) in contracts between the C/CSPs and the Broadcasters/Broadcast Service Providers where network termination equipment is supplied by the C/CSP to suit the particular CE.

(b) The use of LIUs and the location and access to Broadcast Equipment (for example whether the equipment is in secure locations or in locations with public access).

(c) The types of Broadcasters and Broadcast Service Providers and the competence of the Broadcast Cabling Providers.

(d) Safety and integrity of C/CSP Telecommunications Networks.

(e) The different needs pertaining to permanent services compared to itinerant services.

(f) Network interface voltage levels for digital broadcast interfaces.

(g) Arrangements, including service agreements, between a Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider and a C/CSP.

It was concluded that the introduction of a new mandatory Standard for Digital Broadcast Equipment would not be appropriate. A Guideline to address all network integrity and safety concerns relating to the connection of Digital Broadcast Equipment and associated cabling was considered sufficient.
2015 revision

The G642:2010 *Installation of Broadcast Cabling and connection of Digital Broadcast Equipment to a Telecommunications Network* Industry Guideline was revised following a five-year scheduled review to bring it into alignment with current industry developments including updating the digital broadcast interfaces and referenced Standards for digital broadcast equipment (e.g. UHDTV) and the acronyms and definitions used in the Guideline.

Older Standards for digital broadcast interfaces have been retained in the Guideline while the industry continues its transition to the newer technologies. It is expected that the older references will be removed at the time of the next scheduled review of the Guideline.

This Guideline complements and is based on Free TV Australia Engineering Guideline 08 [54].

This Guideline is the result of a consensus among representatives on the Communications Alliance Working Committee to produce it as an Industry Guideline.

**Guideline revision**

Industry Guidelines developed by Communications Alliance are updated according to the needs of the industry, by amendments or revision. Users of these Guidelines should make sure that they possess the latest amendments or editions. Representations concerning the need for a change to this Guideline should be addressed to:

The Project Manager  
Customer Equipment and Cable Reference Panel  
Communications Alliance  
PO Box 444  
Milsons Point NSW 1565

**Regulatory notice**

Attention is drawn to the fact that the installation and repair of Customer Cabling (CC) is subject to the Cabling Provider Rules which require CC work to be performed or supervised by a person with the appropriate cabling provider registration and to be installed in accordance with AS/CA S009 [8]. This requirement is determined by legislation and subordinate regulatory instruments administered by the ACMA.

Where this Guideline is called up in Schedule 1 of the Cabling Work Declaration, this will have the effect of exempting from the Cabling Provider Rules all Broadcast Cabling work performed in accordance with this Guideline. Where Broadcast Cabling work is not performed in accordance with this Guideline, then all requirements of the Cabling Provider Rules must be met. Inclusion of this Guideline in the Cabling Work Declaration recognises that this Guideline outlines appropriate safety standards and installation practices and provides a sufficient mechanism to ensure that installation is performed in accordance with industry best practice.

The ACMA is a Commonwealth Statutory Authority with powers under the Act to impose requirements on cabling providers concerning customer cabling.
Details on cabling regulations can be obtained from the ACMA website at http://www.acma.gov.au or by contacting ACMA below at:

Australian Communications and Media Authority
PO Box 13112
Law Courts
Melbourne VIC 8010
Australia

Telephone: +61 3 9963 6800
Facsimile: +61 3 9963 6899
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1 GENERAL

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This Guideline provides guidance for installation of Broadcast Cabling and digital broadcast interfaces used with Digital Broadcast Equipment intended for connection to a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network.

1.1.2 The requirements in this Guideline seek to provide recommendations which are consistent with the aims of the Telecommunications Act 1997. Specifically these aims are to:

(a) protect the integrity of a Telecommunications Network; and
(b) protect the health and safety of persons.

1.1.3 This Guideline is not device specific.

1.2 Referenced by the ACMA

1.2.1 Where this Guideline is referenced by the ACMA in the Cabling Work Declaration, this will have the effect of exempting from the Cabling Provider Rules all Broadcast Cabling work performed in accordance with this Guideline. The Cabling Provider Rules reference the Cabling Work Declaration to determine whether any cabling work which is not of a kind mentioned in Schedule 1 of the Declaration is a type of cabling for the purposes of Division 9 of Part 21 of the Telecommunications Act 1997.

1.3 Referenced by C/CSPs

1.3.1 Any service agreement for digital broadcast carriage services between a C/CSP and a Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider should reference this Guideline.

1.4 Scope and objectives

1.4.1 This Guideline describes the requirements in relation to the connection between:

(a) a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network at the Network Boundary; and

(b) Digital Broadcast Equipment or Broadcast Cabling.

1.4.2 In respect of Digital Broadcast Equipment, a requirement for connection to a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network is that either the Digital Broadcast Equipment:

(a) complies with this Guideline under Section 3; or

(b) it has digital broadcast interfaces other than those listed in this Guideline under Section 3 for which the C/CSP has provided written consent to the concerned
Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider to connect to its Telecommunications Network.

1.4.3 In respect of Broadcast Cabling, a requirement for connection to a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network is that the Broadcast Cabling is connected via the input or output digital broadcast interfaces of the Digital Broadcast Equipment and that either the Digital Broadcast Equipment:

(a) complies with this Guideline under Section 3; or

(b) it has digital broadcast interfaces other than those listed in this Guideline under Section 3 for which the C/CSP has provided written consent to the concerned Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider to connect to its Telecommunications Network.

1.4.4 This Guideline does not provide guidance for general purpose CE, for example, telephones, facsimile machines or modems.
2 ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

2.1 Acronyms

For the purposes of this Guideline:

ACA
means Australian Communications Authority

ACMA
means Australian Communications and Media Authority

AES
means Audio Engineering Society

CE
means Customer Equipment

CC
means Customer Cabling

C/CSP
means Carrier/Carriage Service Provider

ETSI
means European Telecommunications Standards Institute

IP
means Internet Protocol

IEC
means International Electrotechnical Commission

IRE
means Institute of Radio Engineers

ITU-R
means International Telecommunications Union – Radiocommunications

ITU-T
means International Telecommunications Union – Telecommunications

LIU
means Line Isolation Unit
2.2 Definitions

For the purposes of this Guideline:

**Broadcast Cabling**

means CC used in producing or supplying a broadcast service, including data and video cabling for carriage of digital audio/visual bitstreams.

**Broadcast Cabling Provider**

means a person who performs Broadcast Cabling work.

**Broadcast Equipment**

means CE used principally as specialist facilities by a Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider for data, IP and audio/video cabling for carriage of audio/visual content as found in Clause 3.4.4.

**Broadcaster**

means:

(a) the Australian Broadcasting Corporation; or
(b) the Special Broadcasting Service Corporation;
(c) Broadcast Australia; or
(d) a person holding a licence under;
   (i) the Broadcasting Services Act 1992; or
   (ii) Parts 4, 6, 6A, 7 or 8B, or Schedule 6, of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992.

(e) a person providing a broadcasting service under a class licence determined by the ACMA under Part 8 of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992.

**Broadcast Service Provider**

means a person who provides a third party service for the carriage of digital audio/visual content as bitstreams to the broadcast and other audio visual industry sectors and in the course of providing this service, provides Broadcast Cabling to connect Digital Broadcast Equipment to a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network.
Cabling work

has the meaning given by s418 of the Telecommunications Act 1997 as a reference to:

(a) the installation of CC for connection to a Telecommunications Network;
(b) the connection of CC to a Telecommunications Network; or
(c) the maintenance of CC connected to a Telecommunications Network or to a facility.

[Telecommunications Act 1997]

Carrier

means the holder of a Carrier licence.

[Telecommunications Act 1997]

Carriage Service Provider

means a person who supplies, or proposes to supply, a listed carriage service to the public using:

(a) a network unit owned by one or more Carriers; or
(b) a network unit in relation to which a nominated Carrier declaration is in force.

[Telecommunications Act 1997]

Customer Cabling

means a line that is used, installed ready for use or intended for use on the customer side of the boundary of a Telecommunications Network.

[Telecommunications Act 1997]

Customer Equipment

means:

(a) any equipment, apparatus, tower, mast, antenna or other structure or thing that is used, installed ready for use or intended for use on the customer side of the boundary of a Telecommunications Network; or
(b) any system (whether software-based or otherwise) that is used, installed ready for use or intended for use on the customer side of the boundary of a Telecommunications Network;

but not including a line.

[Telecommunications Act 1997]
**Digital Broadcast Equipment**

means Broadcast Equipment with one or more digital broadcast interfaces.

**Network Boundary**

means a point which is the boundary of a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network for determining whether cabling or equipment is CC or CE for the purpose of technical regulation under Part 21 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

Note: In the context of this Guideline, the Network Boundary will usually be an agreed point between the C/CSP and the Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider.

**Telecommunications Network**

a system, or series of systems that is operated by a C/CSP and which carries, or is capable of carrying, communications by means of guided and/or unguided electromagnetic energy.

[Telecommunications Act 1997]

**Types of Cabling Work**

has the meaning given by s419 (1) of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the Cabling Work Declaration made pursuant to that subsection.
3 REQUIREMENTS

3.1 General

3.1.1 The requirements of this Section apply to digital broadcast interfaces used with Digital Broadcast Equipment to connect to a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network unless the C/CSP has provided written consent to the concerned Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider to connect digital broadcast interfaces other than those listed in this Section to its Telecommunications Network.

3.1.2 Figure 1 shows the connection of Digital Broadcast Equipment, scoped by this Guideline, to a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network.

![Figure 1: Connection of Digital Broadcast Equipment to a C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network](image)

3.2 Health and safety issues associated with Digital Broadcast Equipment

3.2.1 The ACMA adopts AS/NZS 60950.1 [7] as amended from time to time as an appropriate safety Standard for CE and CC. This ensures that requirements under s376 of the Telecommunications Act 1997 are met, especially with regard to the health and safety of persons who operate, work on, use services supplied by means of, or are otherwise reasonably likely to be affected by the operation of the Telecommunications Network.

3.2.2 Digital Broadcast Equipment must comply with an applicable safety standard for its particular design and application. If there is...
any doubt then AS/NZS 60950.1 [7] (as amended from time to time) should be used as the applicable safety Standard.

### 3.3 Health and safety issues associated with CC/Broadcast Cabling

3.3.1 Installation and connection of all CC/Broadcast Cabling, including optical fibre and coaxial systems, must comply with appropriate safety Standards and installation practices. The applicable Standards/practices for CC/Broadcast Cabling installations are:

(a) AS/CA S009 [8], equivalent Industry installation practices, or in accordance with industry Occupational Health and Safety policy;

(b) AS/NZS IEC 60825 [1][2] and AS/NZS 2211 [3][4][5]; and

(c) Specific broadcast industry connector standards and cabling specifications and standards applicable to each broadcast interface as listed under Clause 3.4.4.

3.3.2 For guidance on the health and safety requirements of electrical installations that may form a part of a broadcast cabling installation, refer to AS/NZS 3000 [6], where applicable.

### 3.4 Digital Broadcast Interfaces on Digital Broadcast Equipment


3.4.2 As Standards and new technologies can evolve rapidly in the broadcasting environment, the set of video and audio formats expected to be delivered via the C/CSP’s Telecommunication Networks into the Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider’s network environment is also rapidly evolving.

3.4.3 Service agreements for digital broadcast carriage services between the C/CSP and the Broadcaster/Broadcast Service Provider must identify the types of digital broadcast interfaces required at the Network Boundary of the C/CSP’s Telecommunications Network. This may extend to the connection point as specified by the C/CSP.

3.4.4 The Standards for digital broadcast interfaces on Digital Broadcast Equipment which apply to this Guideline are one or more of the following:
(a)  Codecs

(i)  ISO/IEC 13818 / ITU-T H.262 Information technology – Generic coding of moving pictures and associated audio information [10][18]


(iii)  ISO/IEC 14496-10 / ITU-T H264 Information technology – Coding of audio-visual objects – Part 10: Advanced Video Coding [12][19]

(iv)  ISO/IEC 15444 / ITU-T T.800 Information technology – JPEG 2000 image coding system: Core coding system + Corrigenda 1 to 4 [13][21]


(vi)  WebM Project VP9 Video Codec [53]

(b)  Interfaces

(i)  AES-3id-2001 (r2006)  AES information document for Digital audio engineering – Transmission of AES3 formatted data by unbalanced coaxial cable (Revision of AES-3id-1995) [52]

(ii)  ETSI EN 50083-9 Cabled distribution systems for television, sound and interactive multimedia signals; Part 9: Interfaces for CATV/SMATV headends and similar professional equipment for DVB/MPEG-2 transport streams (DVB Blue Book A010), Annex B, Asynchronous Serial Interface [22]

(iii)  ETSI EN 300 797 Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB); Distribution interfaces; Service Transport Interface (STI) [23]

(iv)  ETSI ETS 300 799 Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB); Distribution interfaces; Ensemble Transport Interface (ETI) [24]

(v)  ETSI TS 101 860 Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB); Distribution Interfaces; Service Transport Interface (STI); STI levels [25]

(vi)  ETSI TR 101 891 V1.1.1 (2001-02) Guidelines for the implementation and usage of the DVB Asynchronous Serial Interface (ASI) [26]

(vii)  ITU-R BT.656 Interface for digital component video signals in 525-line and 625-line television systems
operating at the 4:2:2 level of Recommendation ITU-R BT.601 [15]

(viii) ITU-R BT.1120 Digital interfaces for HDTV studio signals [16]

(ix) ITU-R BT.2077 Real-time serial digital interfaces for UHDTV signals [17]

(x) SMPTE 259M–2008 SDTV Digital Signal/Data – Serial Digital Interface [31]


(xii) SMPTE 292M–2008 1.5 Gb/s Signal / Data Serial Interface [33]

(xiii) SMPTE 297M–2006 Serial Digital Fibre Transmission System for SMPTE 259M, SMPTE 344M, SMPTE 292 and SMPTE 424M Signals [34]

(xiv) SMPTE 372M–2009 Dual Link 1.5 Gb/s Digital Interface for 1920 x 1080 and 2048 x 1080 Picture Formats [35]

(xv) SMPTE 424M–2006 3 Gb/s Signal/Data Serial Interface [36]

(xvi) SMPTE 435-1-2009 10 Gb/s Serial Signal/Data Interface – Part 1: Basic Stream Distribution [37]

(xvii) SMPTE 435-2-2009 10 Gb/s Serial Signal/Data Interface – Part 2: 10.692 Gb/s Stream – Basic Stream Data Mapping [38]


(xix) SMPTE ST 2022-1:2007 Forward Error Correction for Real-Time Video/Audio Transport Over IP Networks [40]

(xx) SMPTE ST 2022-2:2007 Unidirectional Transport of Constant Bit Rate MPEG-2 Transport Streams on IP Networks [41]

(xxii) SMPTE ST 2022-3:2010 Unidirectional Transport of Variable Bit Rate MPEG-2 Transport Streams on IP Networks [42]

(xxii) SMPTE ST 2022-4:2011 Unidirectional Transport of Non-Piecewise Constant Variable Bit Rate MPEG-2 Streams on IP Networks [43]
(xxiii) SMPTE ST 2022-5:2013 Forward Error Correction for Transport of High Bit Rate Media Signals over IP Networks (HBRMT) [44]

(xxiv) SMPTE ST 2022-6 Transport of High Bit Rate Media Signals over IP Networks (HBRMT) [45]

(xxv) SMPTE ST 2022-7:2013 Seamless Protection Switching of SMPTE ST 2022 IP Datagrams [46]


(xxvii) SMPTE 2081-1 6 Gb/s Signal/Data Serial Interface — Electrical [48]


(xxix) SMPTE 2082-1 12 Gb/s Signal/Data Serial Interface — Electrical [50]

(xxx) SMPTE 2082-10 2160-line Source Image and Ancillary Data Mapping for 12G-SDI [51]

(c) Internet Protocols

(i) IEEE Std 802.3-2015 IEEE Approved Draft Standard for Ethernet (Revision of IEEE Std 802.3-2008) [28]

(ii) ETSI TS 102 693 Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB); Encapsulation of DAB Interfaces (EDI) [27]


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**IEEE**

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**Other international Standards**

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<td>Free TV Australia Engineering Guideline 08</td>
<td>Broadcaster Network Digital Boundary Interface</td>
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### PARTICIPANTS

The Working Committee that developed this Guideline consisted of the following organisations:

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<td>Sydney Teleport Services</td>
<td>Voting</td>
<td>Justin Burns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telstra</td>
<td>Voting</td>
<td>Peter Jones</td>
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This Working Committee was chaired by Roger Bunch, Free TV Australia. Mike Johns of Communications Alliance provided project management support.
Communications Alliance was formed in 2006 to provide a unified voice for the Australian communications industry and to lead it into the next generation of converging networks, technologies and services.

In pursuing its goals, Communications Alliance offers a forum for the industry to make coherent and constructive contributions to policy development and debate.

Communications Alliance seeks to facilitate open, effective and ethical competition between service providers while ensuring efficient, safe operation of networks, the provision of innovative services and the enhancement of consumer outcomes.

It is committed to the achievement of the policy objective of the Telecommunications Act 1997 - the greatest practicable use of industry self-regulation without imposing undue financial and administrative burdens on industry.
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