

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**Radio data system (RDS) – VHF/FM sound broadcasting in the frequency range
from 64,0 MHz to 108,0 MHz –
Part 2: Message format: Coding and definitions of RDS features**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
INTRODUCTION.....	7
1 Scope.....	8
2 Normative references	8
3 Terms, definitions, abbreviated terms and conventions.....	8
3.1 Terms and definitions.....	8
3.2 Abbreviated terms.....	8
3.3 Notation and conventions.....	10
4 Message format.....	10
4.1 Design principles	10
4.2 Group structure.....	11
4.2.1 Group type A structure.....	11
4.2.2 Group type B structure.....	12
4.2.3 Group type C structure	12
4.3 Group type A and B usage	14
4.4 Group type C usage	15
4.4.1 Transmitting legacy data using data-streams 1, 2 and 3.....	15
4.4.2 Transmitting group type C ODA data.....	15
4.4.3 AID and channel number assignment for group type C ODAs.....	16
5 Description of the RDS features.....	17
5.1 Alternative Frequencies list (AFs).....	17
5.2 Clock Time and date (CT)	17
5.3 Dynamic PTY Indicator (PTYI) using DI.....	17
5.4 Extended Country Code (ECC)	17
5.5 Enhanced Other Networks information (EON)	17
5.6 Linkage information	18
5.7 Open Data Applications (ODAs).....	18
5.8 Programme Identification (PI).....	18
5.9 Programme Service name – (PS).....	19
5.10 Long Programme Service name – (LPS)	19
5.11 Programme Type (PTY)	19
5.12 Programme Type Name (PTYN).....	19
5.13 RadioText (RT)	20
5.14 enhanced RadioText (eRT)	20
5.15 RadioText Plus (RT+ and eRT+)	20
5.16 Traffic Programme identification (TP).....	20
5.17 Traffic Announcement identification (TA).....	20
5.18 Traffic Message Channel (TMC).....	21
6 Coding of the group types.....	21
6.1 Groups of type 0A and 0B: Basic tuning and switching information with PS name	21
6.2 Group type 1A: Slow labelling codes	22
6.3 Group type 2A and 2B: RadioText.....	23
6.4 Group type 3A: Application identification for any specific ODA using groups of type A or B.....	24
6.5 Group type 4A: Clock-Time and date.....	24
6.6 Group type 10A: Programme Type Name PTYN	25

6.7	Group type 14A and B: Enhanced Other Networks information (EON)	26
6.8	Group type 15A: Long Programme Service name – 32 bytes with UTF-8 coding	26
6.9	Group type 15B: Fast basic tuning and switching information	27
7	Coding of RDS features for control	28
7.1	Programme Identification (PI) codes and Extended Country Codes (ECC)	28
7.1.1	PI structure	28
7.1.2	Country Identifier (CI) codes: ‘Nibble 1’	28
7.1.3	Extended Country Codes (ECC)	28
7.1.4	Programme service in terms of area coverage (codes for fixed location transmitters only): ‘Nibble 2’	29
7.1.5	Programme reference number: ‘Nibbles 3 and 4’	29
7.1.6	PI codes for low-power short range transmitting devices	29
7.2	Programme Type (PTY) codes	30
7.3	Traffic Programme (TP) and Traffic Announcement (TA) codes	30
7.4	Decoder Identification (DI) and dynamic PTY Indicator (PTYI) codes	30
7.5	Coding of Alternative Frequencies (AFs)	30
7.5.1	AF code tables	30
7.5.2	Use of Alternative Frequencies in group type 0A	32
7.5.3	Use of AF codes in group type 14A	34
7.6	Coding of Enhanced Other Networks information (EON)	35
7.6.1	General	35
7.6.2	Coding of frequencies for cross-referenced programme services in EON	36
7.6.3	Use of the TP and TA features with EON	36
7.6.4	Use of PTY with EON	36
8	Required main RDS feature repetition rates on data-stream 0	37
Annex A (normative) Method for linking RDS programme services – Linkage information – Group type 1A and 14A		41
A.1	General	41
A.2	LA – Linkage Actuator	42
A.3	EG – Extended Generic Indicator	42
A.4	ILS – International Linkage Set indicator	42
A.5	LSN – Linkage Set Number	42
Annex B (informative) Conversion between time and date conventions		44
Bibliography		46
Figure 1 – Group type A structure		11
Figure 2 – Group type B structure		12
Figure 3 – Group type C structure		12
Figure 4 – Tunnelling structure for group types A and B		15
Figure 5 – Basic tuning and switching information – Group type 0A		21
Figure 6 – Basic tuning and switching information – Group type 0B		22
Figure 7 – Slow labelling codes – Group type 1A		22
Figure 8 – RadioText – Group type 2A		23
Figure 9 – RadioText – Group type 2B		24
Figure 10 – Application identification for any specific ODA – Group type 3A		24
Figure 11 – Clock-Time and date transmission – Group type 4A		25

Figure 12 – Programme Type Name PTYN – Group type 10A	25
Figure 13 – Enhanced Other Networks information – Group type 14A	26
Figure 14 – Enhanced Other Networks information – Group type 14B	26
Figure 15 – Long PS, UTF-8 coded – Group type 15A.....	27
Figure 16 – Fast basic tuning and switching information – Group type 15B	27
Figure 17 – PI code structure.....	28
Figure A.1 – Structure of group type 1A, block 3	41
Figure A.2 – Structure of group type 14A variant 12, block 3 (Linkage information) – National link.....	42
Figure A.3 – Structure of group type 14A variant 12, block 3 (Linkage information) – International link	43
Figure B.1 – Conversion routes between Modified Julian Date (MJD) and Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)	44
Table 1 – Group type C Function Header definition.....	13
Table 2 – Group type A and B usage	14
Table 3 – Group type C assignment methods used to connect channel numbers with one or more AIDs.....	16
Table 4 – Assignment of up to three successive channel numbers to multiple AIDs.....	17
Table 5 – Area coverage codes.....	29
Table 6 – Programme service reference number codes.....	29
Table 7 – PI codes for short range transmitting devices.....	29
Table 8 – Codes for TP and TA.....	30
Table 9 – Meaning of bits d ₀ to d ₃	30
Table 10 – VHF frequencies 87,6 MHz to 107,9 MHz code table	31
Table 11 – Special meanings AF code table.....	31
Table 12 – LF/MF code table – ITU regions 1 and 3 (9 kHz spacing).....	31
Table 13 – MF code table – ITU region 2 (10 kHz spacing).....	32
Table 14 – Data-stream 0 group repetition rates: Transmitter not part of a multi-programme service network: no TMC and only 'basic' RDS features	37
Table 15 – Data-stream 0 group repetition rates: Transmitter part of a multi-programme service network: no TMC	38
Table 16 – Data-stream 0 group repetition rates: Transmitter not part of a multi- programme service network: with TMC	38
Table 17 – Data-stream 0 group repetition rates: Transmitter not part of a multi- programme service network: no TMC and with support for UTF-8 coded characters.....	39
Table 18 – Data-stream 0 group repetition rates: Transmitter part of a multi-programme service network: with TMC	40
Table B.1 – Symbols used for time and date calculation.....	44

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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Part 2: Message format: Coding and definitions of RDS features

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62106-2 has been prepared by technical area 1: Terminals for audio, video and data services and contents, of IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

This first edition, together with IEC 62106-1, IEC 62106-3, IEC 62106-4, IEC 62106-5 and IEC 62106-6, cancels and replaces IEC 62106:2015, and constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to IEC 62106:2015:

- Provision has been made to carry RDS on multiple data-streams (RDS2).
- Data in the additional data-streams is using a newly defined group type C data structure.
- AF coding below 87,6 MHz (down to 64,1 MHz) using ODA-AID 0x6365 (see IEC 62106-6).

- Long PS (UTF-8) support has been added using group type 15A.
- Coding for the following applications is no longer detailed in the RDS standard as these can use in future the ODA concept: EWS, TDC, IH and RP.
- Obsolete and no longer part of the RDS standard are: MS (Group 0A, 0B and 15B) certain DI codes (mono/stereo, artificial head, compression), Language code, and PIN (Group 1A).

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

CDV	Report on voting
100/2910/CDV	100/3056/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 62106 series, published under the general title *Radio data system (RDS) – VHF/FM sound broadcasting in the frequency range from 64,0 MHz to 108,0 MHz*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://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.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

Since the mid-1980s a fascinating development has taken place. Most of the multimedia applications and standards have been created or redefined significantly. Hardware has become extremely powerful with dedicated software and middleware. In the mid-1980s, Internet as well as its protocols did not exist. Navigation systems became affordable in the late 1990s, and a full range of attractive smartphones now exist. The computing power of all these new products is comparable with that of the mainframe installations in that era.

Listener expectations have grown faster than the technology. Visual experience is now very important, like the Internet look and feel. Scrolling text or delivering just audio is nowadays perceived as insufficient for FM radio, specifically for smart phone users. New types of radio receivers with added value features are therefore required. RDS has so far proven to be very successful.

FM radio with RDS is an analogue-digital hybrid system, which is still a valid data transmission technology and only the applications need adaptation. Now the time has come to solve the only disadvantage, the lack of sufficient data capacity. With RDS2, the need to increase the data capacity can be fulfilled.

RDS was introduced in the early 1980s. During the introductory phase in Europe, the car industry became very involved and that was the start of an extremely successful roll-out. Shortly afterwards, RDS (RBDS) was launched in the USA [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]¹.

The RDS Forum has investigated a solution to the issue of limited data capacity. For RDS2, both sidebands around the RDS 57 kHz subcarrier can be repeated a few times, up to three, centred on additional subcarriers higher up in the FM multiplex still remaining compatible with the ITU Recommendations.

The core elements of RDS2 are the additional subcarriers, which will enable a significant increase of RDS data capacity to be achieved, and then only new additional data applications will have to be created, using the RDS-ODA feature, which has been part of the RDS standard IEC 62106 for many years.

In order to update IEC 62106:2015 to the specifications of RDS2, IEC 62106 has been restructured as follows:

- Part 1: Modulation characteristics and baseband coding
- Part 2: RDS message format, coding and definition of RDS features
- Part 3: Usage and registration of Open Data Applications ODAs
- Part 4: Registered code tables
- Part 5: Marking of RDS and RDS2 devices
- Part 6: Compilation of technical specifications for Open Data Applications in the public domain

The following future parts are planned:

- Part 7: RBDS
- Part 8: Universal Encoder Communication Protocol UECP

The original specifications of the RDS system have been maintained and the extra functionalities of RDS2 have been added.

Obsolete or unused functions from the original RDS standard IEC 62106:2015 have been deleted. The presentation in Parts 1, 2 and 3 follows the OSI basic reference model for information processing systems [6].

¹ Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

RADIO DATA SYSTEM (RDS) – VHF/FM SOUND BROADCASTING IN THE FREQUENCY RANGE FROM 64,0 MHz TO 108,0 MHz –

Part 2: Message format: Coding and definitions of RDS features

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62106 defines the coding and definition of features for the Radio Data System (RDS).

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 62106 (all parts), *Radio Data System (RDS) – VHF/FM sound broadcasting in the frequency range from 64,0 MHz to 108,0 MHz*

ISO/IEC 10646, *Information technology – Universal Coded Character Set (UCS)*

ISO 14819 (all parts), *Intelligent transport systems – Traffic and travel information messages via traffic message coding*