

EBU Technical Recommendation R72-1999 Allocation of the audio modes in the digital audio interface (EBU document Tech. 3250)

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The digital audio interface described in EBU Tech 3250 [1] permits four modes of transmission which are signalled in the channel status (byte 1, bits 0-3).

Three of these modes, “two channel”, “stereophonic” and “monophonic” are well defined. However, the fourth mode “primary/secondary” is not.

The EBU has identified three possible uses for the primary secondary mode, namely:

- Monophonic programme with a reverse talk-back
- Stereo programme in an M and S format
- Separate commentary and international sound

These three distinct uses require signalling in the channel status and the EBU will collaborate with the AES to assign unassigned channel status codes for this purpose. These will be included in EBU document Tech 3250 at a later date.

The EBU recommends that for existing transmission modes, the two audio channels of the digital audio interface are allocated according to Table 1.

Table 1 Allocation of audio signals to channels of the digital audio interface

Channel	Mode					
	Mono one programme	Stereo one programme	2-channel Two separate programmes	Primary secondary		
				Mono pro- gramme with reverse talk-back	Stereo programme in M & S	commentary and internat- ional sound
Channel 1	Complete mix (mono) <i>(Note 1)</i>	Complete mix (left)	Channel A	Complete mono mix	Mono signal (M)	Commentary
Channel 2	Complete mix (mono) <i>(Note 1)</i>	Complete mix (right)	Channel B	Reverse talk-back	Stereo difference signal (S)	International sound

Note 1: Identical signals on both channels

Bibliography

- [1] EBU document Tech. 3250-(2nd edition, 1992): **Specification of the digital audio interface (the AES/EBU interface)**
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