



The Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems

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**Draft Recommendation for  
Space Data System Standards**

**SPACECRAFT ONBOARD  
INTERFACE SERVICES—  
SUBNETWORK PACKET  
SERVICE**

**PROPOSED DRAFT RECOMMENDED STANDARD**

**CCSDS 851.0-R-0**

**PROPOSED RED BOOK**

**March 2007**

## AUTHORITY

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## FOREWORD

**(WHEN THIS RECOMMENDED STANDARD IS FINALIZED, IT WILL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING FOREWORD:)**

This document is a technical **Recommended Standard** for use in developing flight and ground systems for space missions and has been prepared by the **Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems** (CCSDS). The *Subnetwork Packet Service* described herein is intended for missions that are cross-supported between Agencies of the CCSDS, in the framework of the Spacecraft Onboard Interface Services (SOIS) CCSDS area.

This **Recommended Standard** specifies a set of related services to be used by space missions to transfer data over an onboard subnetwork. The SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service can support various transport and network protocols like TCP/IP and can directly support applications that only need to use a single subnetwork. The SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service provides quality of service features and also provides a common service interface regardless of the particular type of data link being used for communication.

Through the process of normal evolution, it is expected that expansion, deletion, or modification of this document may occur. This Recommended Standard is therefore subject to CCSDS document management and change control procedures, which are defined in the *Procedures Manual for the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems*. Current versions of CCSDS documents are maintained at the CCSDS Web site:

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## PREFACE

This document is a draft CCSDS Recommended Standard. Its 'Red Book' status indicates that the CCSDS believes the document to be technically mature and has released it for formal review by appropriate technical organizations. As such, its technical contents are not stable, and several iterations of it may occur in response to comments received during the review process.

Implementers are cautioned **not** to fabricate any final equipment in accordance with this document's technical content.

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

| Document           | Title  | Date       | Status        |
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| CCSDS<br>851.0-R-0 | Spacecraft Onboard Interface<br>Services—Subnetwork Packet<br>Service, Proposed Draft<br>Recommended Standard, Issue 0 | March 2007 | Current draft |

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# **1 INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THIS DOCUMENT**

This document comprises an output of the Spacecraft Onboard Interface Services (SOIS) Area of the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems. It is one of a family of documents specifying the SOIS-compliant services to be provided by onboard subnetworks.

The purpose of this document is to define services and service interfaces provided by the SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service. Its scope is to specify the service only and not to specify methods of providing the service over a variety of onboard data links.

## **1.2 APPLICABILITY**

This document applies to any mission or equipment claiming to provide a CCSDS SOIS-compliant Packet Service.

## **1.3 RATIONALE**

SOIS provide service interface specifications in order to promote interoperability and development reuse via peer-to-peer and vertical standardisation.

## **1.4 DOCUMENT STRUCTURE**

The document has five major sections:

- this section, containing administrative information, definitions, and references;
- section 2, describing general concepts and assumptions;
- section 3, containing the Subnetwork Packet Service specification;
- section 4, containing the Management Information Base (MIB) for the service;
- section 5, comprising a Service Conformance Statement Proforma.

In addition, annex A contains informative references.

## **1.5 CONVENTIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

### **1.5.1 BIT NUMBERING CONVENTION AND NOMENCLATURE**

In accordance with modern data communications practice, spacecraft data fields are often grouped into eight-bit ‘words’ widely known as bytes. Throughout this Recommended Standard, such an eight-bit word is called an ‘octet’. The numbering for octets within a data structure starts with zero.

By CCSDS convention, any ‘spare’ bits shall be permanently set to ‘0’.

## 1.5.2 DEFINITIONS

### 1.5.2.1 General

Within the context of this document the following definitions apply.

### 1.5.2.2 Definitions from the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Basic Reference Model

This document is defined using the style established by the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Basic Reference Model (reference [1]). This model provides a common framework for the development of standards in the field of systems interconnection.

The following terms, used in this Recommended Standard, are adapted from definitions given in reference [2]:

**Layer:** A subdivision of the architecture, constituted by subsystems of the same rank.

**Protocol Data Unit (PDU):** A unit of data specified in a protocol and consisting of protocol-control information and possibly user data.

**Service:** A capability of a layer (service provider) together with the layers beneath it, which is provided to the service users.

**Service Data Unit (SDU):** An amount of information whose identity is preserved when transferred between peer entities in a given layer and which is not interpreted by the supporting entities in that layer.

### 1.5.2.3 Terms Defined in this Recommended Standard

For the purposes of this Recommended Standard, the following definitions also apply. Many other terms that pertain to specific items are defined in the appropriate sections.

**Channel:** An identifier for network resources associated with a resource reservation. May be a list of time slots in a time division multiplexed system or a bandwidth limit in a bandwidth division multiplexed system. The subnetwork resources required for the communication may also be defined to allow simultaneous use of non-conflicting resources on subnetworks that support this feature.

**Delimited:** Having a known (and finite) length; applies to data in the context of data handling.

**Segmentation:** The division of subnetwork service data units by the data link into shorter sections (segments) that are short enough to be sent over the data link. The data link is responsible for reassembling the segments back into subnetwork service data units when delivering to the subnetwork user entity.

**Maximum Transmission Unit (MTU):** The maximum size of data that the a user can give to the Subnetwork Packet Service. Note that the MTU is required to ensure that different sources of data get fair access to the transmission medium, by multiplexing traffic on a packet by packet basis. When a large data unit is being sent, other sources can get a look in after each segment of the large data unit has been sent.

**Octet:** An eight-bit word commonly referred to as a byte.

**Packet:** Delimited octet aligned data unit.

**Priority:** The transmit precedence of an SDU relative to other SDUs.

**QoS:** See Quality of Service.

**Quality of Service (QoS):** The level of service that is requested/provided. This is the concatenation of service class, priority and resource reserved channel.

**Service Class:** A quality of service indicating whether resource reservation or reliability are required.

**SOIS Subnetwork Layer Service Data Unit:** The user data provided to SOIS Subnetwork Layer for sending over the data link/subnetwork using the SOIS subnetwork layer service.

**SDU:** Service Data Unit.

**Service Access Point (SAP):** Within the subnetwork, a SOIS Subnetwork Service Access Point. As a minimum it locates a data system and a subnetwork user entity within that data system.

**User Data:** The user data, or higher-layer protocol data unit, that is being sent in the PDU.

## 1.6 HOW THIS DOCUMENT FITS INTO THE SOIS DOCUMENTATION TREE

This document conforms to the principles set out in reference [A1] and should not be applied without first consulting reference [A1]. The protocols which provide this service are to be documented for individual links, and this may be in the purview of individual missions, agencies or of CCSDS depending on future circumstance.

## 1.7 DOCUMENT NOMENCLATURE

The following conventions apply throughout this Recommended Standard:

- a) The words 'shall' and 'must' imply a binding and verifiable specification;
- b) The word 'should' implies an optional, but desirable, specification;
- c) The word 'may' implies an optional specification;
- d) The words 'is', 'are', and 'will' imply statements of fact.

## 1.8 REFERENCES

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommended Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All documents are subject to revision, and users of this Recommended Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the documents indicated below. The CCSDS Secretariat maintains a register of currently valid CCSDS Recommended Standards.

- [1] *Information Technology—Open Systems Interconnection—Basic Reference Model: The Basic Model*. International Standard, ISO/IEC 7498-1:1994. 2nd ed. Geneva: ISO, 1994.
- [2] *Information Technology—Open Systems Interconnection—Basic Reference Model—Conventions for the Definition of OSI Services*. International Standard, ISO/IEC 10731:1994. Geneva: ISO, 1994.

NOTE – Informative references are contained in annex A.

## **2 OVERVIEW**

### **2.1 FUNCTION**

The SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service transfers Service Data Units, which are comprised of variable length, delimited octet strings, from one end-point on a data link/subnetwork to another end-point on the same data link/subnetwork, using the SOIS data-link functions to move the information across the data link/subnetwork.

### **2.2 CONTEXT**

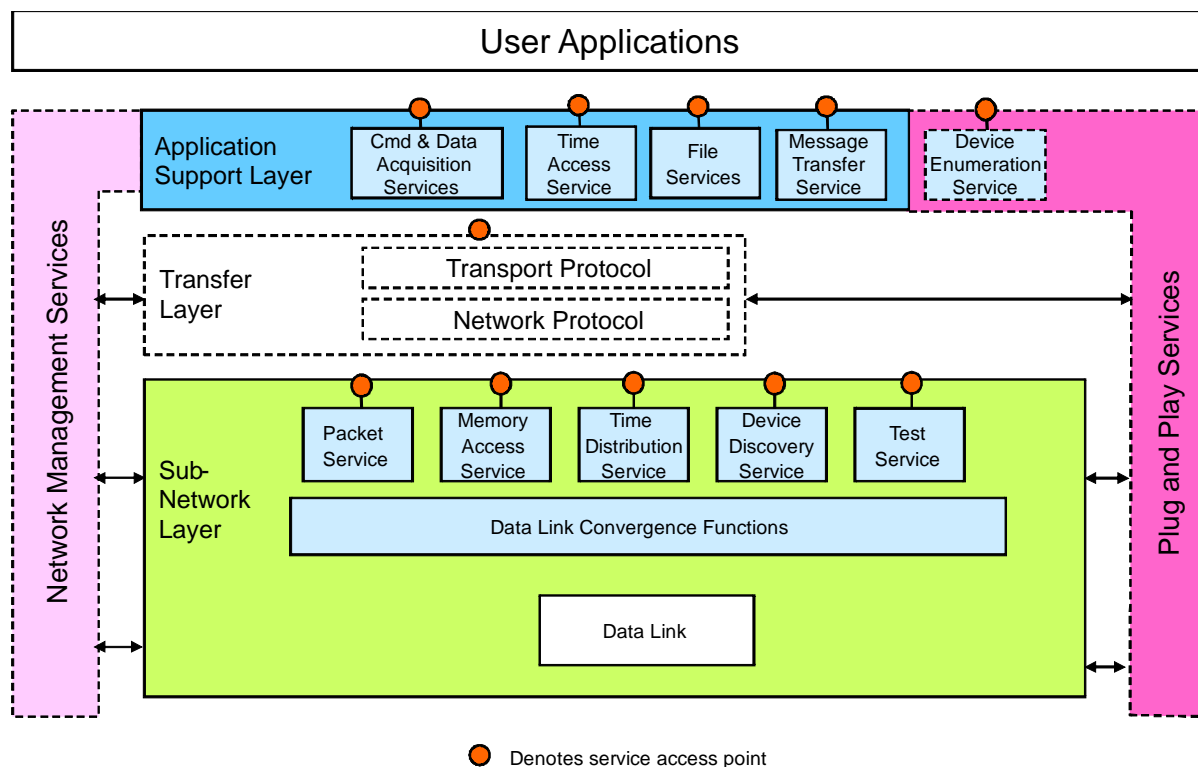
The SOIS Subnetwork layer provides for the movement of an SDU over a subnetwork to a variety of user applications, Space Internet Services (SIS), and others. The service may be provided over a variety of data links and the method of such provision is not in the scope of this document.

Data to be transported is passed to the Subnetwork Packet Service via the Subnetwork Packet Service interface with a requested QoS. As shown in figure 2-1, the service is one of a number of services which may be provided by the SOIS Subnetwork.

The Subnetwork Packet Service makes use of the data link to transfer data and control information. A variety of data links may be suited to provision of the service and the strategy for such service provision is outlined in reference [A1].

User entities of the Subnetwork Packet Service may include the Space Internet Services (SIS) or other CCSDS transport and network protocols, the Onboard Applications Support Services, and user applications that wish to use the Subnetwork Packet Services directly.

A Network Management function is also provided for configuring, managing, and collecting status information from the Subnetwork Packet Services.



**Figure 2-1: Subnetwork Packet Service Context**

## 2.3 ASSUMPTIONS

The following assumptions have been made in designing the SOIS Subnetwork Packet Services:

- SOIS Subnetwork Packet Services are provided across single subnetworks.
- SOIS Subnetwork Packet Services are made available to protocol entities in the transfer and application layers.

## 2.4 QUALITY OF SERVICE

The requested QoS is the concatenation of service class (Best-Effort, Assured, Reserved or Guaranteed), priority, and, where appropriate, a channel identifier. Semantics and use of the priority parameter are dependent on which service class is being invoked.

There are four communication service classes provided by the SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service:

- Best-Effort Service Class:
  - makes a single attempt to deliver data to its destination but cannot ensure that it will be delivered successfully;

- provides data in sequence (within a priority value), without errors, and without duplication;
- does not necessarily preserve the order of data packets;
- uses a priority parameter to signal the importance of the data to the service.

NOTE – Priority is applied across the best-effort and assured service classes where both classes are provided.

– Assured Service Class:

- ensures delivery of data to its destination;
- indicates to the sending entity if it is not possible to provide the assured service;
- provides data in sequence (within a priority value), complete, without errors, and without duplication;
- uses a priority parameter to signal the importance of the data to the service.

NOTE – Priority is applied across the best-effort and assured service classes where both classes are provided.

– Reserved Service Class:

- makes a single attempt to deliver data to its destination but cannot ensure that it will be delivered successfully;
- provides data in sequence (within the channel and within a priority value), without errors, and without duplication;
- uses a channel that defines the resources that are used to transmit the SDU;
- uses a priority parameter to signal the importance of the data to the service.

NOTE – This priority defines the priority of a communication within the resource reservation, i.e., within a channel. Priority is applied across the reserved and guaranteed service classes where both classes are provided within a channel.

– Guaranteed Service Class:

- ensures delivery of data to its destination.
- indicates to the sending entity if it is not possible to provide the guaranteed service (i.e., the user is informed if it is not possible to deliver the data);
- provides data in sequence (within the channel and within a priority value), complete, without errors, and without duplication;
- uses a channel that defines the resources that are used to transmit the SDU;

- uses a priority parameter to signal the importance of the data to the service.

NOTE – This priority defines the priority of a communication within the resource reservation, i.e., within a Channel. Priority is applied across the reserved and guaranteed service classes where both classes are provided within a channel.

– Common features:

- SDUs extracted from PDUs containing errors will not be delivered;
- individual Service Data Units being sent cannot be larger than the MTU.

All service classes are sequence preserving within a channel and at a priority level. There is no service-wide sequence preservation unless all users operate with no channelisation and at a single priority. Sequence preservation will cause out-of-sequence data units in the best-effort and resource-reserved Qualities of Service to be deleted and not delivered to the user. It is therefore recommended that underlying data links be themselves inherently sequence preserving.

The best-effort and resource-reserved services deliver data in sequence and without errors; the implication of these qualities is that PDUs that are received out of sequence or with errors will not be delivered to the user.



### **3 SUBNETWORK PACKET SERVICE**

#### **3.1 SERVICE PARAMETERS**

The parameters of the Subnetwork Packet Service are defined below:

##### **Data**

The Data parameter is the Service Data Unit (SDU) of the SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service.

##### **Source Subnetwork Service Access Point (SSNSAP)**

The SSNSAP identifies the SAP that identifies the user entity that wishes to send a Packet Service SDU.

##### **Destination Subnetwork Service Access Point (DSNSAP)**

The DSNSAP identifies the SAP that identifies the user entity to which a Packet Service SDU is required to be delivered.

##### **Service Class**

The service class refers to one of the following qualities of service:

- Best effort;
- Assured;
- Reserved;
- Guaranteed.

##### **Channel (Used for reserved or guaranteed service classes only)**

A Channel fully specifies an end-to-end resource reservation for a network communication. For time division multiplexed (scheduled) systems, the Channel identifies a list of time slots that may be used to support transmission of the channel data. For systems based on bandwidth reservation, the Channel identifies the percentage of network resources that may be used to support the transmission. The time-slot allocation or bandwidth reservation for each channel is defined by management parameters of the protocol providing the packet service.

##### **Priority**

Priority indicates the importance of the data to the system. It allows packets to be prioritized. For resource-reserved channels the specified priority allows packets within a channel to be prioritized.

##### **Failure Metadata**

Failure Metadata is information generated by the Subnetwork Packet Service provider to the sending entity to provide information related to a failure of service provision.

## 3.2 PACKET SERVICE PRIMITIVES

### 3.2.1 GENERAL

In this subsection the service primitives for the SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service are presented.

There are three primitives used by this service:

- **PACKET\_SEND.request**, which requests to send an SDU;
- **PACKET\_RECEIVE.indication**, which indicates that a packet has been received and which passes the corresponding SDU to the End System;
- **PACKET\_FAILURE.indication**, which indicates a failure to provide an assured or guaranteed service.

## 3.3 PACKET\_SEND.REQUEST

### 3.3.1.1 Function

The **PACKET\_SEND.request** primitive requests the service to send an SDU to a destination protocol entity, which is a user of the service. The SDU is assigned a priority level which determines the urgency with which it will be sent and forwarded through the onboard subnetwork.

### 3.3.1.2 Semantics

**PACKET\_SEND.request** (SSNSAP, DSNSAP, Data, Priority, Service Class, Channel)

### 3.3.1.3 When Generated

The **PACKET\_SEND.request** primitive shall be passed to the SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service provider to request that the Data be sent.

### 3.3.1.4 Effect on Receipt

Receipt of the **PACKET\_SEND.request** primitive shall cause the SOIS Subnetwork service provider to encapsulate the SDU and to issue a PDU over the underlying data link/subnetwork.

### 3.3.1.5 Additional Comments

DSNSAP identifies the user entity to which the data is directed.

SSNSAP identifies the user entity that is sending the data. Data is the information to be sent from the Source to the Destination user entity.

Priority indicates the level of precedence that should be given to the data compared to other SDUs being serviced or other PDUs in the same channel on the subnetwork.

Channel is the identifier of the set of reserved resources that are to be used to send the data in the Reserved or Guaranteed service classes.

### **3.3.2 PACKET\_RECEIVE.INDICATION**

#### **3.3.2.1 Function**

The **PACKET\_RECEIVE.indication** primitive is used to pass the contents of a received packet service PDU to the user protocol entity.

#### **3.3.2.2 Semantics**

**PACKET\_RECEIVE.indication** (SSNSAP, DSNSAP, Priority, Channel, Data)

#### **3.3.2.3 When Generated**

This primitive is issued by the service provider to the receiving application on receipt of a Data PDU.

#### **3.3.2.4 Effect on Receipt**

The response of the user entity to a **PACKET\_RECEIVE.indication** primitive is unspecified.

#### **3.3.2.5 Additional Comments**

DSNSAP identifies the user entity that is receiving the data.

SSNSAP identifies the user entity that sent the data.

Data is the data received by the packet protocol entity and directed to the specified user entity.

Priority and Channel parameters are passed to define the Priority/Channel combination in which sequence preservation is provided.

### **3.3.3 PACKET\_FAILURE.INDICATION**

#### **3.3.3.1 Function**

The **PACKET\_FAILURE.indication** primitive is used, for the guaranteed and assured service classes, to indicate to the user that requested to send data, that it has been impossible to send and confirm delivery of an SDU.

#### **3.3.3.2 Semantics**

**PACKET\_FAILURE.indication** (SSNSAP, DSNSAP, Failure Metadata)

#### **3.3.3.3 When Generated**

This primitive is issued by the service provider to the service user when, for whatever reason, it has proved impossible to satisfy the service request.

#### **3.3.3.4 EFFECT ON RECEIPT**

The effect of receipt of the **PACKET\_FAILURE.indication** primitive is unspecified.

#### **3.3.3.5 Additional Comments**

This primitive can be invoked only in relation to transactions related to the assured or guaranteed service classes.

DSNSAP identifies the user entity where the data should have been received.

SSNSAP identifies the user entity that sent the data.

Failure Metadata contains information about the type of error that occurred resulting in the failure to send and confirm delivery of the Data PDU to the specified destination.

## **4 MANAGEMENT INFORMATION BASE**

There is currently no Management Information Base associated with this service. All management items are associated with the protocol providing the service. Any protocol claiming to provide this service in a SOIS-compliant manner shall publish its Management Information Base as part of the protocol specification.

## 5 SERVICE CONFORMANCE STATEMENT PROFORMA

It is mandatory that, for any protocol implementation claiming to provide this service, this proforma be completed giving details of the capabilities of the implementation.

|   |
|---|
| <b>Service Conformance Statement</b><br><b>SOIS Subnetwork Packet Service</b> |
|---|

### Implementation Information

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Implementer Identification       |  |
| Implementation Identification    |  |
| Version                          |  |
| Underlying Data link             |  |
| Protocol Specification Reference |  |
| MIB Reference                    |  |

### Mandatory Features

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Best Effort Service Class | √ |
|---------------------------|---|

### Optional Features

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Assured Service Class     |  |
| Reserved Service Class    |  |
| Guaranteed Service Class  |  |
| PACKET_FAILURE.indication |  |

### Other Information

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Priority Levels  |  |
| Channelisation   |  |
| Failure Metadata |  |

## ANNEX A

### INFORMATIVE REFERENCES

- [A1] *Spacecraft Onboard Interface Services*. Draft Report Concerning Space Data System Standards, CCSDS 850.0-G-0.1. Draft Green Book. Issue 0.1. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, March 2007.

NOTE – Normative references are listed in 1.8.