
**Intelligent transport systems —
Communication profiles for secure
connections between trusted devices**



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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 204, *Intelligent transport systems*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

ITS Station Communication Profiles (ITS-SCP) used in communications between trusted devices enable

- interoperability between ITS-SUs,
- and portability of ITS applications (that provide the ITS services).

Examples of trusted devices, i.e. ITS-secured communication nodes, are ITS-station units (ITS-SU) specified in ISO 21217:2014. Four implementation contexts of communication nodes in ITS communications networks are identified in ISO 21217:2014, each comprised of ITS-station units (ITS-SU) taking on a particular role: personal, vehicular, roadside, or central. Such ITS-SUs participate in a wide variety of ITS services related to, e.g. sustainability, road safety and transportation efficiency.

NOTE 1 ISO 21217:2014 fully covers the functionality of EN 302 665[27], which is a predecessor of ISO 21217:2014.

NOTE 2 An ITS-SU can be composed of ITS-SCUs from different vendors where each ITS-SCU is linked to a different ITS-SCU configuration and management centre specified in ISO 24102-2[16] and ISO 17419. Station-internal management communications between ITS-SCUs of the same ITS-SU are specified in ISO 24102-4[17]. European C-ITS regulation refers to the "ITS-SCU configuration and management centre" as "C-ITS station operator" meaning the entity responsible for the operation of a C-ITS station. The C-ITS station operator may be responsible for the operation of one single C-ITS station (fixed or mobile), or a C-ITS infrastructure composed of a number of fixed C-ITS stations, or a number of mobile ITS-Stations.

Such ITS-SCPs are essential for many ITS applications and services including time-critical safety applications, automated driving, remote management of ITS-SUs (ISO 24102-2^[16]), and roadside/infrastructure related services.

Over the last decade, ITS services have arisen that require secure access to data from Sensor and Control Networks (SCN), e.g. from In-Vehicle Networks (IVNs) and from Infrastructure/Roadside Networks (IRNs), some of which require secure local access to time-critical information, see [Figures 1](#) and [2](#).

NOTE 3 [Figures 1](#) and [2](#) are functional illustrations not describing or specifying a specific implementation.

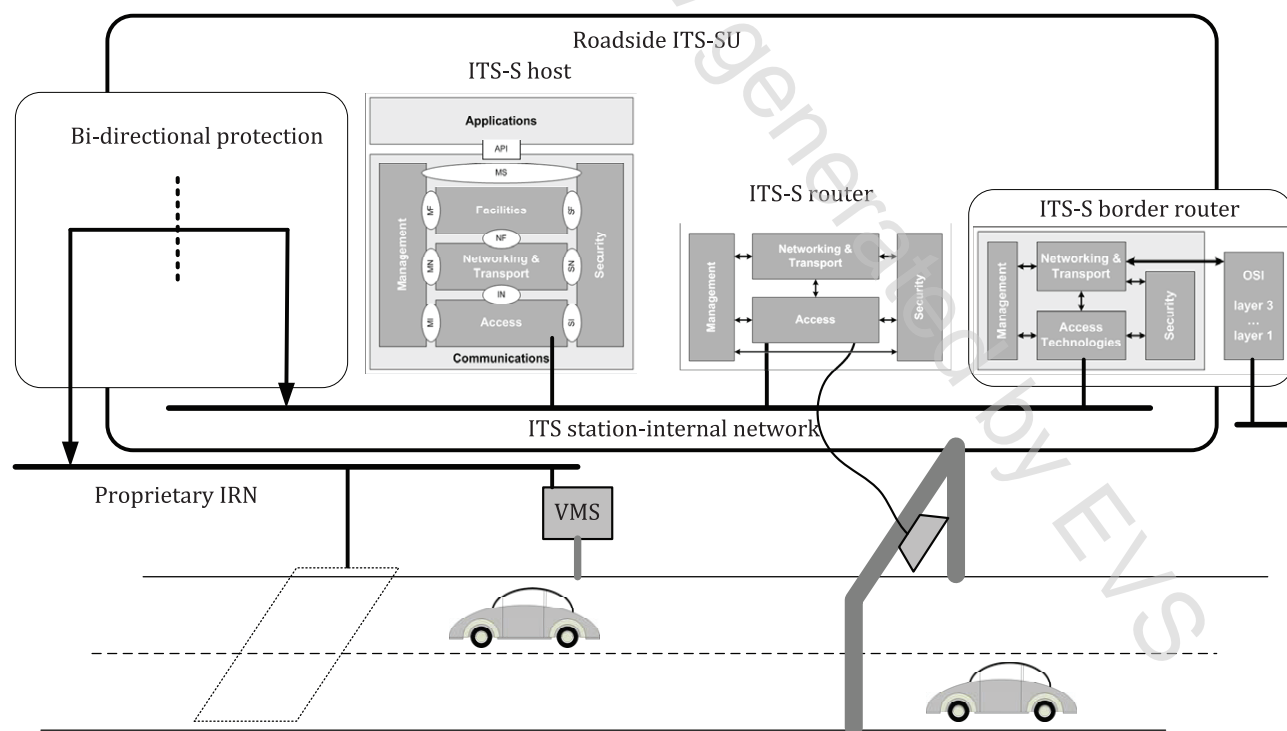


Figure 1 — Example of a roadside ITS-SU connected to a secure proprietary IRN

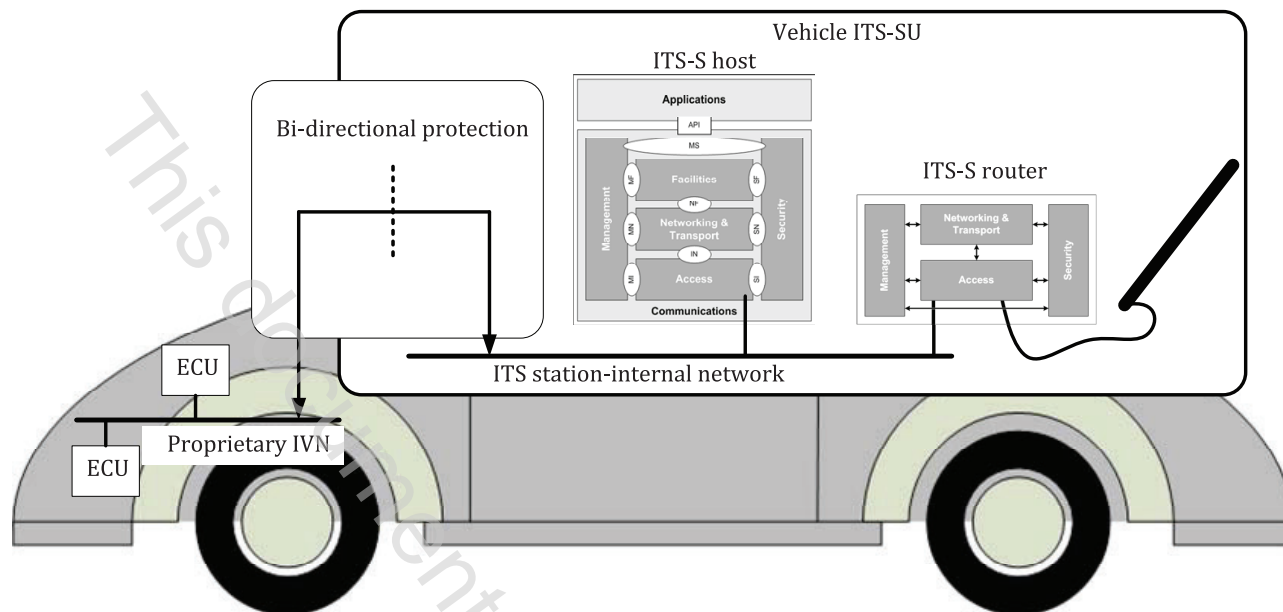


Figure 2 — Example of a vehicle ITS-SU connected to a secure proprietary IVN

Related use cases of these ITS services have largely been derived from regulatory requirements and urban operational needs, and they include:

- secure real-time access to time-critical vehicle-related data for safety of life and property applications, e.g. collision avoidance, emergency electronic brake light and event determination;
- secure local access to detailed real-time data for efficiency applications (traffic management), e.g. intersection interaction, congestion avoidance, dynamic priorities;
- local access to certified real-time data for sustainability applications, e.g. dynamic emission zones (controlled zones as currently standardized in CEN TC 278 within the Project Team PT1705 funded by the European Commission), intersection priorities based on emissions, interactive optimum vehicle settings to minimize fuel consumption.

There are many use cases of ITS services currently identified where real-time exchange of time-critical information between ITS-SUs in close proximity is essential, and the number will grow (see, e.g. the US National ITS Reference Architecture^[30]). It is critical that ultimately all ITS-SUs in a given area are able to be engaged in these distributed services. This, in turn, requires vehicle ITS-SUs to have real-time access to vehicle data, and roadside ITS-SUs to have real-time access to infrastructure data, and to be capable of secure software updates.

Another use case involving connectivity between ITS-Ss involves access to ITS-secure SCNs by ITS-SUs over the Internet, i.e. cloud connectivity. Functions and services described in this document and accompanying standards for creating secure communication links can be used to implement such connectivity. Examples include secure communications between a server in a cloud-based ITS-SU and an ITS-SU in a vehicle using a cellular modem, and secure communications between server in an ITS-SU in a traffic control center and a client in an ITS-SU in the roadside “furniture” which it controls using a fibre optic and/or microwave link.

Data and message specifications related to SCNs are provided in ISO/TS 21184^[9].

Cyber security means related to “Secure Sessions between Trusted Devices” (SSTD) in general, and particularly to SCNs, are specified in ISO/TS 21177^[8].

Cyber security means related to information dissemination (broadcast of messages) are specified in IEEE Std. 1609.2TM^[21].

Intelligent transport systems — Communication profiles for secure connections between trusted devices

1 Scope

This document specifies a methodology to define ITS-S communication profiles (ITS-SCPs) based on standardized communication protocols to interconnect trusted devices. These profiles enable secure information exchange between such trusted devices, including secure low-latency information exchange, in different configurations. The present document also normatively specifies some ITS-SCPs based on the methodology, yet without the intent of covering all possible cases, in order to exemplify the methodology.

Configurations of trusted devices for which this document defines ITS-SCPs include:

- a) ITS station communication units (ITS-SCU) of the same ITS station unit (ITS-SU), i.e. station-internal communications;
- b) an ITS-SU and an external entity such as a sensor and control network (SCN), or a service in the Internet;
- c) ITS-SUs.

Other ITS-SCPs can be specified at a later stage.

The specifications given in this document can also be applied to unsecured communications and can be applied to groupcast communications as well.

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.

ISO/IEC 8825-1, *Information technology — ASN.1 encoding rules: Specification of Basic Encoding Rules (BER), Canonical Encoding Rules (CER) and Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER) — Part 1*

ISO 17419, *Intelligent transport systems — Cooperative systems — Globally unique identification*

ISO 17423:2018, *Intelligent transport systems — Cooperative systems — Application requirements and objectives*

ISO 21217:2014, *Intelligent transport systems — Communications access for land mobiles (CALM) — Architecture*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>