

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Universal serial bus interfaces for data and power

Part 1-2: Common components – USB Power Delivery specification

Interfaces de bus universel en série pour les données et l'alimentation électrique

**Partie 1-2: Composants communs – Spécification de l'alimentation électrique
par port USB**



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UNIVERSAL SERIAL BUS INTERFACES FOR DATA AND POWER

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**Universal Serial Bus
Power Delivery Specification**

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1 Introduction

USB has evolved from a data interface capable of supplying limited power to a primary provider of power with a data interface. Today many devices charge or get their power from USB ports contained in laptops, cars, aircraft or even wall sockets. USB has become a ubiquitous power socket for many small devices such as cell phones, MP3 players and other hand-held devices. Users need USB to fulfill their requirements not only in terms of data but also to provide power to, or charge, their devices simply, often without the need to load a driver, in order to carry out “traditional” USB functions.

There are however, still many devices which either require an additional power connection to the wall, or exceed the USB rated current in order to operate. Increasingly, international regulations require better energy management due to ecological and practical concerns relating to the availability of power. Regulations limit the amount of power available from the wall which has led to a pressing need to optimize power usage. The USB Power Delivery Specification has the potential to minimize waste as it becomes a standard for charging devices that are not satisfied by [\[USBBC 1.2\]](#).

Wider usage of wireless solutions is an attempt to remove data cabling but the need for “tethered” charging remains. In addition, industrial design requirements drive wired connectivity to do much more over the same connector.

USB Power Delivery is designed to enable the maximum functionality of USB by providing more flexible power delivery along with data over a single cable. Its aim is to operate with and build on the existing USB ecosystem; increasing power levels from existing USB standards, for example Battery Charging, enabling new higher power use cases such as USB powered Hard Disk Drives (HDDs) and printers.

With USB Power Delivery the power direction is no longer fixed. This enables the product with the power (Host or Peripheral) to provide the power. For example, a display with a supply from the wall can power, or charge, a laptop. Alternatively, USB power bricks or chargers are able to supply power to laptops and other battery powered devices through their, traditionally power providing, USB ports.

USB Power Delivery enables hubs to become the means to optimize power management across multiple peripherals by allowing each device to take only the power it requires, and to get more power when required for a given application. For example, battery powered devices can get increased charging current and then give it back temporarily when the user's HDD requires spinning up. **Optionally** the hubs can communicate with the PC to enable even more intelligent and flexible management of power either automatically or with some level of user intervention.

USB Power Delivery allows Low Power cases such as headsets to negotiate for only the power they require. This provides a simple solution that enables USB devices to operate at their optimal power levels.

The Power Delivery Specification, in addition to providing mechanisms to negotiate power also can be used as a side-band channel for standard and vendor defined messaging. Power Delivery enables alternative modes of operation by providing the mechanisms to discover, enter and exit Alternate Modes. The specification also enables discovery of cable capabilities such as supported speeds and current levels.

1.1 Overview

This specification defines how USB Devices can negotiate for more current and/or higher or lower voltages over the USB cable (using the USB Type-C CC wire as the communications channel) than are defined in the [\[USB 2.0\]](#), [\[USB 3.2\]](#), [\[USB Type-C 1.3\]](#) or [\[USBBC 1.2\]](#) specifications. It allows Devices with greater power requirements than can be met with today's specification to get the power they require to operate from V_{BUS} and negotiate with external power sources (e.g. Wall Warts). In addition, it allows a Source and Sink to swap power roles such that a Device could supply power to the Host. For example, a display could supply power to a notebook to charge its battery.

The USB Power Delivery Specification is guided by the following principles:

- Works seamlessly with legacy USB Devices
- Compatible with existing spec-compliant USB cables
- Minimizes potential damage from non-compliant cables (e.g. ‘Y’ cables etc.)
- Optimized for low-cost implementations

This specification defines mechanisms to discover, enter and exit Modes defined either by a standard or by a particular vendor. These Modes can be supported either by the Port Partner or by a cable connecting the two Port Partners.

The specification defines mechanisms to discover the capabilities of cables which can communicate using Power Delivery.

This specification adds a mechanism to swap the data roles such that the upstream facing Port becomes the downstream facing Port and vice versa. It also enables a swap of the end supplying V_{CONN} to a powered cable.

To facilitate optimum charging, the specification defines two mechanisms a USB Charger can advertise for the Device to use:

1. A list of fixed voltages each with a maximum current. The Device selects a voltage and current from the list. This is the traditional model used by Devices that use internal electronics to manage the charging of their battery including modifying the voltage and current actually supplied to the battery. The side-effect of this model is that the charging circuitry generates heat that may be problematic for small form factor devices.
2. A list of programmable voltage ranges each with a maximum current (PPS). The Device requests a voltage (in 20 mV increments) that is within the advertised range and a maximum current. The USB Charger delivers the requested voltage until the maximum current is reached at which time the USB charger reduces its output voltage so as not to supply more than the requested maximum current. During the high current portion of the charge cycle, the USB Charger can be directly connected (through an appropriate safety device) to the battery. This model is used by Devices that want to minimize the thermal impact of their internal charging circuitry.

1.2 Purpose

The USB Power Delivery specification defines a power delivery system covering all elements of a USB system including: Hosts, Devices, Hubs, Chargers and cable assemblies. This specification describes the architecture, protocols, power supply behavior, connectors and cabling necessary for managing power delivery over USB at up to 100W. This specification is intended to be fully compatible and extend the existing USB infrastructure. It is intended that this specification will allow system OEMs, power supply and peripheral developers adequate flexibility for product versatility and market differentiation without losing backwards compatibility.

USB Power Delivery is designed to operate independently of the existing USB bus defined mechanisms used to negotiate power which are:

- [\[USB 2.0\]](#), [\[USB 3.2\]](#) in band requests for high power interfaces.
- [\[USBBC 1.2\]](#) mechanisms for supplying higher power (not mandated by this specification).
- [\[USB Type-C 1.3\]](#) mechanisms for supplying higher power

Initial operating conditions remain the USB Default Operation as defined in [\[USB 2.0\]](#), [\[USB 3.2\]](#), [\[USB Type-C 1.3\]](#) or [\[USBBC 1.2\]](#).

- The DFP sources **vSafe5V** over V_{BUS} .
- The UFP consumes power from V_{BUS} .

1.3 Scope

This specification is intended as an extension to the existing [\[USB 2.0\]](#), [\[USB 3.2\]](#), [\[USB Type-C 1.3\]](#) and [\[USBBC 1.2\]](#) specifications. It addresses only the elements required to implement USB Power Delivery. It is targeted at power supply vendors, manufacturers of [\[USB 2.0\]](#), [\[USB 3.2\]](#), [\[USB Type-C 1.3\]](#) and [\[USBBC 1.2\]](#) Platforms, Devices and cable assemblies.

Normative information is provided to allow interoperability of components designed to this specification. Informative information, when provided, illustrates possible design implementation.

1.4 Conventions

1.4.1 Precedence

If there is a conflict between text, figures, and tables, the precedence **Shall** be tables, figures, and then text.

1.4.2 Keywords

The following keywords differentiate between the levels of requirements and options.

1.4.2.1 Conditional Normative

Conditional Normative is a keyword used to indicate a feature that is mandatory when another related feature has been implemented. Designers are mandated to implement all such requirements, when the dependent features have been implemented, to ensure interoperability with other compliant Devices.

1.4.2.2 Deprecated

Deprecated is a keyword used to indicate a feature, supported in previous releases of the specification, which is no longer supported.

1.4.2.3 Discarded

Discard, **Discards** and **Discarded** are equivalent keywords indicating that a Packet when received **Shall** be thrown away by the PHY Layer and not passed to the Protocol Layer for processing. No **GoodCRC** Message **Shall** be sent in response to the Packet.

1.4.2.4 Ignored

Ignore, **Ignores** and **Ignored** are equivalent keywords indicating Messages or Message fields which, when received, **Shall** result in no special action by the receiver. An **Ignored** Message **Shall** only result in returning a **GoodCRC** Message to acknowledge Message receipt. A Message with an **Ignored** field **Shall** be processed normally except for any actions relating to the **Ignored** field.

1.4.2.5 Invalid

Invalid is a keyword when used in relation to a Packet indicates that the Packet's usage or fields fall outside of the defined specification usage. When **Invalid** is used in relation to an Explicit Contract it indicates that a previously established Explicit Contract which can no longer be maintained by the Source. When **Invalid** is used in relation to individual K-codes or K-code sequences indicates that the received Signaling falls outside of the defined specification.

1.4.2.6 May

May is a keyword that indicates a choice with no implied preference.

1.4.2.7 May Not

May Not is a keyword that is the inverse of **May**. Indicates a choice to not implement a given feature with no implied preference.

1.4.2.8 N/A

N/A is a keyword that indicates that a field or value is not applicable and has no defined value and **Shall Not** be checked or used by the recipient.

1.4.2.9 Optional/Optionally/Optional Normative

Optional, **Optionally** and **Optional Normative** are equivalent keywords that describe features not mandated by this specification. However, if an **Optional** feature is implemented, the feature **Shall** be implemented as defined by this specification.

1.4.2.10 Reserved

Reserved is a keyword indicating reserved bits, bytes, words, fields, and code values that are set-aside for future standardization. Their use and interpretation **May** be specified by future extensions to this specification and **Shall Not** be utilized or adapted by vendor implementation. A **Reserved** bit, byte, word, or field **Shall** be set to zero by the sender and **Shall** be **Ignored** by the receiver. **Reserved** field values **Shall Not** be sent by the sender and **Shall** be **Ignored** by the receiver.

1.4.2.11 Shall/Normative

Shall and **Normative** are equivalent keywords indicating a mandatory requirement. Designers are mandated to implement all such requirements to ensure interoperability with other compliant Devices.

1.4.2.12 Shall Not

Shall Not is a keyword that is the inverse of **Shall** indicating non-compliant operation.

1.4.2.13 Should

Should is a keyword indicating flexibility of choice with a preferred alternative; equivalent to the phrase “it is recommended that...”.

1.4.2.14 Should Not

Should Not is a keyword is the inverse of **Should**; equivalent to the phrase “it is recommended that implementations do not...”.

1.4.2.15 Valid

Valid is a keyword that is the inverse of **Invalid** indicating either a Packet or Signaling that fall within the defined specification or an Explicit Contract that can be maintained by the Source.

1.4.3 Numbering

Numbers that are immediately followed by a lowercase "b" (e.g., 01b) are binary values. Numbers that are immediately followed by an uppercase "B" are byte values. Numbers that are immediately followed by a lowercase "h" (e.g., 3Ah) or are preceded by "0x" (e.g. 0xFF00) are hexadecimal values. Numbers not immediately followed by either a "b", "B", or "h" are decimal values.

1.5 Related Documents

- **[USB 2.0]** – Universal Serial Bus Specification, Revision 2.0, plus ECN and Errata http://www.usb.org/developers/docs/usb20_docs/.
- **[USB 3.2]** – Universal Serial Bus 3.2 Specification, Revision 1.0, September 22, 2017. www.usb.org/developers/docs.
- **[USBTypeCAuthentication 1.0]**, Universal Serial Bus Type-C Authentication Specification, Revision 1.0, March 25, 2016. www.usb.org/developers/docs.
- **[USBPDFirmwareUpdate 1.0]**, Universal Serial Bus Power Delivery Firmware Update Specification, Revision 1.0, September 15, 2016. <http://www.usb.org/developers/powerdelivery/>
- **[USBBC 1.2]** – Universal Serial Bus Battery Charging Specification, Revision 1.2 plus Errata (referred to in this document as the Battery Charging specification). www.usb.org/developers/devclass_docs#approved.
- **[USBBridge 1.0]** – Universal Serial Bus Type-C Bridge Specification, Revision 1.0, March 25, 2016. www.usb.org/developers/docs.
- **[USBTypeCBridge 1.0]** – Universal Serial Bus Type-C Bridge Specification, Revision 1.0, March 25, 2016. www.usb.org/developers/docs.
- **[USBPD 2.0]** – Universal Serial Bus Power Delivery Specification, Revision 2, Version 1.2, March 25, 2016. www.usb.org/developers/docs.
- **[USBPDCompliance]** – USB Power Delivery Compliance Plan Revision 1.02, Version 2.0, 8 March 2017 http://www.usb.org/developers/docs/devclass_docs/.
- **[USB Type-C 1.3]** – Universal Serial Bus Type-C Cable and Connector Specification, Revision 1.3, July 14, 2017. www.usb.org/developers/docs.
- **[IEC 60958-1]** IEC 60958-1 Digital Audio Interface Part:1 General Edition 3.0 2008-09 www.iec.ch
- **[IEC 60950-1]** IEC 60950-1:2005 Information technology equipment – Safety – Part 1: General requirements: Amendment 1:2009, Amendment 2:2013
- **[IEC 62368-1]** IEC 62368-1 Audio/Video, information and communication technology equipment – Part 1: Safety requirements
- **[IEC 63002]** Draft CD for IEC 63002 Identification and Communication Interoperability Method for External DC Power Supplies Used with Portable Computing Devices.

- [\[ISO 3166\]](#) ISO 3166 international Standard for country codes and codes for their subdivisions. http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/country_codes.htm.

1.6 Terms and Abbreviations

This section defines terms used throughout this document. For additional terms that pertain to the Universal Serial Bus, see Chapter 2, “Terms and Abbreviations,” in [\[USB 2.0\]](#), [\[USB 3.2\]](#), [\[USB Type-C 1.3\]](#) and [\[USBBC 1.2\]](#).

Table 1-1 Terms and Abbreviations

Term	Description
Active Cable	A cable with a USB Plug on each end at least one of which is a Cable Plug supporting SOP', that also incorporates data bus signal conditioning circuits. The cable supports the Structured VDM Discover Identity Command to determine its characteristics in addition to other Structured VDM Commands (Electronically Marked Cable see [USB Type-C 1.3]).
Active Mode	A Mode which has been entered and not exited.
Alternate Mode	As defined in [USB Type-C 1.3] . Equivalent to Mode in the PD Specification.
Alternate Mode Adapter (AMA)	A PDUSB Device which supports Alternate Modes as defined in [USB Type-C 1.3] . Note that since an AMA is a PDUSB Device it has a single UFP that is only addressable by SOP Packets.
Alternate Mode Controller (AMC)	A DFP that supports connection to AMAs as defined in [USB Type-C 1.3] . A DFP that is an AMC can also be a PDUSB Host.
Augmented Power Data Object (APDO)	Data Object used to expose a Source Port's power capabilities or a Sink's power requirements as part of a Source_Capabilities or Sink_Capabilities Message respectively. Programmable Power Supply Data Object is defined.
Atomic Message Sequence (AMS)	A fixed sequence of Messages as defined in Section 8.3.2 typically starting and ending in one of the following states: PE_SRC_Ready , PE_SNK_Ready or PE_CBL_Ready . An AMS can be Interruptible or Non-interruptible.
Attach	Mechanical joining of the Port Pair by a cable.
Attached	USB Power Delivery ports which are mechanically joined with USB cable.
Battery	A power storage device residing behind a Port that can either be a source or sink of power.
Battery Slot	A physical location where a Hot Swappable Battery can be installed. A Battery Slot might or might not have a Hot Swappable Battery present in a Battery Slot at any given time.
Battery Supply	A power supply that directly applies the output of a Battery to V _{BUS} . This is exposed by the Battery Supply PDO (see Section 6.4.1.2.4)
Binary Frequency Shift Keying (BFSK)	A Signaling Scheme now Deprecated in this specification. BFSK used a pair of discrete frequencies to transmit binary (0s and 1s) information over V _{BUS} . See [USBPD 2.0] for further details.
Biphase Mark Coding (BMC)	Modification of Manchester coding where each zero has one transition and a one has two transitions (see [IEC 60958-1]).
BIST	Built-In Self-Test – Power Delivery testing mechanism for the PHY Layer.
BIST Data Object (BDO)	Data Object used by BIST Messages.
BIST Mode	A BIST receiver or transmitter test mode enabled by a BIST Message.
Cable Plug	Term used to describe a PD Capable element in a Multi-Drop system addressed by SOP'/SOP'' Packets. Logically the Cable Plug is associated with a USB plug at one end of the cable. In a practical implementation the electronics might reside anywhere in the cable.
Cable Reset	This is initiated by Cable Reset Signaling from the DFP. It restores the Cable Plugs to their default, power up condition and resets the PD communications engine to its default state. It does not reset the Port Partners but does restore V _{CONN} to its Attachment state.
Charge Through	A mechanism for a V _{CONN} -powered USB Device (VPD) to pass power and CC communication from one Port to the other without any interference or re-regulation.
Charge Through Port	The USB Type-C receptacle on a USB Device that is designed to allow a Source to be connected through the USB Device to charge a system it is Attached to. Most common use is to allow a single Port Host to support a USB device while being charged.