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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**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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IEC Central Office  
3, rue de Varembé  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11  
[info@iec.ch](mailto:info@iec.ch)  
[www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

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

CDV	Report on voting
100/3440/CDV	100/3505/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.

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This standard is the USB-IF publication Universal Serial Bus Power Delivery Specification Revision 3.0, Version 2.0.

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# Universal Serial Bus Power Delivery Specification

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Amit gupta	Qualcomm, Inc	Ning Dai	Silergy Corp.
George Paparizos	Qualcomm, Inc	Wanfeng Zhang	Silergy Corp.
Giovanni Garcea	Qualcomm, Inc	Kafai Leung	Silicon Laboratories, Inc.
Jack Pham	Qualcomm, Inc	Kok Hong Soh	Silicon Laboratories, Inc.
James Goel	Qualcomm, Inc	Sorin Badiu	Silicon Laboratories, Inc.
Joshua Warner	Qualcomm, Inc	Steven Ghang	Silicon Laboratories, Inc.
Karyn Vuong	Qualcomm, Inc	Abhishek Sardeshpande	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Lalan Mishra	Qualcomm, Inc	Aniket Mathad	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Vamsi Samavedam	Qualcomm, Inc	Chandana N	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Vatsal Patel	Qualcomm, Inc	Jaswanth Ammineni	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Chris Sporck	Qualcomm, Inc.	Jinisha Patel	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Craig Aiken	Qualcomm, Inc.	Kaustubh Kumar	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Narendra Mehta	Qualcomm, Inc.	Nitish Nitish	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Terry Remple	Qualcomm, Inc.	Pavitra Balasubramanian	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Will Kun	Qualcomm, Inc.	Rakesh Polasa	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Yoram Rimoni	Qualcomm, Inc.	Satish Anand Verkila	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Fan-Hau Hsu	Realtek Semiconductor Corp.	Shubham Paliwal	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Tsung-Peng Chuang	Realtek Semiconductor Corp.	Vishnu Pusuluri	SiliConch Systems Private Limited
Atsushi Mitamura	Renesas Electronics Corp.	John Sisto	SMSC
Bob Dunstan	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Ken Gay	SMSC
Brian Allen	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Mark Bohm	SMSC
Dan Aoki	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Richard Wahler	SMSC
Hajime Nozaki	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Shannon Cash	SMSC
John Carpenter	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Tim Knowlton	SMSC
Kiichi Muto	Renesas Electronics Corp.	William Chiechi	SMSC
Masami Katagiri	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Shigenori Tagami	Sony Corporation
Nobuo Furuya	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Shinichi Hirata	Sony Corporation
Patrick Yu	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Amanda Hosler	Specwerkz
Peter Teng	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Bob Dunstan	Specwerkz
Philip Leung	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Diane Lenox	Specwerkz
Steve Roux	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Michael Munn	StarTech.com Ltd.
Tetsu Sato	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Fabien Friess	ST-Ericsson
Toshifumi Yamaoka	Renesas Electronics Corp.	Giuseppe Platania	ST-Ericsson
Chunan Kuo	Richtek Technology Corporation	Jean-Francois Gatto	ST-Ericsson
Heinz Wei	Richtek Technology Corporation	Milan Stamenkovic	ST-Ericsson
TZUHSIEN CHUANG	Richtek Technology Corporation	Nicolas Florenchie	ST-Ericsson
Tatsuya Irisawa	Ricoh Company Ltd.	Patrizia Milazzo	ST-Ericsson
Akihiro Ono	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Christophe Cochard	STMicroelectronics
Chris Lin	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Christophe Lorin	STMicroelectronics
Hideyori Nishimoto	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Filippo Bonaccorso	STMicroelectronics
Kris Bahar	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Jessy Guilbot	STMicroelectronics
Manabu Miyata	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Joel Huloux	STMicroelectronics
Ruben Balbuena	Rohm Co. Ltd.	John Bloomfield	STMicroelectronics
Takashi Sato	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Massimo Panzica	STMicroelectronics
Vijendra Kuroodi	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Meriem Mersel	STMicroelectronics
Yusuke Kondo	Rohm Co. Ltd.	Nathalie Ballot	STMicroelectronics
Kazuomi Nagai	ROHM Co., Ltd.	Pascal Legrand	STMicroelectronics

Patrizia Milazzo	STMicroelectronics
Richard O'Connor	STMicroelectronics
Morten Christiansen	Synopsys, Inc.
Nivin George	Synopsys, Inc.
Zongyao Wen	Synopsys, Inc.
Joan Marrinan	Tektronix
Kimberley McKay	Teledyne-LeCroy
Matthew Dunn	Teledyne-LeCroy
Tony Minchell	Teledyne-LeCroy
Anand Dabak	Texas Instruments
Bill Waters	Texas Instruments
Bing Lu	Texas Instruments
Deric Waters	Texas Instruments
Grant Ley	Texas Instruments
Gregory Watkins	Texas Instruments
Ingolf Frank	Texas Instruments
Ivo Huber	Texas Instruments
Javed Ahmad	Texas Instruments
Jean Picard	Texas Instruments
John Perry	Texas Instruments
Martin Patoka	Texas Instruments
Mike Campbell	Texas Instruments
Scott Jackson	Texas Instruments
Shafiuddin Mohammed	Texas Instruments
Srinath Hosur	Texas Instruments
Steven Tom	Texas Instruments
Yoon Lee	Texas Instruments
Tim Wilhelm	The Silanna Group Pty. Ltd.
Tod Wolf	The Silanna Group Pty. Ltd.
Chris Yokum	Total Phase
Brad Cox	Ventev Mobile
Colin Vose	Ventev Mobile
Dydrion Lin	VIA Technologies, Inc.
Fong-Jim Wang	VIA Technologies, Inc.
Jay Tseng	VIA Technologies, Inc.
Rex Chang	VIA Technologies, Inc.
Terrance Shih	VIA Technologies, Inc.
Ho Wen Tsai	Weltrend Semiconductor
Hung Chiang	Weltrend Semiconductor
Jeng Cheng Liu	Weltrend Semiconductor
Priscilla Lee	Weltrend Semiconductor
Wayne Lo	Weltrend Semiconductor
Charles Neumann	Western Digital Technologies, Inc.
Curtis Stevens	Western Digital Technologies, Inc.
John Maroney	Western Digital Technologies, Inc.
Joe O'Brien	Wilder Technologies
Will Miller	Wilder Technologies
Juejia Zhou	Xiaomi Communications Co., Ltd.
Xiaoxing Yang	Xiaomi Communications Co., Ltd.

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<b>Editors</b>	<b>7</b>
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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 [\[USB 2.0\]](#), [\[USB 3.2\]](#), [\[USB Type-C 2.0\]](#) 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<sub>BUS</sub> 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<sub>CONN</sub> 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 2.0]** 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 2.0]** or **[USBBC 1.2]**.

- The DFP sources **vSafe5V** over V<sub>BUS</sub>.
- The UFP consumes power from V<sub>BUS</sub>.

## 1.3 Scope

This specification is intended as an extension to the existing **[USB 2.0], [USB 3.2], [USB Type-C 2.0]** 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 2.0]** 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.