Universal serial bus interfaces for data and power - Part 1-3: Common components - USB Type-CTM Cable and Connector Specification



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EUROPEAN STANDARD NORME EUROPÉENNE EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN IEC 62680-1-3

August 2018

ICS 33.120.20; 33.120.30; 35.200

Supersedes EN 62680-1-3:2017

English Version

Universal serial bus interfaces for data and power Part 1-3: Common components - USB Type-C[™] Cable and
Connector Specification
(IEC 62680-1-3:2018)

Interfaces de bus universel en série pour les données et l'alimentation électrique - Partie 1-3: Composants communs - Spécification des câbles et connecteurs USB de type C™ (IEC 62680-1-3:2018)

Schnittstellen des Universellen Seriellen Busses für Daten und Energie - Teil 1-3: Gemeinsame Bauteile - Festlegung für USB-Typ-CTM-Kabel und -Steckverbinder (IEC 62680-1-3:2018)

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European foreword

The text of document 100/3011/CDV, future edition 3 of IEC 62680-1-3, prepared by Technical Area 14 "Interfaces and methods of measurement for personal computing equipment" of IEC/TC 100 "Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 62680-1-3:2018.

The following dates are fixed:

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•	latest date by which the national	(dow)	2021-06-28

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Part 1-3: Common components – USB Type-C[™] Cable and Connector Specification

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The text of this standard was prepared by the USB Implementers Forum (USB-IF). The structure and editorial rules used in this publication reflect the practice of the organization which submitted it

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

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1 Introduction

With the continued success of the USB interface, there exists a need to adapt USB technology to serve newer computing platforms and devices as they trend toward smaller, thinner and lighter form-factors. Many of these newer platforms and devices are reaching a point where existing USB receptacles and plugs are inhibiting innovation, especially given the relatively large size and internal volume constraints of the Standard-A and Standard-B versions of USB connectors. Additionally, as platform usage models have evolved, usability and robustness requirements have advanced and the existing set of USB connectors were not originally designed for some of these newer requirements. This specification is to establish a new USB connector ecosystem that addresses the evolving needs of platforms and devices while retaining all of the functional benefits of USB that form the basis for this most popular of computing device interconnects.

1.1 Purpose

This specification defines the USB Type-C™ receptacles, plug and cables.

The USB Type-C Cable and Connector Specification is guided by the following principles:

- Enable new and exciting host and device form-factors where size, industrial design and style are important parameters
- Work seamlessly with existing USB host and device silicon solutions
- Enhance ease of use for connecting USB devices with a focus on minimizing user confusion for plug and cable orientation

The USB Type-C Cable and Connector Specification defines a new receptacle, plug, cable and detection mechanisms that are compatible with existing USB interface electrical and functional specifications. This specification covers the following aspects that are needed to produce and use this new USB cable/connector solution in newer platforms and devices, and that interoperate with existing platforms and devices:

- USB Type-C receptacles, including electro-mechanical definition and performance requirements
- USB Type-C plugs and cable assemblies, including electro-mechanical definition and performance requirements
- USB Type-C to legacy cable assemblies and adapters
- USB Type-C-based device detection and interface configuration, including support for legacy connections
- USB Power Delivery optimized for the USB Type-C connector

The USB Type-C Cable and Connector Specification defines a standardized mechanism that supports Alternate Modes, such as repurposing the connector for docking-specific applications.

1.2 Scope

This specification is intended as a supplement to the existing *USB 2.0*, *USB 3.1* and *USB Power Delivery* specifications. It addresses only the elements required to implement and support the USB Type-C receptacles, plugs and cables.

Normative information is provided to allow interoperability of components designed to this specification. Informative information, when provided, may illustrate possible design implementations.

1.3 Related Documents

USB 2.0	Universal Serial Bus Revision 2.0 Specification This includes the entire document release package. http://www.usb.org/developers/docs
USB 3.1	Universal Serial Bus Revision 3.1 Specification This includes the entire document release package. http://www.usb.org/developers/docs
USB PD	USB Power Delivery Specification, Revision 2.0, Version 1.3, January 12, 2017 USB Power Delivery Specification, Revision 3.0, Version 1.1, January 12, 2017 (including errata and ECNs through June 12, 2017) http://www.usb.org/developers/docs
USB BB	USB Billboard Device Class Specification, Revision 1.21, September 8, 2016 http://www.usb.org/developers/docs
USB BC	Battery Charging Specification, Revision 1.2 (including errata and ECNs through March 15, 2012), March 15, 2012 http://www.usb.org/developers/docs

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 Informative

Informative is a keyword that describes information with this specification that intends to discuss and clarify requirements and features as opposed to mandating them.

1.4.2.2 May

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

1.4.2.3 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.

1.4.2.4 Normative

Normative is a keyword that describes features that are mandated by this specification.