

NTCIP 1206:2005

National Transportation
Communications for ITS Protocol

Object Definitions for Data
Collection and Monitoring (DCM)
Devices

Joint Standard of AASHTO, ITE, and NEMA

version 01.23

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NTCIP 1206:2005 v01.23

National Transportation
Communications for ITS Protocol

Object Definitions for
Data Collection and
Monitoring (DCM) Devices

November 2005

Published by

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
444 North Capitol Street, N.W., Suite 249
Washington, D.C. 20001

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This publication was prepared by the NTCIP Data Collection and Monitoring (DCM) Working Group, which is a subdivision of the Joint Committee on the NTCIP. The Joint Committee is organized under a Memorandum of Understanding among the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA). The Joint Committee on the NTCIP consists of six representatives from each of the standards organizations, and provides guidance for NTCIP development.

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In addition to the many volunteer efforts, recognition is also given to those organizations who supported the efforts of the working groups by providing comments and funding for the standard, including:

- Alaska DOT and Public Facilities
- Chaparral Systems
- Federal Highway Administration-HPPI 30
- Golden River Traffic Ltd.
- International Road Dynamics Inc. (IRD)
- Iowa State University (CTRE)
- ITERIS, Inc
- PB Farradyne, a Division of PBQD
- PEEK Traffic
- TimeMark Inc.
- TrafiInfo Communications, Inc.
- U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration JPO
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WIDOT)

FOREWORD

This document references both imperial and metric units; however, all objects are defined using metric units.

This document defines the management information for a Data Collection and Monitoring (DCM) unit. The term DCM includes a range of devices — from traditional traffic counters on the simple end, to more complicated devices such as weigh-in-motion field units. This document defines individual parameters that represent the configuration, status, and control information that are unique to DCMs. This document also defines specific groupings of these parameters and others to address the operational configuration, monitoring, and control of the device in a baseline system configuration.

There are four annexes to this document. Annex A is normative; all other annexes are informative.

This document is an NTCIP Device Data Dictionary Standard. Device Data Dictionaries Standards define management information in terms of objects (data elements, data frames, and messages) for use within NTCIP systems. A Joint NTCIP Device Data Dictionary standards publication is equivalent to these document types at the standards organizations:

AASHTO – Standard Specification
ITE – Software Standard
NEMA – Standard

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Approvals

This document was separately balloted and approved by AASHTO, ITE, and NEMA after recommendation by the Joint Committee on the NTCIP. Each organization has approved this standard as the following standard type, as of the date:

AASHTO – Standard Specification; October 2004

ITE – Software Standard; May 2005

NEMA – Standard; November 2004

History

From 1997 to 1999, this document was referenced as TS 3.DCM. However, to provide an organized numbering scheme for the NTCIP documents, this document is now referenced as NTCIP 1206. The technical specifications of NTCIP 1206 are identical to the former reference, except as noted in the development history below:

NTCIP 1206 v01.17. November 2001 – Accepted as a User Comment Draft by the Joint Committee on the NTCIP. February 2002 – NTCIP Standards Bulletin B0072 distributed v01.18 for user comment.

NTCIP 1206 v01.21. November 2003 – Accepted v01.21 as a Recommended Standard by the Joint Committee on the NTCIP. July 2004 – NTCIP Standards Bulletin B0095 referred v01.22b for balloting. Approved by AASHTO in October 2004, approved by ITE in May 2005, and approved by NEMA in November 2004.

NTCIP 1206:2005 v01.23. November 2005 – Edited document for publication; revised front matter.

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Anyone using this document should seek information about the version number that is of interest to them in any given circumstance. The MIB, the PRL, and the PICS should all reference the version number of the standards publication that was the source of the excerpted material.

Compliant systems based on later, or higher, version numbers MAY NOT be compatible with compliant systems based on earlier, or lower, version numbers. Anyone using this document should also consult NTCIP 8004 for specific guidelines on compatibility.

INTRODUCTION

This publication defines management information related to a Data Collection and Monitoring device. DCM management information includes individual parameters that represent the configuration, status, and control information of such a device. The objects are defined using several ASN.1 Macros that were initially developed for use with Internet information management. The macros have been modified to include additional information specific to NTCIP and ITS Data Dictionaries and Message Sets.

This standard defines requirements that are applicable to an NTCIP environment that involves the control of roadside-bound devices. While the term 'data collection and monitoring unit' implies some type of physical device, many of the data concepts are applicable to any logical implementation. By definition, a DCM operates in the context of a "system" that includes roadside devices that are capable of communicating and office-based transportation management center software. The standard, therefore, imposes requirements on both of these "system" components.

The following **keywords** apply to this document: *AASHTO, ITE, NEMA, NTCIP, DCM, weigh-in-motion, WIM, traffic counters, vehicle classification, data binning*

In 1992, the NEMA 3-TS Transportation Management Systems and Associated Control Devices Section began the effort to develop the NTCIP. Under the guidance of the Federal Highway Administration's NTCIP Steering Group, the NEMA effort was expanded to include the development of communications standards for all transportation field devices that could be used in an ITS network.

In September 1996, an agreement was executed among AASHTO, ITE, and NEMA to jointly develop, approve, and maintain the NTCIP standards. The NTCIP Joint Committee established the Data Collection and Monitoring Working Group (DCM WG) in order to define a common set of management information related to roadside devices that collect traffic information on a non-real-time basis. The first meeting of the working group was held in May 1998.

After considering all functionality that could be considered appropriate to a data collection and monitoring device, the WG developed a work plan based on two phases. The initial phase sought to address the information and operational requirements of configuring and monitoring DCM devices. Within the second phase, the file structures to retrieve the collected and compounded data will be developed. This current version of this standard includes the results of the both phases.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	I
Foreword	II
Introduction	IV
1 GENERAL	1
1.1 Scope	1
1.2 References.....	1
1.2.1 Normative References	2
1.2.2 Other References.....	2
1.3 Contact Information.....	3
1.3.1 ISO/IEC Standards.....	3
1.3.2 RFC Documents.....	3
1.4 General Statements	4
1.5 How To Use This Document	4
1.6 Terms and Abbreviations.....	4
1.7 Operational Description	5
1.8 Supplemental Figures	8
2 DCM OBJECT DEFINITIONS	10
2.1 Data Collection and Monitoring (DCM) MIB Header Information	11
2.2 DCM SYNTAX Definitions (Type Assignments).....	12
2.2.1 Table Row Maintenance (DcmRowStatus)	12
2.2.2 Time Tag Index (DcmTimeTagIndex)	12
2.2.3 Maximum Number Of Rows (DcmMaxNumRows)	12
2.2.4 Current Number Of Rows (DcmMaxNumRows)	12
2.2.5 IO Board Number (DcmIOBoardNum)	13
2.2.6 IO Board Function (DcmIOBoardFtn)	13
2.2.7 Logical IO Number (DcmLogIONum)	13
2.2.8 IO Parameter Type (DcmIOParamType)	13
2.2.9 IO Parameter Value (DcmIOParamValue)	14
2.2.10 Array Number (DcmArrayNum)	15
2.2.11 Array Parameter Type (DcmArrayParamType)	15
2.2.12 Array Parameter Value (DcmArrayParamValue)	16
2.2.13 Array Parameter File Name (DcmArrayParamFileName)	16
2.2.14 Filter Number (DcmFilterNum)	16
2.2.15 Study Number (DcmStudyNum)	16
2.2.16 File Study Index (DcmFileStudyIndex)	16
2.2.17 File Structure Number (DcmFileStrucNum)	17
2.2.18 Binned Filter Number (DcmBinnedFilterNum)	17
2.3 Vehicle Criteria Node	17
2.3.1 Maximum Number Of Vehicle Criteria Table Rows	18
2.3.2 Current Number Of Vehicle Criteria Table Rows	18
2.3.3 Vehicle Criteria Table	19
2.3.3.1 Vehicle Criteria Index	19
2.3.3.2 Vehicle Criteria OID	19
2.3.3.3 Vehicle Criteria Support BitMap	19
2.3.4 Axle Number	20
2.3.5 Number of Axles	20
2.3.6 Vehicle Class	20
2.3.7 Vehicle Speed	21
2.3.8 Vehicle Length	21

2.3.9 Vehicle Front Overhang	21
2.3.10 Vehicle Rear Overhang.....	21
2.3.11 Axle Spacing	21
2.3.12 Vehicle Wheelbase	22
2.3.13 Vehicle Clearance	22
2.3.14 Vehicle Height.....	22
2.3.15 Axle Width	22
2.3.16 Vehicle Width	22
2.3.17 Axle Tire Count.....	23
2.3.18 Axle Tire Track	23
2.3.19 Vehicle Gap.....	23
2.3.20 Vehicle Headway	23
2.3.21 Left Wheel Weight.....	24
2.3.22 Right Wheel Weight	24
2.3.23 Axle Weight ²⁴	
2.3.24 Sensor Weights.....	24
2.3.25 Gross Vehicle Weight.....	25
2.3.26 Vehicle Sequence Number	25
2.3.27 Vehicle Status Flag	25
2.3.28 Axle Weight Violation Code.....	26
2.3.29 Vehicle Acceleration.....	27
2.3.30 Number of Vehicle IDs	27
2.3.31 Vehicle ID	27
2.3.32 Vehicle Time Tag in 1000 th Seconds	28
2.4 Device Setup Node.....	28
2.4.1 Unique Device ID	28
2.4.2 Battery Voltage.....	28
2.4.3 Charging Current.....	28
2.4.4 Current Number Of IO Boards	28
2.4.5 Maximum Number Of IO Board Configuration Table Rows.....	29
2.4.6 Current Number Of IO Board Configuration Table Rows	29
2.4.7 IO Board Configuration Table	29
2.4.7.1 IO Board Number	30
2.4.7.2 IO Board Function	30
2.4.7.3 IO Board Number Of IO.....	30
2.4.7.4 IO Board Function Type	30
2.4.7.5 IO Board Description	31
2.4.7.6 IO Board Status	32
2.4.7.7 IO Board Control	32
2.4.8 Maximum Number Of Physical To Logical Mapping Table Rows.....	33
2.4.9 Current Number Of Physical To Logical Table Rows	33
2.4.10 Physical to Logical Mapping Table	33
2.4.10.1 IO Board Number.....	33
2.4.10.2 IO Board Function.....	34
2.4.10.3 Physical IO Number.....	34
2.4.10.4 Logical IO Number	34
2.4.10.5 Physical IO Status	34
2.4.10.6 Physical IO Control	35
2.4.11 Maximum Number Of Logical IO Parmater Table Rows.....	35
2.4.12 Current Number Of Logical IO Parameter Table Rows	35
2.4.13 Logical IO Parameter Table	35
2.4.13.1 IO Parameter Logical IO Number	36
2.4.13.2 IO Parameter Type	36
2.4.13.3 IO Parameter Value	36
2.4.13.4 IO Parameter Row Admin.....	37

2.5 Operating Status Configuration Node	37
2.5.1 dcm Resets	37
2.5.2 Maximum Number Of Table Clear Table Rows	38
2.5.3 Current Number Of Table Clear Table Rows.....	38
2.5.4 Table Clear Table.....	38
2.5.4.1 Table Clear Index	39
2.5.4.2 Table Clear Object Identifier.....	39
2.5.4.3 Table Clear Action.....	39
2.5.4.4 Table Clear Row Admin	39
2.5.5 Current Number Of User Configuration Settings	40
2.5.6 Maximum Number Of User Reset Config Table Rows	40
2.5.7 Current Number Of User Reset Config Table Rows.....	40
2.5.8 User Reset Config Table.....	40
2.5.8.1 User Reset Configuration Index	41
2.5.8.2 User Reset Table Object Identifier	41
2.5.8.3 User Reset Config Table Action	41
2.5.8.4 User Reset Config Row Admin	42
2.5.9 Maximum Number Of Object Change ID Table Rows	42
2.5.10 Current Number Of Object Change ID Table Rows.....	42
2.5.11 Object Change ID Table.....	42
2.5.11.1 Object Change ID Table Index	43
2.5.11.2 Object Change ID Table OID.....	43
2.5.11.3 Object Change ID Table Time	43
2.5.11.4 Object Change ID Row Admin.....	43
2.6 Site Setup Node.....	43
2.6.1 Unique Site ID	43
2.6.2 Maximum Length of Site Description	44
2.6.3 Site Description	44
2.6.4 Maximum Number of Sensors per Array.....	44
2.6.5 Maximum Number of Arrays	44
2.6.6 Current Number Of Arrays	44
2.6.7 Maximum Number Of Logical IO To Array Mapping Table Rows.....	45
2.6.8 Current Number Of Logical IO To Array Mapping Table Rows	45
2.6.9 Logical IO To Array Mapping Table	45
2.6.9.1 Array Number	46
2.6.9.2 Logical IO Number	46
2.6.9.3 IO Spacing.....	46
2.6.9.4 IO Position	46
2.6.9.5 IO Functionality.....	47
2.6.9.6 IO Row Administration.....	48
2.6.10 Maximum Number of Calibration Factors per Array	48
2.6.11 Maximum Number Of Array Parameter Table Rows	48
2.6.12 Current Number Of Array Parameter Table Rows.....	48
2.6.13 Array Parameter Table	48
2.6.13.1 Array Number.....	49
2.6.13.2 Array Parameter Type	49
2.6.13.3 Array Parameter Value	49
2.6.13.4 Array Parameter FileName Pointer	50
2.6.13.5 Array Parameter Table Row Administration	50
2.6.14 Maximum Number Of Array Speed Calibration Table Rows	50
2.6.15 Current Number Of Array Speed Calibration Table Rows.....	50
2.6.16 Array Speed Calibration Table	50
2.6.16.1 Array Number.....	51
2.6.16.2 First referenced Logical IO Number	51
2.6.16.3 Second referenced Logical IO Number	51
2.6.16.4 Array Speed Calibration Factor	51

2.6.16.5 Array Speed Calibration Table Row Administration	52
2.6.17 Max Number of Axles	52
2.6.18 Max Number of Filters	52
2.6.19 Current Number Of Filters	52
2.6.20 Maximum Number Of Filter Configuration Table Rows	53
2.6.21 Current Number Of Filter Configuration Table Rows.....	53
2.6.22 Filter Configuration Table	53
2.6.22.1 Filter Number	53
2.6.22.2 Filter Index	54
2.6.22.3 Filter Criteria	54
2.6.22.4 Filter Relation.....	54
2.6.22.5 Filter Value	55
2.6.22.6 Filter Row Relation	55
2.6.22.7 Filter Configuration Table Row Administration	55
2.6.23 Maximum Number Of Logical Output To Filter Table Rows	55
2.6.24 Current Number Of Logical Output To Filter Table Rows.....	56
2.6.25 Logical Output To Filter Mapping Table	56
2.6.25.1 OFM IO Num.....	56
2.6.25.2 Output Filter Map Index	57
2.6.25.3 Filter Number	57
2.6.25.4 Output State	57
2.6.25.5 Output State Time.....	58
2.6.25.6 Output Filter Map Relationship	58
2.6.25.7 Output Filter Map Row Admin.....	59
2.6.26 Max Number of Vehicle ID's.....	59
2.7 Study Setup Node	59
2.7.1 Current Number Of Studies.....	59
2.7.2 Maximum Number of Studies.....	59
2.7.3 Maximum Number Of Study Configuration Table Rows	60
2.7.4 Current Number Of Study Configuration Table Rows.....	60
2.7.5 Study Configuration Table	60
2.7.5.1 Study Number.....	60
2.7.5.2 Study Type	61
2.7.5.3 Study Start Type	61
2.7.5.4 Study Start Date and Time	62
2.7.5.5 Study End Type	62
2.7.5.6 Study End Date and Time	62
2.7.5.7 Study File Index.....	63
2.7.5.8 Study Configuration Row Admin	63
2.7.6 Maximum Number Of Array To Study Mapping Table Rows.....	63
2.7.7 Current Number Of Array To Study Mapping Table Rows	63
2.7.8 Array To Study Mapping Table	63
2.7.8.1 Study Number.....	64
2.7.8.2 Array Number	64
2.7.8.3 Study to Array Enable	64
2.7.8.4 Array to Study Mapping Table Row Admin	65
2.7.9 Maximum Number Of Filter To Study Mapping Table Rows	65
2.7.10 Current Number Of Filter To Study Mapping Table Rows	65
2.7.11 Filter to Study Mapping Table	65
2.7.11.1 Study Number	66
2.7.11.2 Filter Number	66
2.7.11.3 Study to Filter Mapping Relationship	66
2.7.11.4 Filter to Study Mapping Table Row Admin	67
2.8 Study Data Setup Node	67
2.8.1 Display Length Units	67

2.8.2	Display Speed Units	68
2.8.3	Display Weight Units	68
2.8.4	Maximum Number of Headings For All Studies	69
2.8.5	Maximum Number of Bins For All Studies	69
2.8.6	Maximum Number Of Binned Filter Definition Table Rows	69
2.8.7	Current Number Of Binned Filter Definition Table Rows	69
2.8.8	Binned Filter Definition Table	69
2.8.8.1	Binned Filter Number	70
2.8.8.2	Binned Filter Index	70
2.8.8.3	Bin Heading	71
2.8.8.4	Bin Minimum Value	71
2.8.8.5	Bin Maximum Value	71
2.8.8.6	Bin Number to Index Relationship	71
2.8.8.7	Binned Filter Definition Table Row Admin	72
2.8.9	Maximum Number Of Binned Study Configuration Table Rows	72
2.8.10	Current Number Of Binned Study Configuration Table Rows	72
2.8.11	Binned Study Configuration Table	72
2.8.11.1	Study Number	73
2.8.11.2	Heading Number	73
2.8.11.3	Bin Label Number	73
2.8.11.4	Binned Filter Number	74
2.8.11.5	Bin Relation Table Row Admin	74
2.8.12	Maximum Number Of PVR Study Configuration Table Rows	74
2.8.13	Current Number Of PVR Study Configuration Table Rows	74
2.8.14	PVR Study Configuration Table	74
2.8.14.1	Study Number	75
2.8.14.2	PVR Study Index	75
2.8.14.3	PVR Parameter	75
2.8.14.4	PVR Study Configuration Table Row Admin	76
2.8.15	Maximum Number Of Event Study Configuration Table Rows	76
2.8.16	Current Number Of Event Study Configuration Table Rows	76
2.8.17	Event Study Configuration Table	76
2.8.17.1	Study Number	77
2.8.17.2	Event Number Size	77
2.8.17.3	Timer Event Maximum Period	77
2.8.17.4	Event Study Config Table Row Admin	77
2.8.18	Maximum Number Of Event To Logical IO Mapping Table Rows	78
2.8.19	Current Number Of Event To Logical IO Mapping Table Rows	78
2.8.20	Event To Logical IO Mapping Table	78
2.8.20.1	Study Number	79
2.8.20.2	Event Configuration Number	79
2.8.20.3	Event Number	79
2.8.20.4	Logical IO Number	80
2.8.20.5	Logical IO State	80
2.8.20.6	Event Value Size	80
2.8.20.7	Timestamp Size	80
2.8.20.8	Event Configuration Table Row Admin	81
2.8.21	Maximum Number Of Data Recording Enable Table Rows	81
2.8.22	Current Number Of Data Recording Enable Table Rows	81
2.8.23	Data Recording Enable Table	81
2.8.23.1	Study Number	82
2.8.23.2	Data Recording Enable Status	82
2.8.23.3	Data Recording Control	82
2.8.24	Maximum Number Of Monitor Enable Table Rows	83
2.8.25	Current Number Of Monitor Enable Table Rows	83
2.8.26	Monitor Enable Table	83

2.8.26.1 Study Number	85
2.8.26.2 Logical IO Number	85
2.8.26.3 Monitor Enable Type	85
2.8.26.4 Monitor Enable Time Interval	86
2.8.26.5 Monitor Enable Control	86
2.8.26.6 Monitor Enable Status	87
2.8.26.7 Monitor Enable Poll Now	87
2.8.27 Array Parameter Change Record Table	88
2.8.27.1 Time Tag88	88
2.8.27.2 Array Number	89
2.8.27.3 Array Parameter Type	89
2.8.27.4 Array Parameter Value	89
2.8.27.5 Array Parameter FileName Pointer	89
2.8.28 Logical IO Parameter Change Record Table	89
2.8.28.1 IOPC Time Tag	90
2.8.28.2 IOPC Logical IO Number	90
2.8.28.3 IOPC IO Parameter Type	90
2.8.28.4 IOPC IO Parameter Value	90
2.8.29 Log Data Record Table	90
2.8.29.1 Time Tag91	91
2.8.29.2 Log Data	91
2.8.30 Data Structure Table	91
2.8.30.1 Study Number	92
2.8.30.2 Data Structure Table Index	92
2.8.30.3 Start time associated with the data in this packet	93
2.8.30.4 End time associated with the data in this packet	93
2.8.30.5 Number of records encoded in the data section of this table	93
2.8.30.6 Data Encoding Code	93
2.8.30.7 Collected Data	94
2.9 File Setup Node	95
2.9.1 Current Number Of File Structures	95
2.9.2 Maximum Number Of File Structure Table Rows	95
2.9.3 Current Number Of File Structure Table Rows	95
2.9.4 File Structure Table	95
2.9.4.1 File Structure Number	96
2.9.4.2 File Structure Index	96
2.9.4.3 File Structure Table OID	96
2.9.4.4 File Structure Table Row Admin	96
2.9.5 Maximum Number Of File Parameter Table Rows	97
2.9.6 Current Number Of File Parameter Table Rows	97
2.9.7 File Parameter Table	97
2.9.7.1 File Study Index	97
2.9.7.2 File Structure Number	98
2.9.7.3 File Recording Interval	98
2.9.7.4 File Recording Frequency	98
2.9.7.5 FP Logical IO Number	99
2.9.7.6 Relative Address Flag	99
2.9.7.7 File Encoding Code	99
2.9.7.8 File Parameter Table Row Admin	100
2.9.8 Data File Integrity Object	100
2.9.9 Maximum Number Of File Directory Structure Table Rows	100
2.9.10 Current Number Of File Directory Structure Table Rows	100
2.9.11 File Directory Structure Table	100
2.9.11.1 Logical IO Number Index	101
2.9.11.2 File Number	101
2.9.11.3 File Name	101

2.9.11.4 Start Date/Time of Data File	102
2.9.11.5 End Date/Time of Data File	102
2.9.11.6 File Size 102	102
2.9.11.7 File Download Flag	102
2.9.11.8 Open Flag	102
2.10 Error Logging Node	103
2.10.1 Maximum Number Of Error Code Table Rows	103
2.10.2 Current Number Of Error Code Table Rows.....	103
2.10.3 Dcm Error Code Table	103
2.10.3.1 Error Code Index	104
2.10.3.2 Error Code Object Identifier.....	104
2.10.3.3 Dcm Error Code	104
2.11 DCM Relative Address OID Object	105
2.12 DCM MIB Version number	106
ANNEX A INFORMATION PROFILE.....	107
A.1 Notation.....	108
A.1.1 TYPE Symbols	108
A.1.2 Status Symbols	108
A.1.3 Conditional Status Notation.....	108
A.1.4 Support Column	109
A.2 DCM Conformance Groups	109
A.3 Vehicle Criteria Conformance Group.....	110
A.4 Site Info Conformance Group	112
A.5 Operating Status Config Conformance Group.....	112
A.6 Configure Sensor Arrays Conformance Group.....	114
A.7 Configure General Study Conformance Group	117
A.8 Configure Filters Conformance Group.....	119
A.9 Data File Setup Conformance Group	120
A.10Binned Studies Conformance Group	122
A.11 PVR Studies Conformance Group	123
A.12Event Studies Conformance Group	123
A.13Monitor Studies Conformance Group	124
A.14Log Studies Conformance Group	125
A.15Array Parameter Studies Conformance Group.....	125
A.16Logical IO Parameter Studies Conformance Group	126
A.17Global Time Management Conformance Group.....	127
A.18STMF Conformance Group.....	127
A.19FTP Conformance Group.....	127
A.20Information Profile (PICS) Example (Informative).....	127
A.20.1 PICS Example Conventions.....	128
A.20.2 DCM Conformance Groups	128
A.20.3 Vehicle Criteria Conformance Group	129
A.20.4 Site Info Conformance Group	132
A.20.5 Operating Status Config Conformance Group.....	132
A.20.6 Configure Sensor Arrays Conformance Group.....	134
A.20.7 Configure General Study Conformance Group	137
A.20.8 Configure Filters Conformance Group	139
A.20.9 Data File Setup Conformance Group.....	141
A.20.10Binned Studies Conformance Group	143
A.20.11PVR Studies Conformance Group.....	144
A.20.12Event Studies Conformance Group	144
A.20.13Monitor Studies Conformance Group	146
A.20.14Log Studies Conformance Group	146
A.20.15Array Parameter Studies Conformance Group.....	147
A.20.16Logical IO Parameter Studies Conformance Group.....	147

A.20.17 Global Time Management Conformance Group.....	148
A.20.18 STMF Conformance Group	148
A.20.19 FTP Conformance Group	149
ANNEX B TREE STRUCTURE TABLES	150
B.1 Vehicle Criteria Node (see Section 2.3).....	150
B.2 Device Setup Node (see Section 2.4).....	150
B.3 Operating Status Configuration Node (see Section 2.5)	150
B.4 Site Setup Node (see Section 2.6).....	151
B.5 Study Setup Node (see Section 2.7)	152
B.6 Study Data Setup Node (see Section 2.8).....	152
B.7 File Setup Node (see Section 2.9).....	154
B.8 Error Logging Node (see Section 2.10)	155
B.9 Table ER (Entity Relationship) Diagram	156
ANNEX C EXAMPLES	157
C.1 How To Configure a DCM Device (Informative)	157
C.1.1 Determine Device Capabilities.....	157
C.1.2 Configure Site Information	157
C.1.3 Configure General Study.....	157
C.1.4 Configure Study Details	157
C.1.5 Verify System Is Working	158
C.1.6 Start Each Study	159
C.1.7 Collect Data.....	159
C.2 dcm Data File Structure (Normative)	159
C.2.1 Configuring A dcm Device To Create Data Files	159
C.2.2 Transferring Data Files From A dcm Device To A Central Application.....	159
C.2.3 Dcm Data File Structure	160
C.2.4 Dcm Data File Encoding Table	163
C.3 Examples (INFORMATIVE)	165
C.3.1 Binned Study Example (Informative)	165
C.3.1.1 Determine Device Capabilities	166
C.3.1.2 Configure Site Information.....	167
C.3.1.3 Configure General Study.....	168
C.3.1.4 Configure Study Details.....	169
C.3.1.5 Verify Proper Operation Of Sensors/Arrays	172
C.3.1.6 Validate And Start The Recording Study	173
C.3.1.7 Data File Formats	173
C.3.1.8 Binned Data Bins Ordering (Normative).....	189
C.3.2 Per Vehicle Record (PVR) Study Example (Informative).....	192
C.3.2.1 Determine Device Capabilities	193
C.3.2.2 Configure Site Information.....	194
C.3.2.3 Configure General Study	195
C.3.2.4 Configure Study Details.....	197
C.3.2.5 Verify Proper Operation Of Sensors/Arrays	198
C.3.2.6 Validate And Start The Recording Study	199
C.3.2.7 Data File Formats	199
C.3.3 Event Study Example (Informative).....	214
C.3.3.1 Determine Device Capabilities	215
C.3.3.2 Configure Site Information.....	216
C.3.3.3 Configure General Study	216
C.3.3.4 Configure Study Details.....	218
C.3.3.5 Verify Proper Operation Of Sensors/Arrays	219
C.3.3.6 Validate And Start The Recording Study	220
C.3.3.7 Data File Formats	221
C.3.4 Log File Study Example (Informative).....	227
C.3.4.1 Determine Device Capabilities	227

C.3.4.2 Configure Site Information.....	227
C.3.4.3 Configure General Study.....	227
C.3.4.4 Configure Study Details.....	229
C.3.4.5 Verify Proper Operation Of Sensors/Arrays	229
C.3.4.6 Validate And Start The Recording Study	229
C.3.4.7 Data File Formats	230
C.3.5 Array and Logical IO Parameter Change Study Example (Informative)	232
C.3.5.1 Determine Device Capabilities	232
C.3.5.2 Configure Site Information.....	232
C.3.5.3 Configure General Study.....	233
C.3.5.4 Configure Study Details.....	234
C.3.5.5 Verify Proper Operation Of Sensors/Arrays	235
C.3.5.6 Validate And Start The Recording Study	235
C.3.5.7 Data File Formats	235
C.3.6 Monitor Mode Examples (Informative)	241
C.3.6.1 Binned Monitor Mode Example 1: (Informative).....	242
C.3.6.2 Binned Monitor Mode Example 2: (Informative).....	245
C.3.6.3 Binned Monitor Mode Example 3: (Informative).....	248
C.3.6.4 PVR Monitor Mode Example 1: (Informative).....	251
C.3.6.5 PVR Monitor Mode Example 2: (Informative).....	254
C.3.6.6 Event Monitor Mode Example 1: (Informative).....	257
C.3.6.7 Event Monitor Mode Example 2: (Informative).....	261
C.3.7 SNMP 'GETNEXT' Example: (Informative)	264
C.3.8 SNMP Encoding of a 'GET RESPONSE' on a Table – EXAMPLE (Informative)	266
ANNEX D TYPICAL COMMUNICATIONS PROFILES LIST	267
D.1 DCM Typical Communications Architectures	268
D.1.1 Dial-up / Direct Connect (for Configuration or Setup of the DCM Unit)	268
D.1.2 Dial-up / Direct-Connect / Network (for File Transfers)	268

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Sensor/Array/PVR/Binned/Data File Relationship.....	7
Figure 2: Array Layout.....	7
Figure 3: DCM Node – Organizational Chart.....	8
Figure 4: DCM Node – tree structure.....	9
Figure C-1: Binned Study Sensor Array	165
Figure C-2: PVR Study Sensor Array	192
Figure C-3: Event Study Sensor Array.....	214

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Section 1

GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

The messaging between central control entities and Data Collection and Monitoring (DCM) devices is accomplished using the NTCIP Application Layer services to convey requests to access or modify values of DCM object definitions resident in the devices via an NTCIP network. An NTCIP message consists of a specific Application Layer service and a set of data objects.

DCM devices usually record data over a period of time and transmit this data in the form of a file to a central entity. The DCM object definitions defined in Section 2 of this standard are used to configure the device. An NTCIP message using these object definitions should be compatible with the Simple Transportation Management Framework (STMF).

The methodology defined in Section 3 may be used to transmit files using the AP-TFTP or AP-FTP profiles. Section 3 describes how to setup files in such a way that it allows any central system to 'parse' and process the contents of the data files.

The scope of this document is limited to the functionality related to DCMs used within a transportation environment. The limits and descriptions of the parameters are established to give the user maximum flexibility to operate devices that either exist at the time this document was authored or may exist in the future. This publication defines object definitions which are specific to DCM units and also defines standardized conformance groups (Section 4) that may be used for conformance statements.

This standard includes four (4) Annexes. **Annex A** is normative and defines the organization of object definitions into conformance groups. **Informative Annex B** provides all SNMP tables defined in Section 2 as real tables to provide the user of this document with a better overview as well as with a guidance annex. **Informative Annex C** provides examples of configuring different types of studies as well as encoding tables using the SNMP/BER encoding. **Informative Annex D** provides a list of typical Communications Profiles for use with DCM equipment utilizing the object definitions and file transfer mechanism defined in this standard.

In order to achieve the desired DCM functionality, some of the object definitions described in other standards (see Normative References) such as TS 3.4 - Global Object Definitions may need to be utilized. Object definitions from other standards that are required to be used in conjunction with this standard are not re-defined in this standard, but are referenced in conformance group definitions (Annex A) within this standard.

1.2 REFERENCES

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