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Standards Advisory
Committee (TSAC)

Draft 3
Next Gen National
Broadband Network

Powerline
Communications
(PLC) Home
Networking

IDA TS PLC
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Content

Section	Title	Page
1.	General Requirements	2
2.	Scope	3
3.	Abbreviations	4
4.	Power Spectral Density (PSD) Specification	5
5.	System Reference Model for PLC Networking Transceivers	7
6.	Radiated Emission Characteristics of PLC Networks	7
7.	Prohibited Frequencies	8
8.	Amateur Radio Frequency Bands	8
9.	References	9
Annex A	Interfaces of PLC Equipment for connection to Telecommunications Network	10
Annex B	Conformity Assessment Checklist	12

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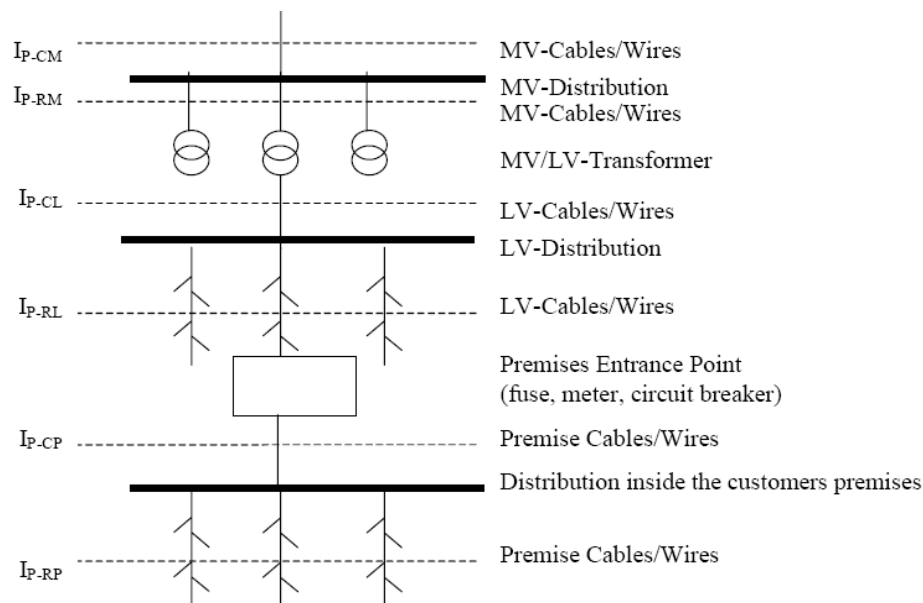
Powerline Communications

1 General Requirements

- 1.1 Powerline Communications (PLC) is a technology which allows the transmission of voice and data through the electrical distribution network (LV distribution cables). Since the electrical distribution network is not meant for telecommunications purposes, any users, operators and providers of PLC equipment, as the case may be, have a responsibility to ensure that they obtain the necessary approval from the relevant authorities that have jurisdiction over the use of electrical distribution cables.
- 1.2 This Specification does not in any way, constitutes an approval to transmit telecommunications signal over the power cables. Reference to this Specification should only be made after prior approval from the relevant authorities (as mentioned in the preceding paragraph) has been obtained.
- 1.3 To facilitate the use of PLC for home networking, operators/users are required to:
 - (a) Ensure that the in-home PLC devices operate within the frequency range of 2 to 80 MHz, the Power Spectral Density (PSD) mask defined in § 4 and have suppressed the use of frequency bands listed in § 7 and § 8 of this Specification.
 - (b) Ensure that the level of the PLC device output power is set to a minimum value for communication, and that the unwanted emissions are within the limits defined in § 6 of this Specification.
- 1.4 Operators of PLC services and suppliers of PLC devices are required to:
 - (a) Provide information to customers and users on how to resolve interference problems.
 - (b) Advise their customers that:
 - i. The operation of PLC devices is allowed under the condition that no interference is caused to other authorised telecommunications services, and that any interference caused by an authorised radio station, electrical or electronic equipment must be tolerated.
 - ii. Operation of the PLC devices may have to cease if it is found causing interference to other telecommunications services.
 - iii. Compliance with requirements defined in this Specification does not imply a guarantee of a certain level of performance quality or multi-vendor equipment interoperability.
- 1.5 The PLC devices shall be marked with the supplier or manufacturer's name or identification mark, and the supplier or manufacturer's model or type reference. The markings required shall be legible, indelible and readily visible

2 Scope

- 2.1 This Specification defines the minimum technical requirements for the connection of PLC devices to the mains network for the purpose of data transfer and telecommunications and also possibly, for the supply of electrical energy to the devices. The Specification is applicable to PLC home networking equipment or in-home PLC devices connected at the same premises that can comply with the ITU-T Recommendation G.9964 [1] for the Power Spectral Density (PSD) mask requirements, the support for reduction of the transmit PSD and the allowable total transmit power.
- 2.2 The characteristics of PSD reduction and power management can be implemented independent of the PLC technology.
- 2.3 The Specification also outlines 3 possible system reference models which can be adopted to complement the PSD for the logical interface between a PLC home networking transceivers and the power line medium.
- 2.4 The PSD levels are further limited by the Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) requirements defined for limiting the radiated emissions according to the ETSI TR 102 324 [2] and the IEC CISPR 22 [3] standards.
- 2.5 PLC devices are connected at the powerline interfaces I_{P-RP} of the network architecture model as shown in Figure 1. Figure 1 shows a schematic of an Electrical Distribution Network (EDN) substation up to the level of the Medium Voltage/Low Voltage (MV/LV) Transformer. It shows a star configuration although ring configuration is also possible on each power level.



Note: I_{P-YX} Interface Powerline – Y may be C denoting Central or R denoting Remote
X may be L denoting Low Voltage Outdoor or P denoting Premises

Figure 1 (Figure 3/ETSI TS 101 896 [4]): Physical Interfaces (I_{P-YX}) in the EDN

- 2.6 The PLC device shall be tested for compliance with the IEC 60950-1 [5] safety standard. The requirements in IEC 60950-1 that are applicable to the equipment (e.g. class of equipment, type of TNV circuit and types of components) shall be identified and complied with.
- 2.7 Figure A-1/Annex A of this Specification gives the generic building block for powerline telecommunications, PLT_X . It shows how PLT device or functionality may be inserted into the

different levels of the power network architecture (refer to Figure 1). It also shows how the PLT networks may be connected to the telecommunications networks at the I_{T-CX} interface for interworking, and the customer premises equipment (CPE) may be connected to the I_{T-RX} interface.

3 Abbreviations

CISPR	International Special Committee on Radio Interference
CPE	Customer Premises Equipment
DM	Differential Mode
EDN	Electrical Distribution Network
EMC	Electromagnetic Compatibility
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
ETSI PLT	ETSI Powerline Telecommunications project
HF	High Frequency
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
ITE	Information Technology Equipment
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
LCM	Launched Common Mode
LPM	Limit PSD Mask
LV	Low Voltage
MV	Medium Voltage
PB	Power-line Baseband
PLC	Power-Line Communications
PLT	Power-Line Telecommunications
PSD	Power Spectral Density
PSDC	PSD Ceiling
PSM	PSD Shaping Mask
SM	Sub-carrier Mask
UPA DHS	Universal Powerline Association – Digital Home Standard

4 Power Spectral Density (PSD) Specification

4.1 Transmit PSD Mask

- 4.1.1 The PLC device shall have the capability to limit the transmit Power Spectral Density (PSD) mask with the tools supporting the reduction of the transmit PSD.
- 4.1.2 The limit PSD masks for operation over power lines shall be as presented in Figure 2 (ITU-T Rec. G.9964 Figure 6-2) with the values of frequencies f_L - f_H as presented in Table 1 (ITU-T Rec. G.9964 Table 6-5).
- 4.1.3 Sub-carriers with frequencies $(80 \text{ MHz} - F_{SC}) \leq f \leq (100 \text{ MHz} + F_{SC})$ shall be masked (zero power transmitted).

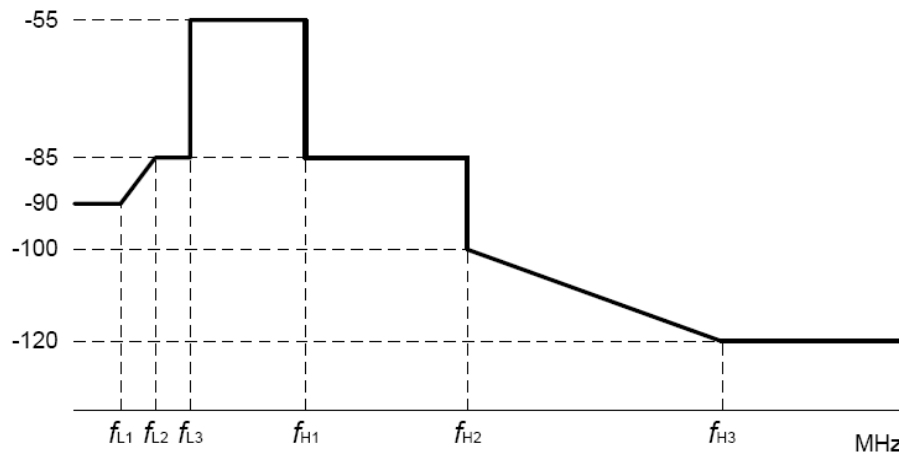


Figure 2 (Figure 6.2/ ITU-T Rec. G.9964): Limit PSD mask for baseband transmission (Amateur radio-band notches are not shown)

Table 1 (Table 6-5/ ITU-T Rec. G.9964): Parameters of Limit PSD mask for the 25MHz-PB, 50MHz-PB, and 100MHz-PB band plans

Parameters	Frequency (MHz)	PSD (dBm/Hz)	Note/Description
f_{L1}	1.1	-90	Additional reduction below 1.1 MHz is to reduce crosstalk into ADSL
f_{L2}	1.8	-85	Coincides with the Amateur radio band
f_{L3}	2.0		
$f_{L3} + \Delta F$	$2.0 + \Delta F$	-55	ΔF is an arbitrary small positive value
$f_{H1} - \Delta F$	$30 - \Delta F$	-55	ΔF is an arbitrary small positive value
f_{H1}	30	-85	ΔF is an arbitrary small positive value
$f_{H2} - \Delta F$	$100 - \Delta F$		
f_{H2}	100	-100	
f_{H3}	250	-120	
NOTE – All sub-carriers above $f_{H2} - \Delta F$ shall not be used for transmission (neither data nor any auxiliary information).			

4.2 Reduction of the Transmit PSD

PSD reduction capability of the PLC device shall be determined by the following tools or their equivalent.

- (a) Sub-carrier Mask (SM), § 5.1 of the ITU-T Rec. G.9964;
- (b) PSD Shaping Mask (PSM), § 5.2 of the ITU-T Rec. G.9964;
- (c) Notching of amateur radio bands, § 5.3 of the ITU-T Rec. G.9964; and
- (d) PSD Ceiling (PSDC).

4.3 The maximum transmit PSD shall be a function of the channel attenuation. Typical in-home PLC devices in Singapore should have a transmit PSD < -79 dBm/Hz with reference to a cable attenuation of 0.4 dB/m for power cables with HF signals inserted (CISPR/I/PT PLT Document [6]).

4.4 Measurements of the Limit PSD Mask (LPM) and Total Transmit Power

4.4.1 Measurements of LPM for transmission over the power line can be made using equipment conforming to the IEC CISPR 16-1 [7] specifications using an RMS detector with a "maximum hold" function and using a resolution bandwidth of 9 kHz for frequencies below 30 MHz and 120 kHz for frequencies above 30 MHz. In order to conform to the IEC CISPR 22 and make reliable measurements, the PLC equipment shall be active at least 10% of the time and sustain the transmit power level for a minimum of 250 ms.

4.4.2 The standard termination (load) impedance of power line for measuring PSD mask and total transmit power shall be 100 Ohm.

4.4.3 The total transmit power of the PLC equipment terminated with the standard termination impedance shall not exceed +20 dBm when measured in the frequency range of 0.005 – 100 MHz (Table 6-12/ITU-T Rec. G.9964).

4.4.4 When operating on power line medium and not transmitting, the PLC equipment shall present a minimum impedance of 40 Ohm in the band from 1.8 MHz to 50 MHz measured between line (phase) and neutral terminals. It shall present a minimum impedance of 20 Ohm in the ranges from 100 kHz to 1.8 MHz and from 50 MHz to 100 MHz.

5 System Reference Models for PLC Networking Transceivers

Specification of the transmit PSD and tools for supporting the reduction of the transmit PSD should be complemented by a system architecture and reference model as defined in the ITU-T Recommendation G.9960 [8], the IEEE 1901 [9] or the UPA DHS [10].

6 Radiated Emission Characteristics of PLC Networks

6.1 Radiated Emission Measurements below 30 MHz

6.1.1 Radiated emissions from the PLC device below 30 MHz shall be measured according to the ETSI TR 102 324 and shall be below the value given in Table 2 (Table 1/ ETSI TR 102 324).

Table 2 (Table 1/ETSI TR 102 324): Radiated Emissions from PLC Networks below 30 MHz

Frequency Range (MHz)	Field Strength (dB μ A/m quasi-peak)	Reference Measurement Distance (m)	Measurement Bandwidth (kHz)
1.605 to 30	14	3	9

6.1.2 In the frequency range 1.605 to 30 MHz, the magnetic component of the radiated emission shall be measured. A calibrated measuring system according to IEC CISPR 16-1 consisting of a radio disturbance measuring receiver, an associated loop antenna for measurement of magnetic field components and a tripod is required. Other specialized equipment such as resonant loop antennas can also be used. A measuring bandwidth of 9 kHz and a Quasi-peak detector shall be used.

6.2 Radiated Emission Measurements above 30 MHz

Radiated emissions from PLC equipment above 30 MHz shall be measured according to the IEC CISPR 22 and shall meet the limits of Table 3 (Table 6/CISPR 22).

Table 3 (Table 6/CISPR 22): Limits for Radiated Disturbance of class B ITE at a measuring distance of 10 m

Frequency range MHz	Quasi-peak limits dB μ V/m
30 to 230	30
230 to 1000	37

Note 1 The lower limit shall apply at the transition frequency.
 Note 2 Additional provisions may be required for cases where interference occurs.

7 Prohibited frequencies

PLC transmission in the following frequency bands is prohibited and shall be suppressed by PSD reduction of at least 30 dB with respect to the transmit level outside of the PSD reduction with widths encompassing the suppressed frequency bands.

- (a) 2.850 – 3.025 MHz
- (b) 5.480 – 5.730 MHz
- (c) 6.525 – 6.685 MHz
- (d) 8.815 – 8.965 MHz
- (e) 10.005 – 10.100 MHz
- (f) 10.7 MHz
- (g) 11.275 – 11.400 MHz
- (h) 74.800 – 75.200 Mhz

8 Amateur Radio Frequency Bands

PLC transmission in the following amateur radio frequency bands shall be suppressed by PSD reduction of at least 30 dB with respect to the transmit level outside of the PSD reduction with widths encompassing the suppressed frequency bands.

- (a) 3.500 – 3.900 MHz
- (b) 7.000 – 7.100 MHz
- (c) 10.100 – 10.1500 MHz
- (d) 14.000 – 14.350 MHz
- (e) 18.068 – 18.168 MHz
- (f) 21.000 – 21.450 MHz
- (g) 28.000 – 29.700 Mhz

9 References

- [1] ITU-T Recommendation G.9964 (2011), Unified high-speed wire-line based home networking transceivers – Power Spectral Density (PSD) Specification
- [2] ETSI TR 102 324 v1.1.1 (2004-05) Powerline Telecommunications (PLT); Radiated emissions' characteristics and measurement method of state of the art powerline communication networks
- [3] IEC CISPR 22 (2008), Information technology equipment – Radio disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement
- [4] ETSI TS 101 896 v1.1.1 (2001-02) Powerline Telecommunications (PLT); Reference Network Architecture Model; PLT Phase 1
- [5] IEC 60950-1 International Electrotechnical Commission – Safety of Information Technology Equipment
- [6] CISPR/PT PLT, “Average Reduction of the PSD Mask by PLC Power Management”, Dr.-Ing. Michael Koch, (2009-06)
- [7] IEC CISPR 16-1 (2010), Specification for radio disturbance and immunity measuring apparatus and methods
- [8] ITU-T Recommendation G.9960 (2011), Unified high-speed wire-line based home networking transceivers – system architecture and physical layer specification
- [9] IEEE P1901 (07/2009) Standards Working Group
- [10] UPA DHS v1.0 (02/2006) Universal Powerline Association Digital Home System (UPA DHS) Specification v1.0

Annex A

Interfaces of PLC Equipment for connection to Telecommunications Network

Interworking between PLT and telecommunications networks is demarcated by the I_{T-CX} as shown in the PLT building block of Figure A-1 (Figure 1/ETSI TS 101 896).

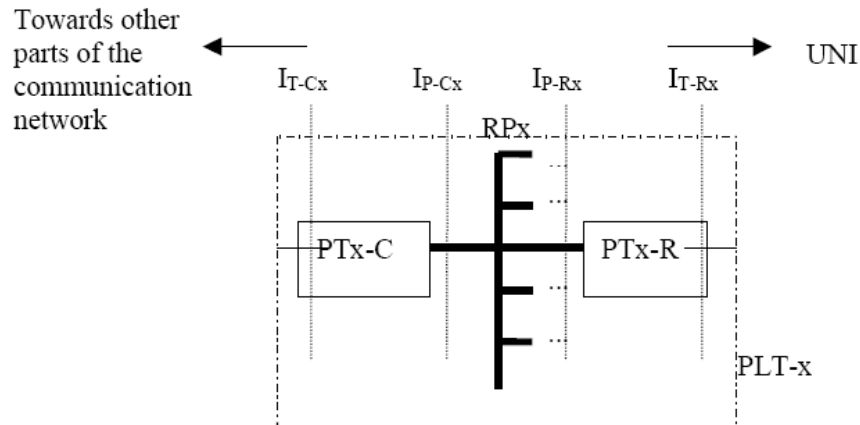


Figure A-1 (Figure 1/ETSI TS 101 896): Generic Building Block PLT_X

X	X may be L denoting Low Voltage Outdoor or P denoting Premises
I_{T-CX}	Interface Telecommunication Central connection point to a core backbone network or to I_{T-RX} of another PLT_X in a layered PLT structure
I_{P-CX}	Interface Powerline Central connection point to the Electrical Distribution Network (EDN)
I_{P-RX}	Interface Powerline Remote connection point to the Electrical Distribution Network (EDN)
I_{T-RX}	Interface Telecommunication Remote connection point to either customer equipment or to I_{T-CX} of another PLT_X in a layered PLT structure
RP_X	Reference Point to the respective section of the EDN
PT_{X-C}	Powerline Transmission Central modem unit, which modulates information from I_{T-CX} in downstream direction into RF signal on the I_{P-CX} , and demodulates an upstream RF signal from the I_{P-CX} into the I_{T-CX} .
PT_{X-R}	Powerline Transmission Remote modem unit, which modulates information from I_{T-RX} in upstream direction into RF signal on the I_{P-RX} , and demodulates a downstream RF signal from the I_{P-RX} into the I_{T-RX} .
PLT_X	Powerline Telecommunications building block

The current IDA Specifications for equipment connection to the various telecommunications networks (core backbone networks) are:

- IDA TS PSTN 1
- IDA TS ISDN1, ISDN2 and ISDN3
- IDA TS ADSL1 and ADSL2
- IDA TS CM2
- IDA TS DLCN 1
- IDA TS BISDN1
- IDA RS SDH 1, SDH 2 and SDH 3

This list is subject to review and updating.

These IDA Specifications are available from www.ida.gov.sg under Policy & Regulation.

Annex B

Conformity Assessment Checklist

IDA TS PLC	Description	CR	Complied Yes/No	Remarks
2.6	IEC 60950-1 safety standard	M		
4.1.1	Limit PSD with tools for reduction of transmit PSD	M		
4.1.2	Limit PSD Mask as shown in Figure 2 with parameters as given in Table 1.	M		
4.1.3	Sub-carriers with frequencies $(80 \text{ MHz} - F_{SC}) \leq f \leq (100 \text{ MHz} + F_{SC})$ shall be masked.	M		
4.2	PSD reduction capability shall be determined by the following tools or their equivalent: Sub-carrier Mask (SM), PSD Shaping Mask (PSM), Notching and PSD Ceiling (PSDC) according to § 5 of ITU-T Rec.G.9964.	M		
4.3	Maximum transmit PSD shall be a function of the channel attenuation. Cable attenuation of 0.4 dB/m may be used for measurement of the PSD reduction capability for power cables inserted with HF signals.	M		
4.4	Measurements of the Limit PSD Mask (LPM) and total transmit power	M		
5	System Reference Models for PLC networking transceivers	O		
6.1	Radiated emission measurements below 30 MHz (ETSI TR 102 324)	M		
6.2	Radiated emission measurements above 30 MHz (CISPR 22)	M		
7	Listed prohibited frequency bands suppressed	M		
8	Listed amateur radio frequency bands suppressed	M		

CR : Compliance Requirement

M : Mandatory

O : Optional