

§

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

**CCITT**

**I.113**

THE INTERNATIONAL  
TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE  
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

**INTEGRATED SERVICES DIGITAL  
NETWORK (ISDN)**

**GENERAL STRUCTURE AND SERVICE  
CAPABILITIES**

**VOCABULARY OF TERMS FOR  
BROADBAND ASPECTS OF ISDN**

**Recommendation I.113**

§

Geneva, 1991



Printed in Switzerland

## FOREWORD

**permanent organ of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). CCITT is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.**

The Plenary Assembly of CCITT which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study and approves Recommendations prepared by its Study Groups. The approval of Recommendations by the members of CCITT between Plenary Assemblies is covered by the procedure laid down in CCITT Resolution No. 2 (Melbourne, 1988).

Recommendation I.113 was prepared by Study Group XVIII and was approved under the Resolution No. 2 procedure on the 5th of April 1991.

---

## CCITT NOTES

- 1) **indicate both a telecommunication Administration and a recognized private operating agency.**
- 2) A list of abbreviations used in this Recommendation can be found in Annex A.

ã ITU 1991

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from the ITU.

## Preamble to B-ISDN Recommendations

In 1990, CCITT SG XVIII approved a first set of Recommendations on B-ISDN. These are:

- I.113 — Vocabulary of terms for broadband aspects of ISDN
- I.121 — Broadband aspects of ISDN
- I.150 — B-ISDN asynchronous transfer mode functional characteristics
- I.211 — B-ISDN service aspects
- I.311 — B-ISDN general network aspects
- I.321 — B-ISDN Protocol Reference Model and its application
- I.327 — B-ISDN functional architecture
- I.361 — B-ISDN ATM Layer specification
- I.362 — B-ISDN ATM Adaptation Layer (AAL) functional description
- I.363 — B-ISDN ATM Adaptation Layer (AAL) specification
- I.413 — B-ISDN user-network interface
- I.432 — B-ISDN user-network interface — Physical Layer specification
- I.610 — Operation and maintenance principles of B-ISDN access

These Recommendations address general B-ISDN aspects as well as specific service- and network-oriented issues, the fundamental characteristics of the asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), a first set of relevant ATM oriented parameters and their application at the user-network interface as well as impact on operation and maintenance of the B-ISDN access. They are an integral part of the well established I-Series Recommendations. The set of Recommendations are intended to serve as a consolidated basis for ongoing work relative to B-ISDN both within CCITT and in other organizations. They may also be used as a first basis towards the development of network elements.

CCITT will continue to further develop and complete these Recommendations in areas where there are unresolved issues and develop additional Recommendations on B-ISDN in the I-Series and other series in the future.

**PAGE BLANCHE**

## **Recommendation I.113**

Recommendation I.113

### VOCABULARY OF TERMS FOR BROADBAND ASPECTS OF ISDN

## **1 Introduction**

This Recommendation consists primarily of those terms and definitions that are considered essential to the understanding and application of the principles of broadband aspects of the integrated services digital network (BISDN). They are not exclusive to B-ISDN and are recommended also for application, in so far as they are relevant, to other types of telecommunication networks.

Included are terms that may already be defined in other CCITT/CCIR Recommendations. However, the definitions given here embrace only the essential concepts and on that basis it is considered that they are not inconsistent with the more specialized definitions that appear in those Recommendations.

According to the conventions applied in this Recommendation, any term in common usage, but whose use is deprecated, is shown in brackets as in the following example: "broadband [wideband]".

Where a truncated term is widely used in an understood context the complete term is quoted following the colloquial form, for example, "contribution, contribution application".

Some definitions include terms in italics face to indicate that these terms are defined elsewhere in this Recommendation.

Annex A contains an alphabetical list of all the terms contained in this Recommendation.

Annex B contains a list of abbreviations which are used in B-ISDN Recommendations.

## **2 Vocabulary of terms**

This section is divided into two sub-sections, 2.1 Services, and 2.2 Interfaces, channels and transfer modes. Within each sub-section the terms are listed and defined.

### **2.1 Services**

#### **101 broadband [wideband]**

*F: large bande*

*S: banda ancha*

A service or system requiring transmission channels capable of supporting rates greater than the primary rate.



## 102 **broadcast**

*F: diffusion*

*S: difusión*

A value of the service attribute "communication configuration", which denotes unidirectional distribution to all users.

*Note* — This term should not be confused with the term "broadcasting service" as defined in the ITU Radio Regulations.

### 103 **connectionless service**

*F: service sans connexion*

*S: servicio sin conexión*

A service which allows the transfer of information among service users without the need for end-to-end call establishment procedures.

*Note* — Connectionless services may be used to support both interactive and distribution services.

### 104 **constant bit rate service**

*F: service à débit constant*

*S: servicio de velocidad binaria constante*

A type of telecommunication service characterized by a service bit rate specified by a constant value.

### 105 **contribution, contribution application**

*F: contribution*

*S: contribución; aplicación de contribución*

Use of a *broadband* service or channel for transferring audio or video information to a user for further *post-production processing* and subsequent distribution.

### 106 **conversational service**

*F: service conversationnel*

*S: servicio conversacional*

An *interactive service* which provides for bidirectional communication by means of real-time (no store-and-forward) end-to-end information transfer from user to user.

### 107 **distribution, distribution application**

*F: distribution; application de distribution*

*S: distribución; aplicación de distribución*

Use of a *broadband* service or channel for transferring audio, video or other information to a user or a number of users who will not be expected to apply *post-production processing* to the information.

### 108 **distribution service**

*F: service de distribution*

*S: servicio de distribución*

Service characterized by the unidirectional flow of information from a given point in the network to other (multiple) locations. Distribution services are subdivided into two classes: *distribution services without user individual presentation control* and *distribution services with user individual presentation control*.

**109 distribution service with user individual presentation control**

*F: service distribué avec contrôle de présentation par l'utilisateur*

*S: servicio de distribución con control de la presentación por el usuario*

A *distribution service* in which the information is provided as a sequence of information entities e.g. frames with cyclical repetition, so that the user has the ability to select individual information entities and can control the start and order of the information.

## 110 **distribution service without user individual presentation control**

*F: service distribué sans contrôle de présentation par l'utilisateur*

*S: servicio de distribución sin control de la presentación por el usuario*

A *distribution service* which users can access without having any control over the start and order of the presentation of the distributed information.

## 111 **enhanced-quality television**

*F: télévision de qualité améliorée*

*S: televisión de calidad mejorada*

Television of quality superior to *existing-quality television*, but less than the quality of high-definition television.

## 112 **existing-quality television**

*F: télévision de qualité conventionnelle*

*S: televisión de calidad convencional*

Television as defined in conventional 625-line and 525-line television standards, such as NTSC, PAL and SECAM.

## 113 **interactive service**

*F: service interactif*

*S: servicio interactivo*

A service which provides the means for bidirectional exchange of information between users or between users and hosts. Interactive services are subdivided into three classes of services: *conversational services*, *messaging services* and *retrieval services*.

## 114 **messaging service**

*F: service de messagerie*

*S: servicio de mensajería*

An *interactive service* which offers user-to-user communication between individual users via storage units with store-and-forward, mailbox and/or message handling, (e.g. information editing, processing and conversion) functions.

## 115 **mixed document**

*F: document mixte*

*S: documento mixto*

A document that may contain text, graphics, data, image and moving picture information as well as voice annotation

## 116 **multimedia service**

*F: service multimédia*

*S: servicio multimedio*

A service in which the interchanged information consists of more than one type, such as text, graphics, sound, image and video.

## 117 **multipoint**

*F: multipoint*

*S: multipunto*

A value of the attribute "communication configuration" which denotes that the communication involves more than two network terminations.

## 118 **post-production processing**

*F: post-production (traitement après production)*

*S: tratamiento de posproducción*

Further processing of contributed audio and video information, to change the form or presentation of the information prior to its final utilization.

## 119 **retrieval service**

*F: service de consultation*

*S: servicio de consulta*

An *interactive service* which provides the capability of accessing information stored in data base centres. This information will be sent to the user on demand only. The information can be retrieved on an individual basis, i.e. the time at which an information sequence is to start is under the control of the user.

## 120 **service bit rate**

*F: débit de service*

*S: velocidad binaria de servicio*

The bit rate which is available to a user for the transfer of user information.

## 121 **sound retrieval service**

*F: service de consultation de programmes sonores*

*S: servicio de consulta de programas sonoros*

On-demand (user initiated) retrieval of music and other audio information.

## 122 **variable bit rate service**

*F: service à débit variable*

*S: servicio de velocidad binaria variable*

A type of telecommunication service characterized by a *service bit rate* specified by statistically expressed parameters which allow the bit rate to vary within defined limits.

## 123 **videomessaging**

*F: messagerie vidéo*

*S: videomensajería*

A *messaging service* for the transfer for moving pictures with or without other

information.

## 2.2 Interfaces, channels and transfer modes

### 201 asynchronous time-division multiplexing

*F: multiplexage temporel asynchrone*

*S: multiplexación asíncrona por división en el tiempo; multiplexación temporal asíncrona*

A multiplexing technique in which a transmission capability is organized in undedicated slots filled with *cells* with respect to each application's instantaneous real need. In this case, the terminal equipment (i.e. the customer application) defines the actual transmitted bit rate, whatever this rate is, possibly variable during the communication. This technique carries a *labelled interface structure* over a *frame* or a *self-delineating labelled interface*.

### 202 asynchronous transfer mode (ATM)

*F: mode de transfert asynchrone (ATM)*

*S: modo de transferencia asíncrono (MTA)*

A *transfer mode* in which the information is organized into *cells*; it is asynchronous in the sense that the recurrence of *cells* containing information from an individual user is not necessarily periodic.

### 203 block

*F: bloc*

*S: bloque*

A unit of information consisting of a *header* and an information field.

### 204 block payload

*F: capacité utile de bloc*

*S: cabida útil del bloque; contenido útil del bloque*

The bits in the information field within a *block*.

### 205 broadband access

*F: accès large bande*

*S: acceso de banda ancha*

An ISDN access able to contain at least one channel capable of supporting a rate greater than the primary rate, or supporting an equivalent information transfer rate.

### 206 broadband communication channel

*F: canal de communication large bande*

*S: canal de comunicación de banda ancha*

A specific portion of the *information payload capacity*, available to the user for ISDN services. A *broadband* communication channel exists only during a call, as set-up by a signalling



or administrative procedure.

**207 cell**

*F: cellule*

*S: célula*

A *block* of fixed length. It is identified by a label at the asynchronous transfer mode layer of the B-ISDN protocol reference model.

## 208 **cell delineation**

*F: cadrage cellule*

*S: delimitación de la célula*

The identification of cell boundaries in a cell stream.

## 209 **circuit transfer mode**

*F: mode de transfert par circuit*

*S: modo de transferencia circuito; modo de transferencia por circuitos*

A *transfer mode* in which transmission and switching functions are achieved by permanent allocation of channels/bandwidth between the connections.

## 210 **connection admission control**

*F: contrôle d'admission des connexions*

*S: control de admisión de una conexión*

The procedure within the control part of network nodes used to decide whether or not a request for a (virtual) connection can be accepted based on the requested usage parameters and already established connections.

## 211 **deterministic; ATM deterministic**

*F: déterministe; ATM déterministe*

*S: determinístico; MTA determinístico*

A mode of the *asynchronous transfer mode* in which a constant information transfer capacity expressed in terms of a predetermined limiting value for a given service is provided to the user throughout a call.

## 212 **frame**

*F: trame*

*S: trama*

A *block* of variable length identified by a label at layer 2 of the OSI reference model, e.g. an HDLC block.

## 213 **framed interface**

*F: interface tramée*

*S: interfaz entramado*

An interface where the serial bit stream is segmented into *periodic physical frames*. Each frame is divided by a fixed partition into an overhead and an *information payload* portion.

## 214 **general broadcast signalling virtual channel**

*F: canal virtuel de diffusion générale de la signalisation*

*S: canal virtual de señalización de difusión general*

A virtual channel independent of service profiles and used for broadcast signalling.

**215 header, cell header**

*F: en-tête; en-tête de cellule*

*S: encabezamiento; encabezamiento de célula*

The bits within a cell allocated for functions required to transfer the cell payload within the network.

## 216 hybrid interface structure

*F: structure d'interface hybride*  
*S: estructura híbrida de interfaz*

An interface structure which has a mixture of *labelled channels* and *positioned channels*.

## 217 information payload capacity

*F: capacité utile d'information*  
*S: cabida útil de información*

The difference between the *interface rate* and the *interface overhead rate*, that is the bit rate of the *interface payload*.

## 218 interface overhead

*F: résidu de l'interface*  
*S: tara del interfaz*

The remaining portion of the bit stream after deducting the *information payload*. The interface overhead may be essential (e.g. framing for an interface shared by users) or ancillary (e.g. performance monitoring).

## 219 interface payload

*F: capacité utile de l'interface*  
*S: cabida útil del interfaz*

The portion of the bit stream of a *framed interface* which can be used for telecommunication services. Any signalling is included in the *interface payload*.

## 220 interface rate; interface bit rate

*F: débit à l'interface; débit binaire à l'interface*  
*S: velocidad del interfaz; velocidad binaria del interfaz*

The gross bit rate at an interface, that is, the sum of the bit rates of the *interface payload* and the *interface overhead*. Example: the bit rate at the boundary between the physical layer and the physical medium.

## 221 invalid cell

*F: cellule invalide*  
*S: célula no válida*

A cell where the header is declared by the header error control process to contain errors.

## 222 labelled channel

*F: canal étiqueté*  
*S: canal etiquetado*

A temporally-ordered collection of all *block payloads* having a common label value.

## 223 **labelled deterministic channel**

*F: canal étiqueté déterministe*

*S: canal etiquetado determinístico*

*A labelled channel* with the property that the aggregated payload capacity of all blocks in each successive interval of specified constant duration is a constant.

## 224 **labelled interface structure**

*F: structure d'interface étiquetée*

*S: estructura de interfaz etiquetado*

An interface structure in which all services and signalling are provided by *labelled channels*. A labelled interface structure can be accommodated within a *framed interface* or a *self-delineating labelled interface*.

## 225 **labelled multiplexing**

*F: multiplexage par étiquetage*

*S: multiplexación por etiquetado*

The multiplexing of *labelled channels* by concatenating the *blocks* of the different channels.

## 226 **labelled statistical channel**

*F: canal étiqueté statistique*

*S: canal etiquetado estadístico*

A *labelled channel* in which the payload of the successive *blocks* of the channel is random and/or the block durations are random.

## 227 **logical signalling channel**

*F: canal logique de signalisation*

*S: canal lógico de señalización*

A logical channel for signalling information which is contained within an information channel or a *physical signalling channel*.

## 228 **meta-signalling**

*F: méta-signalisation*

*S: metaseñalización*

The procedure for establishing, checking and releasing signalling virtual channels.

## 229 **network node interface (NNI)**

*F: interface de noeud de réseau (NNI)*

*S: interfaz de nodo de red (INR)*

The interface at a network node which is used to interconnect with another network node.

## 230 **packet**

*F: paquet*

*S: paquete*

An information *block* identified by a label at layer 3 of the OSI reference model.

## 231 **packet transfer mode**

*F: mode de transfert par paquets*

*S: modo de transferencia paquete; modo de transferencia por paquetes*

A *transfer mode* in which the transmission and switching functions are achieved by packet oriented techniques, so as to dynamically share network transmission and switching resources between a multiplicity of connections.

## 232 **payload module**

*F: module de capacité utile*

*S: módulo de cabida útil*

That portion of the *information payload*, of an interface, within which one or more channels entirely exist.

## 233 **periodic frame**

*F: trame périodique*

*S: trama periódica*

A transmission segment which is repeated at intervals of equal duration (e.g. 125 µsec), and may be delineated by incorporating fixed periodic patterns into the bit stream.

## 234 **physical frame**

*F: trame physique*

*S: trama física*

A segment of a serial logical bit stream at an interface, partitioned into successive segments.

## 235 **physical signalling channel**

*F: canal physique de signalisation*

*S: canal físico de señalización*

A dedicated physical channel (e.g. D-channel) used for signalling information. It may be used to carry other information.

## 236 **positioned channel**

*F: canal positionné*

*S: canal ubicado; canal identificado por su posición*

A channel that occupies bit positions which form a fixed periodic pattern (e.g. B-, H- and D-channels in ISDN user network interfaces).

## 237 **positioned interface structure**

*F: structure d'interface positionnée*

*S: estructura de interfaz de canales ubicados*

A structure in which all services and signalling are provided by *positioned channels*. Such a structure can exist only within a *framed interface*.

## 238 **selective broadcast signalling virtual channel**

*F: canal virtuel de diffusion sélective de la signalisation*

*S: canal virtual de señalización de difusión selectiva*



A virtual channel allocated to a service profile and used for broadcast signalling.

**239 self-delineating block**

*F: bloc à auto-cadrage*

*S: bloque autodelimitado*

A *block* with the property that its endpoints can be identified by examining the block itself. A defined pattern or flag at the beginning of each block might serve to demarcate the block.

## 240 **self-delineating labelled interface**

*F: interface étiquetée à auto-cadrage*

*S: interfaz etiquetado autodelimitado*

An interface whose entire serial bit stream consists of a self-delineating *labelled multiplexing*.

## 241 **signalling virtual channel**

*F: canal virtuel de signalisation*

*S: canal virtual de señalización*

A virtual channel for transporting signalling information.

## 242 **statistical; ATM statistical**

*F: statistique; ATM statistique*

*S: estadístico; MTA estadístico*

A mode of the *asynchronous transfer mode* in which the information transfer capacity specified for a given service provided to the user throughout a call is expressed in terms of values of parameters such as mean, peak and standard deviation.

## 243 **synchronous time division multiplexing**

*F: multiplexage temporel synchrone*

*S: multiplexación síncrona por división en el tiempo; multiplicación temporal síncrona*

A multiplexing technique supporting *the synchronous transfer mode* (STM).

## 244 **synchronous transfer mode (STM)**

*F: mode de transfert synchrone (STM)*

*S: modo de transferencia síncrono (MTS)*

A *transfer mode* which offers periodically to each connection a fixed-length word.

## 245 **throughput**

*F: charge utile*

*S: caudal de tráfico; caudal*

The number of data bits contained in a *block* (e.g. between the address field and the CRC field of the LAPD-based frames) successfully transferred in one direction across a section per unit time.

## 246 **transfer mode**

*F: mode de transfert*

*S: modo de transferencia*

Aspects covering transmission, multiplexing and switching in a telecommunications

network.

## 247 **transit delay**

*F: délai de transit*

*S: retardo de tránsito*

The time difference between the instant at which the first bit of the address field of a frame crosses one designated boundary, and the instant at which the last bit of the closing flag of the frame crosses a second designated boundary.

## 248 **usage parameter control**

*F: contrôle des paramètres d'utilisation*

*S: control de los parámetros de utilización*

The taking of appropriate action if usage monitoring establishes that the negotiated values of the information transfer parameters of a virtual channel or a virtual path are exceeded.

## 249 **valid cell**

*F: cellule valide*

*S: célula válida*

A cell where the header is declared by the header error control process to be free of errors.

## 250 **virtual channel (VC)**

*F: canal virtuel (VC)*

*S: canal virtual (CV)*

A concept used to describe unidirectional transport of ATM cells associated by a common unique identifier value.

## 251 **virtual channel connection**

*F: connexion de canal virtuel*

*S: conexión de canal virtual*

A concatenation of virtual channel links that extends between two points where the adaptation layer is accessed.

## 252 **virtual channel link**

*F: liaison de canal virtuel*

*S: enlace de canal virtual*

A mean of unidirectional transport of ATM cells between a point where a virtual channel identifier value is assigned and the point where that value is translated or removed.

## 253 **virtual path (VP)**

*F: trajet virtuel (VP)*

*S: trayecto virtual (TYV)*

A concept used to describe unidirectional transport of ATM cells belonging to virtual channels that are associated by a common identifier value.

## 254 **virtual path connection**

*F: connexion de trajet virtuel*

*S: conexión de trayecto virtual*

A concatenation of virtual path links that extends between the point where the virtual

channel identifier values are assigned and the point where those values are translated or removed.

## 255 **virtual path link**

*F: liaison de trajet virtuel*

*S: enlace de trayecto virtual*

The group of virtual channel links, identified by a common value of the virtual path identifier, between the point where the VPI value is assigned and the point where the VPI value is translated or removed.

ANNEX A  
(to Recommendation I.113)  
**Alphabetical list of terms contained in this Recommendation<sup>1)</sup>**

201	asynchronous time-division multiplexing
202	asynchronous transfer mode
203	block
204	block payload
101	broadband [wideband]
205	broadband access
206	broadband communication channel
102	broadcast
207	cell
208	cell delineation
209	circuit transfer mode
210	connection admission control
103	connectionless service
104	constant bit rate service
105	contribution; contribution application
106	conversational service
211	deterministic; ATM deterministic
108	distribution service
109	distribution service with user individual presentation control
110	distribution service without user individual presentation control
107	distribution; distribution application
111	enhanced-quality television
112	existing-quality television
212	frame
213	frame interface
214	general broadcast signalling virtual channel

---

1) The number against a term indicates its location in the vocabulary.

- 215 header; cell header
- 216 hybrid interface structure
- 217 information payload capacity

113 interactive service  
218 interface overhead  
219 interface payload  
220 interface rate; interface bit rate  
221 invalid cell  
222 labelled channel  
223 labelled deterministic channel  
224 labelled interface structure  
225 labelled multiplexing  
226 labelled statistical channel  
227 logical signalling channel  
114 messaging service  
228 meta-signalling  
115 mixed document  
116 multimedia service  
117 multipoint  
229 network node interface  
230 packet  
231 packet transfer mode  
232 payload module  
233 periodic frame  
234 physical frame  
235 physical signalling channel  
236 positioned channel  
237 positioned interface structure  
118 post-production processing  
119 retrieval service  
238 selective broadcast signalling virtual channel  
239 self-delineating block  
240 self-delineating labelled interface  
120 service bit rate



- 241 signalling virtual channel
- 121 sound retrieval service
- 242 statistical; ATM statistical
- 243 synchronous time division multiplexing

244	synchronous transfer mode
245	throughput
246	transfer mode
247	transit delay
248	usage parameter control
249	valid cell
122	variable bit rate service
123	videomessaging
250	virtual channel
251	virtual channel connection
252	virtual channel link
253	virtual path
254	virtual path connection
255	virtual path link

## ANNEX B

(to Recommendation I.113)

### List of abbreviations used in B-ISDN Recommendations

AAL	ATM Adaptation Layer
AAL-PCI	AAL protocol control information
AAL-SDU	AAL service data unit
ACE	Access connection element
AIS	Alarm indication signal
AL	Access Link
ATM	Asynchronous transfer mode
ATM-SDU	ATM service data unit
AU	Administrative unit
B-ISDN	Broadband aspects of integrated services digital network
B-ISDN PRM	Protocol reference model of the broadband aspects of ISDN
B-ISPBX	Private branch exchange for B-ISDN
B-NT	Network termination for B-ISDN

B-NT1	Network termination 1 for B-ISDN
B-NT2	Network termination 2 for B-ISDN
B-TA	Terminal adaptor for B-ISDN

B-TE	Terminal equipment for B-ISDN
BER	Bit error ratio
BIP	Bit interleaved parity
BOM	Beginning of message
C-n	Container-n
CAD-CAM	Computer aided design/computer aided manufacturing
CAMC	Customer access maintenance centre
CBR	Constant bit rate
CE	Connection element
CEQ	Customer equipment
CIME	Customer installation maintenance entities
CL	Connectionless
CLP	Cell loss priority
CLSF	Connectionless service function
CMI	Coded mark inversion
CN	Customer network
COH	Connection overhead
COM	Continuation of message
CON	Concentrator
CRC	Cyclic redundancy check
CRF	Connection related function
CRF(VC)	Virtual channel connection related function
CRF(VP)	Virtual path connection related function
CS	Convergence sublayer
CS-PDU	Convergence sublayer protocol data unit
DPL	Primary link for distribution services
DS	Digital section
EOM	End of message
ET	Exchange termination
FDDI	Fibre distributed data interface
FEBE	Far end block error

FERF	Far end receive failure
GFC	Generic flow control
HDLC	High-level data link control
HDTV	High definition television
HEC	Header error control
HLF	Higher layer function

IPL	Primary link for interactive services
IRP	Internal reference point
IT	Information type
LAN	Local area network
LE	Local exchange
LFC	Local function capabilities
LI	Length indicator
LT	Line termination
MA	Medium adaptor
MAN	Metropolitan area network
MCD	Maintenance cell description
MID	Multiplexing identification
MSB	Most significant bit
MSP	Maintenance service provider
MUX	Multiplexor
NNI	Network-node interface
NP	Network performance
NT	Network termination
OAM	Operation and maintenance
OAMC	Operation, administration and maintenance centre
OSI	Open systems interconnection
PCI	Protocol control information
PDH	Plesiochronous digital hierarchy
PDU	Protocol data unit
PL	Physical layer
PL-OAM	Physical layer-operation and maintenance (cell)
PLK	Primary link
PM	Physical medium (sublayer)
POH	Path overhead
PON	Passive optical network
PRM	Protocol reference model

PT	Payload type
PTR	Pointer

QOS	Quality of service
RAI	Remote alarm indication
RES	Reserved
RG	Regenerator
RPOA	Recognized private operating agency
RS	Regenerator section
RU	Remote unit
SAP	Service access point
SAR	Segmentation and reassembly sublayer
SDH	Synchronous digital hierarchy
SDU	Service data unit
SFET	Synchronous frequency encoding technique
SN	Sequence number
SN	Sequence number protection
SOH	Section overhead
SP	Service provider
SPL	Service provider link
SPN	Subscriber premises network
SSM	Single segment message
ST	Segment type
STM	Synchronous transfer mode
STM-n	Synchronous transport module-n
SVC	Signalling virtual channel
TA	Terminal adaptor
TC	Transmission convergence sublayer
TCE	Transit connection element
TCRF	Transit connection related function
TE	Terminal equipment
TMN	Telecommunication management network
TPE	Transmission path endpoint
UNI	User-network interface



VBR

Variable bit rate

VC	Virtual channel
VC	Virtual container-n
VCC	Virtual channel connection
VCCE	Virtual channel connection endpoint
VCI	Virtual channel identifier
VP	Virtual path
VPC	Virtual path connection
VPCE	Virtual path connection endpoint
VPI	Virtual path identifier