

# FREE TV AUSTRALIA OPERATIONAL PRACTICE OP- 49

IDENTIFICATION AND ORDERING OF MULTIPLE AUDIO CHANNELS CARRIED ON CONTRIBUTION CIRCUITS

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## 1. SCOPE

This document defines a naming scheme indicating content and an ordering scheme of channel numbers for multiple audio channels carried on contribution circuits, such as for outside broadcasts, either as discreet audio channels or as embedded audio in SDI or HDSDI streams,.

## 2. GENERAL

2.1 This document is in two parts –

- (i) **National** – relevant to Australian operations
- (ii) **International** – relevant to feeds intended for overseas destinations.

## 3. NATIONAL FEEDS

3.1 **Channel 1** Mixed stereo program Left [including commentary]

AES1

**Channel 2** Mixed stereo program Right [including commentary]

**Channel 3** International Sound Left

AES2

**Channel 4** International Sound Right

3.2 Alternatively, by agreement between the parties, AES2 (i.e. Channels 3 and 4) may carry a Coded Audio Multiplex such as Dolby E. This will provide 8 high quality audio channels which may be used at the broadcaster's discretion. However, if the multiplex is used to carry multichannel 5:1 audio then the channels within the multiplex shall be ordered as per SMPTE 320M.

Channel 1	Left
Channel 2	Right
Channel 3	Centre
Channel 4	LFE
Channel 5	Left Surround
Channel 6	Right Surround
Channel 7	Stereo Lt downmix of above or Freely Assigned
Channel 8	Stereo Rt downmix of above or Freely Assigned

## 4. INTERNATIONAL FEEDS

4.1 **Channel 1** International Sound Left  
**Channel 2** International Sound Right  
**Channel 3** Mixed Stereo Program Left  
**Channel 4** Mixed Stereo Program Right

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4.2 Optionally by agreement between the parties –

<b>Channel 1</b>	International Sound Left
<b>Channel 2</b>	International Sound Right
<b>Channel 3</b>	Commentary
<b>Channel 4</b>	Freely Assigned

Commentary originating in Australia, unless specified otherwise, will be English and may be used as a guide track.

### **5. SPECIAL IN-HOUSE FEED REQUIREMENTS**

This OP does not prevent the usage of other arrangements for special production needs within a broadcast operation.

### **6. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

A Channel identification system should be employed to ensure that downstream of the source any user can unambiguously determine the channel number and thus the content.

The source ID generator shall provide 4 unique outputs labelled Channels 1, 2, 3 and 4. The content of each channel shall be 1000Hz alignment tone at -20dBFS alignment level (SMPTE RP 155), which equates to 0VU, interrupted at least once every 30 seconds by a voice announcement indicating channel number and optionally a source name.