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(adopted 4/17/99)

DAB SUBCOMMITTEE IBOC DAB System Test Guidelines (Part II – Field Tests)

Addendum #3 Additional Information on Data Formatting

This addendum provides additional information regarding data formatting of IBOC system data submission. Proponents intending to submit IBOC system performance data to the NRSC for evaluation are asked to consider the information in this addendum as they prepare their submission.

Recorded audio – the NRSC expects that proponents will use a variety of recording media for data collection including but not limited to digital audio tape (DAT) and digital recording directly onto hard disks and/or compact discs (CDs).

The preferred format for audio recording submission to the NRSC is linear CD audio with a sampling rate of 44.1 kHz. Use of the CD format minimizes or eliminates the possibility of alteration of the submitted material and allows the evaluators to make use of widely available, high-quality playback equipment. Alternatively, a proponent may elect to submit audio in DAT format.

The use of digital audio compression (for the purpose of bit rate reduction) at any point in the audio collection process would be inadvisable, and the NRSC assumes that the only digital audio compression existing in any submitted recordings is that of the IBOC perceptual audio coding system alone.

Computer-based data – in the event that a proponent submits data in computer form, it should be in “machine-readable” format, using tabs, commas, or quotation marks to delimit the different fields of data. Spaces may also be used as a delimiter in combination with the delimiters identified above or, when on ambiguity would result, alone. Data may also be presented in any format that can be imported into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.