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Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Aircraft VDL Mode 3 Transceiver Operating in the Frequency Range 117.975 - 137.000 MHz

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FOREWORD

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The physical layer material of this document is based on the Physical Layer MOPS for Airborne VDL Mode 2 (EUROCAE Working Group 47 document, ED-92, dated March 2000), since the physical layer is largely in common to both VDL Mode 2 and VDL Mode 3. Development of this document and ED-92 were coordinated with EUROCAE Working Group 47.

Appendix B is a Normative Appendix.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE 1

1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 System Overview 1
1.3 Aircraft Equipment Architectures 4
1.3.1 Integrated Equipment Archhitecture 4
1.3.1.1 Voice and Data Capable 4
1.3.1.2 Voice Capable Only 5
1.3.2 Separated Equipment Architectures 5
1.4 Operational Applications 6
1.5 Operational Goals 6
1.6 Equipment Performance Verification 6
1.6.1 Bench Tests 7
1.6.2 Environmental Tests 7
1.6.3 Installed Equipment Tests 7
1.6.4 Operational Tests 7
1.7 Definitions of Terms 8
1.7.1 Adjacent Channel 8
1.7.2 Adjacent Channel Power 8
1.7.3 Adjacent Channel Rejection (ACR) 8
1.7.4 Bit Error Rate (BER) 8
1.7.5 Co-channel Interference (CCI) 8
1.7.6 Error Vector Magnitude (EVM) 8
1.7.7 Reference Signal Level 9
1.7.8 Transmitter Reference Burst Sequence 9
1.7.9 Undesired VDL Mode 3 Test Signal 9
1.7.10 Basic Voice Service 9
1.7.11 Enhanced Voice Service 9
1.7.12 Enhanced Voice and Data Service 10
1.8 Reference Documents 10
1.9 Assumptions 10

2 MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT 11

2.1 General Design Requirements 11
2.1.1 Airworthiness 11
2.1.2 Intended Function 11
2.1.3 ITU and FCC Rules and Regulations 11
2.1.4 Fire Protection 11
2.1.5 Operation of Controls 11
2.1.6 Accessibility of Controls 11
2.1.7 Effects of Test 12
2.1.8 Equipment Classes 12
2.1.8.1 Receivers 12
2.1.8.2 Transmitters 12
2.1.9 VDL Mode 3 Avionics Equipment Classes 12
2.1.10 Software Management 14

2.2 Minimum Performance Requirements - Standard Conditions 14
2.2.1 VDL Mode 3 Subnetwork Physical Layer Requirements 14
2.2.1.1 Transceiver Requirements 15
2.2.1.1.1 Tuning Range and Channel Increments 15
2.2.1.1.2 Modulation 15
2.2.1.1.3 Tuning Time 15
2.2.1.1.4 Receive to Transmit Turnaround Time 15
2.2.1.1.5 Transmit to Receive Turnaround Time 16
2.2.1.1.6 Uplink Voice Delay Requirement 16
2.2.1.1.7 Downlink Voice Delay Requirement 16
2.2.1.2 Receiver Requirements 16
2.2.1.2.1 Sensitivity 16
2.2.1.2.2 Adjacent Channel Rejection (ACR) 17
2.2.1.2.3 Receiver Performance in the Presence of Strong Signals Within the VHF Aeronautical Communications Band 17
2.2.1.2.4 Receiver Performance in the Presence of Strong Signals Outside the VHF Aeronautical Communications Band 17
2.2.1.2.5 Desired Signal Dynamic Range 17
2.2.1.2.6 Symbol Rate Capture Range 18
2.2.1.2.7 Frequency Capture Range 18
2.2.1.2.8 Phase Acceleration 18
2.2.1.2.9 Co-channel Interference (CCI) 18
2.2.1.2.10 Conducted Spurious Emission 18
2.2.1.2.11 FM Broadcast Intermodulation 19
2.2.1.2.12 In-band Intermodulation 19
2.2.1.3 Transmitter Requirements 19
2.2.1.3.1 Channel Bit Rate 19
2.2.1.3.2 RF Output Power 20
2.2.1.3.3 RF Power Rise Time 20
2.2.1.3.4 RF Power Release Time 20
2.2.1.3.5 Symbol Constellation Error 21
2.2.1.3.6 Spurious Emissions 21
2.2.1.3.7 Adjacent Channel Power 22
2.2.1.3.8 RESERVED 23
2.2.1.3.9 Load VSWR Capability 23
2.2.1.3.10 Frequency Tolerance 23
2.2.1.4 RESERVED 23
2.2.2 Link Layer Requirements 23
2.2.3 Subnetwork Layer Requirements 23
2.2.3.1 Subnetwork Interface Support 23
2.2.3.1.1 Aircraft Subnetwork Interface Support 23
2.2.3.1.2 Ground Station Subnetwork Interface Support 24
2.2.3.2 RESERVED 24
2.2.4 Voice Unit Requirements 24
2.2.4.1 Avionics Radio Voice Quality Requirements 24
2.2.4.1.1 Ground-to-Air Voice Quality Requirement 24
2.2.4.1.2 Air-to-Ground Voice Quality Requirement 25
2.2.5 Requirements for Format and Usage of the System Data and Header Segment 25
2.2.6 Data/Management Interface 26
2.3 Minimum Performance Requirements - Environmental Conditions 26

2.3.1 Introduction 26
2.3.2 Receiver 26
2.3.3 Transmitter 27
2.4 Equipment Test Procedures 33
2.4.1 Definition of Terms and Conditions of Tests 33
2.4.1.1 Warm-up and Stabilization of Test Equipment/Equipment Under Test 33
2.4.1.2 Alignment, Adjustment and Calibration for Equipment Under Test 33
2.4.1.3 Equipment Termination 33
2.4.1.4 Test Equipment Calibration and Replacement 33
2.4.1.5 Failure of the Equipment Under Test 33
2.4.1.6 Measurement Error Due to Test Equipment and Test Setup 33
2.4.1.7 Default RF Signal Level for Avionics Testing 34
2.4.1.8 Transmitter Reference Burst Sequence 34
2.4.2 Special Test Mode and Test Equipment for Physical Layer Tests 34
2.4.2.1 BER Mode 35
2.4.2.2 VHF Signal Generators 35
2.4.2.3 Undesired Signal Source 35
2.4.2.4 External BER Test Fixture 35
2.4.2.5 Test Payload 36
2.4.2.6 Unmodulated Carrier Mode 36
2.4.3 VDL Mode 3 Test Set 36
2.4.3.1 Upper Tester (UT) Configuration 38
2.4.3.1.1 Upper Data/Management Interface Test Tool (UDMITT) 38
2.4.3.2 Lower Tester (LT) Configuration 39
2.4.3.2.1 Lower Data/Management Interface Test Tool (LDMITT) 39
2.4.3.2.2 RF Bridge 40
2.4.3.2.3 Ground Station Emulator (GSE) 40
2.4.3.2.4 Aircraft Station Emulator (ASE) 41
2.4.3.2.5 ATN Capability 41
2.4.3.3 Test Set Peripheral Functions 42
2.4.3.3.1 Message Generator/Processor 42
2.4.3.3.1.1 Voice Message Generation and Processing 42
2.4.3.3.1.2 Data Message Generation and Processing 43
2.4.3.3.2 Monitoring Facility 43
2.4.3.4 Standard Test Set Configurations 44
2.4.3.4.1 Standard Test Set Configuration 1 for Class IB0/IV0/Class ID* Equipment 44
2.4.3.4.2 Standard Test Set Configuration 2 for Class SL0 Equipment 45
2.4.3.4.3 Standard Test Set Configuration 3 for Class SU* Equipment 46
2.4.4 Physical Layer Tests 47
2.4.4.1 Receiver Test Procedures 47
2.4.4.1.1 Sensitivity (Section 2.2.1.2.1) 48
2.4.4.1.2 Adjacent Channel Rejection (Section 2.2.1.2.2) 49
2.4.4.1.3 Rejection of Signals Within the VHF Aeronautical Communications Band (Section 2.2.1.2.3) 50
2.4.4.1.4 Rejection of Signals Outside the VHF Aeronautical Communications Band (Section 2.2.1.2.4) 51
2.4.4.1.5 Desired Signal Dynamic Range (Section 2.2.1.2.5) 52
2.4.4.1.6 Symbol Rate Capture Range (Section 2.2.1.2.6) 52
2.4.4.1.7 Frequency Capture Range (Section 2.2.1.2.7) 53
2.4.4.1.8 Phase Acceleration (Section 2.2.1.2.8) 54

2.4.4.1.9 Co-Channel Interference (Section 2.2.1.2.9) 55
2.4.4.1.10 Conducted Spurious Emission (Section 2.2.1.2.10) 55
2.4.4.1.11 FM Broadcast Intermodulation (Section 2.2.1.2.11) 56
2.4.4.1.12 In-Band Intermodulation/Desense (Section 2.2.1.2.12) 57
2.4.4.2 Transmitter Test Procedures 58
2.4.4.2.1 Bit Rate (Section 2.2.1.3.1) 58
2.4.4.2.2 RF Output Power (Section 2.2.1.3.2) 59
2.4.4.2.3 RF Power Rise Time (Section 2.2.1.3.3) 59
2.4.4.2.4 RF Power Release Time (Section 2.2.1.3.4) 61
2.4.4.2.5 Symbol Constellation Error (Section 2.2.1.3.5) 62
2.4.4.2.6 Spurious Emissions (Section 2.2.1.3.6 and Section 2.2.1.3.9) 62
2.4.4.2.7 Adjacent Channel Power (Section 2.2.1.3.7) 64
2.4.4.2.8 RESERVED 70
2.4.4.2.9 Load VSWR Capability – RF Output Power (Section 2.2.1.3.9) 70
2.4.4.2.10 Frequency Tolerance (Section 2.2.1.3.10) 71
2.4.4.3 Physical Layer System Level Test Procedures 72
2.4.4.3.1 Receive to Transmit Turnaround Time (Section 2.2.1.1.4) 72
2.4.4.3.2 Transmit to Receive Turnaround Time (Section 2.2.1.1.5) 73
2.4.4.3.3 Tuning Time (Section 2.2.1.1.3) 74
2.4.4.3.4 Notification Services 74
2.4.5 Test for Protocols above Physical Layer 74
2.4.5.1 Test Set Configuration 74
2.4.5.2 Test Case Definition and Organization 75
2.4.5.3 Test Group 1 -- Link Management Functionality Test 76
2.4.5.3.1 Test 1-1 -- Net Initialization and Dummy Poll Response 76
2.4.5.3.2 Link Establishment 78
2.4.5.3.2.1 Test 1-2a -- Net Entry 78
2.4.5.3.2.2 Test 1-2b -- Initial Link Negotiation 79
2.4.5.3.2.3 Test 1-2c -- Poll/Poll Response and Implicit Link Release 81
2.4.5.3.2.4 Test 1-2d -- Radio Identifier Unavailable Test 82
2.4.5.3.3 Test 1-3 -- Net Entry Request Retransmission and Delayed Net Entry 82
2.4.5.3.4 Test 1-4 -- Initial Link Negotiation - Exceptional Cases 84
2.4.5.3.5 Test 1-5 -- Ground Initiated Addressed Link Parameter Modification 86
2.4.5.3.6 Test 1-6 -- Aircraft Recovery 87
2.4.5.3.7 Test 1-7 -- Recovery for System Configurations that Support Data Link 88
2.4.5.3.8 Test 1-8 -- Recovery for Voice-Only Nets that Support Discrete Addressing 89
2.4.5.3.9 Test 1-9 -- Link Release and Handoff 90
2.4.5.3.10 Test 1-10 -- System Configuration Mismatch 91
2.4.5.3.11 Test 1-11 -- Addressing in 2V2D and 2V1D 92
2.4.5.3.12 Test 1-12 -- Link Handoff 93
2.4.5.3.13 Test 1-13 -- Link Authentication 93
2.4.5.4 Test Group 2 -- Voice Operation - Normal Conditions 95
2.4.5.4.1 Test 2-1 -- Receiver Operating Logic 95
2.4.5.4.2 Test 2-2 -- Transmitter PTT Operating Logic 96
2.4.5.4.3 Test 2-3 -- Step-on 97
2.4.5.4.4 Test 2-4 -- RESERVED 98
2.4.5.4.5 Test 2-5 -- Communications Relay by a Second Aircraft Station 98
2.4.5.4.6 Test 2-6 -- Burst Timing 99
2.4.5.4.7 Test 2-7 -- Voice Delay 99
2.4.5.4.8 Avionics Radio Voice Quality Tests 102

2.4.5.4.8.1 Test 2-8 -- Voice Quality Test of the Ground-to-Air Link 102
2.4.5.4.8.2 Test 2-9 -- Voice Quality Test of the Air-to-Ground Link 103
2.4.5.4.9 Test 2-10 -- Urgent Downlink Request (UDR) 103
2.4.5.4.10 Test 2-11 -- Vocoder Output 105
2.4.5.4.11 Test 2-12 -- Voice Synthesis 105
2.4.5.5 Test Group 3 -- Voice Operation - Special Timing Conditions 106
2.4.5.5.1 Test 3-1 -- Aircraft VDL Mode 3 Timing Maintenance 107
2.4.5.5.2 Test 3-2 -- Aircraft Validity Window Test 108
2.4.5.5.3 Test 3-3 -- Receipt/Process of Beacon Information From a Distant Station 109
2.4.5.5.4 Test 3-4 -- Timing State Transition and Air-to-Air Communications 110
2.4.5.5.5 Test 3-5 -- Abnormal Link Initialization 115
2.4.5.5.6 Test 3-6 -- Invalid Alternate Timing 117
2.4.5.6 Test Group 4 -- Data Operation 117
2.4.5.6.1 Test 4-1 -- Simultaneous Voice and Data Accesses 117
2.4.5.6.2 Test 4-2 -- Burst Timing 118
2.4.5.6.3 Test 4-3 -- Reservation Request Via Random Access 119
2.4.5.6.4 Test 4-4 -- Reservation Request Via Poll Response 120
2.4.5.6.5 Test 4-5 -- Downlink Data Transmission 121
2.4.5.6.6 Test 4-6 -- Uplink Data Reception 123
2.4.5.6.7 Test 4-7 -- Priority Processing (1) 123
2.4.5.6.8 Test 4-8 -- Priority Processing (2) 124
2.4.5.6.9 Test 4-9 -- Priority Processing (3) 125
2.4.5.6.10 Test 4-10 -- Broadcast Message Reception 126
2.4.5.6.11 Test 4-11 -- Data Access and Timing States 126
2.4.5.6.12 Test 4-12 -- Preservation of Acknowledged Frames in Downlink Data Retransmission (for radios implementing frame grouping only) 127
2.4.5.6.13 Test 4-13 -- Radio Identifier Test 128
2.4.5.6.14 Test 4-14 -- Net Termination 129
2.4.5.7 Test Group 5 -- System Configuration - 3T (If applicable) 130
2.4.5.7.1 Test 5-1 -- Voice and Data Accesses 130
2.4.5.7.2 Test 5-2 -- Automated Ground Station Handoff 131
2.4.5.7.3 Test 5-3 -- Voice Operation Under Abnormal Timing Conditions 132
2.4.5.7.4 Test 5-4 -- Timing of 3T System Configuration 133
2.4.5.8 Test Group 6 -- System Configuration - 3S 134
2.4.5.8.1 Test 6-1 -- Automatic Selection of Master Ground Stations 134
2.4.5.8.2 Test 6-2 -- Timing of 3S System Configuration 135
2.4.5.9 Test Group 7 -- System Configurations 1V3D and 1V2D 136
2.4.5.9.1 Test 7-1 -- Access of Downlink M Bursts 136
2.4.5.9.2 Test 7-2a -- Local IDs and Use of Proper Time Slots for Voice Bursts 137
2.4.5.9.3 Test 7-2b -- Use of Proper Time Slots for Data Bursts 138
2.4.5.10 Test Group 8 -- CLNP Subnetwork Interface Test Procedures 139
2.4.5.10.1 Point-to-Point Compression Subnetwork Tests 139
2.4.5.10.1.1 Test 8-1 -- Subnetwork Initialization 139
2.4.5.10.1.2 Test 8-2 -- ATN Packet Compression 140
2.4.5.10.1.3 Test 8-3 -- CLNP Packet Compression 140
2.4.5.10.1.4 Test 8-4 -- CLNP Packet Decompressing 141
2.4.5.10.1.5 Test 8-5 -- Compression Bypass 141
2.4.5.10.1.6 Test 8-6 -- Index Idle 141
2.4.5.10.1.7 Test 8-7 -- Compression Initialization 142
2.4.5.10.2 Multicast Compression Subnetwork Tests 142

2.4.5.10.2.1 Test 8-8 -- Predefined Multicast Decompression 142
2.4.5.11 Test Group 9 -- ISO 8208 Subnetwork Interface Test Procedures 143
2.4.5.11.1 8208 Compressor Initialization 145
2.4.5.11.1.1 Test 9-1 -- 8208 Compressor Initialization 145
2.4.5.11.2 8208 Compressor Virtual Call Setup 145
2.4.5.11.2.1 Test 9-2 -- 8208 Compressor Virtual Call Setup, Ground-Initiated, High-Priority 146
2.4.5.11.2.2 Test 9-3 -- 8208 Compressor Virtual Call Setup, Aircraft-Initiated, Low-Priority 147
2.4.5.11.3 8208 Compressor Data Transfer and Flow Control 147
2.4.5.11.3.1 Test 9-4 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer Bi-Directional Transfer 147
2.4.5.11.3.2 Test 9-5 -- 8208 Compressor Unidirectional Data Transfer with Window Rotation 148
2.4.5.11.3.3 Test 9-6 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer Duplicate Suppression 149
2.4.5.11.3.4 Test 9-7 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer Reject Procedure 149
2.4.5.11.3.5 Test 9-8 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer Mbits Segmentation 150
2.4.5.11.3.6 Test 9-9 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer Mbits Reassembly 150
2.4.5.11.3.7 Test 9-10 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer Reset Initiation Procedure 151
2.4.5.11.3.8 Test 9-11 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer Reset Responder Procedure 151
2.4.5.11.3.9 Test 9-12 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer – Generating a Multiplexed Packet 152
2.4.5.11.3.10 Test 9-13 -- 8208 Compressor Data Transfer–De-Multiplexing 152
2.4.5.11.3.11 Test 9-14 -- 8208 Compressor Flow Control Receipt of RECEIVE NOT READY 153
2.4.5.11.3.12 Test 9-15 -- RESERVED 153
2.4.5.11.4 8208 Compressor Virtual Circuit Termination Procedures 153
2.4.5.11.4.1 Test 9-16 -- 8208 Compressor Ground-Initiated CLEAR Procedure 154
2.4.5.11.5 Channel State Test Procedures–Error Recovery Procedures 154
2.4.5.11.5.1 Test 9-17 -- DCE Call Setup and Clearing States 155
2.4.5.11.5.2 Test 9-18 -- ADCE Call Setup and Clearing States 160
2.4.5.11.5.3 Test 9-19 -- DCE Restart States 162
2.4.5.11.5.4 Test 9-20 -- DCE Reset States 163
2.4.5.11.5.5 Test 9-21 -- ADCE Reset States 165
2.4.5.11.5.6 Test 9-22 -- ADCE Flow Control Transfer States 166
2.4.5.11.5.7 Test 9-23 -- DCE Flow Control Transfer States 169
2.4.5.11.5.8 Test 9-24 -- RESERVED 171
2.4.5.11.5.9 Test 9-25 -- RESERVED 171
2.4.5.11.5.10 Test 9-26 -- VDL Mode 3 Subnetwork Error Processing for ISO 8208 Packets 171
2.4.5.12 Test Group 10 -- Make-before-Break (MbB) Operation 172
2.4.5.12.1 Test 10-1 -- MbB Initialization 172
2.4.5.12.2 Test 10-2 -- Leave Event Processing 173
2.4.5.12.3 Test 10-3 -- Subnetwork Packet Processing Using MbB 174
2.4.5.13 Test Group 11 -- RESERVED 175
2.4.5.14 Test Group 12 -- User Notification 175
2.4.5.14.1 Test 12-1 -- User Notification 176
2.4.5.15 Test Group 13 -- Basic Voice-only Radio Tests 177
2.4.5.15.1 Test 13-1 – Link Management Functionality Test 177
2.4.5.15.1.1 Test 13-1a -- Net Initialization and Dummy Poll Response 177
2.4.5.15.1.2 Test 13-1b Aircraft Recovery -- Aircraft Recovery 177

2.4.5.15.1.3 Test 13-1c -- System Configuration Mismatch 178
2.4.5.15.2 Test 13-2 Voice Operation -- Normal Conditions 178
2.4.5.15.2.1 Test 13-2a -- Receiver Operating Logic 178
2.4.5.15.2.2 Test 13-2b -- Transmitter PTT Operating Logic 178
2.4.5.15.2.3 Test 13-2c -- Step-on 178
2.4.5.15.2.4 Test 13-2d -- RESERVED 178
2.4.5.15.2.5 Test 13-2e -- Communications Relay by a Second Aircraft Station 178
2.4.5.15.2.6 Test 13-2f -- Burst Timing 179
2.4.5.15.2.7 Test 13-2g -- Voice Delay 179
2.4.5.15.2.8 Test 13-2h -- Voice Quality Test of the Ground-to-Air Link 179
2.4.5.15.2.9 Test 13-2i -- Voice Quality Test of the Air-to-Ground Link 179
2.4.5.15.2.10 Test 13-2j – Vocoder Output 179
2.4.5.15.2.11 Test 13-2k -- Voice Synthesis 179
2.4.5.15.3 Test 13-3 Voice Operation -- Special Timing Conditions 179
2.4.5.15.3.1 Test 13-3a -- Aircraft VDL Mode 3 Timing Maintenance 179
2.4.5.15.3.2 Test 13-3b -- Aircraft Validity Window Test 179
2.4.5.15.3.3 Test 13-3c -- Receipt/Process of Beacon Information From a Distant Station 180
2.4.5.15.3.4 Test 13-3d -- Timing State Transition and Air-to-Air Communications 180
2.4.5.15.3.5 Test 13-3e -- Abnormal Link Initialization 180
2.4.5.15.3.6 Test 13-3f -- Invalid Alternate Timing 180
2.4.5.15.4 Test 13-4 System Configuration -- 3S for Basic Voice-only Avionics Radio . 180
2.4.5.15.4.1 Test 13-4a -- Automatic Selection of Master Ground Stations 180
2.4.5.15.4.2 Test 13-4b -- Timing of 3S System Configuration 180
2.4.5.15.5 Test 13-5 – User Notification 180

3.0 INSTALLED EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE 181

3.1 Equipment Installation 181
3.1.1 Accessibility 181
3.1.2 Aircraft Environment 181
3.1.3 Display Visibility 181
3.1.4 Dynamic response 181
3.1.5 Failure Protection 181
3.1.6 Inadvertent Turnoff 181
3.1.7 Aircraft Power Source 181
3.2 Installed Equipment Performance Requirements 181
3.2.1 Dynamic Response 182
3.2.2 Interference Effects 182
3.3 Conditions of Test 184
3.3.1 Power Input 184
3.3.2 Associated Equipment or Systems 184
3.3.3 Environment 184
3.4 Test Procedures for Installed Equipment Performance 184
3.4.1 Procedures 184
3.4.1.1 Conformity Inspection 184
3.4.1.2 Equipment Function 184
3.4.1.3 Equipment Accessibility 185
3.4.1.4 Interference Effects 185
3.4.1.5 Power Supply Fluctuations 185
3.4.1.6 Reception 185

3.4.1.7 Transmission 185

4 EQUIPMENT OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS 187

4.1 Operational Performance Requirements 187
4.1.1 Power Input 187
4.1.2 Equipment Operating Functions 187
4.1.3 Communication Controls 187
4.1.4 Communications Displays 187
4.1.5 System Operational Indication 187
4.1.6 Equipment Operating Limitations 187
4.2 Test Procedures for Operational Performance Requirements 187
4.2.1 Power Input 188
4.2.2 Equipment Functional Tests 188
4.2.2.1 Voice Test 188
4.2.2.2 Data Link Test 188
4.2.3 Communications Controls 188
4.2.4 Communications Displays 188
4.2.5 System Operational Indication 188
4.2.6 Equipment Operating Limitations 188

Membership 189

APPENDICES

Appendix A Acronyms A-1

Appendix B VDL Mode 3 MOPS Tests and DO-224B MASPS Requirements Correlation Matrices B-1

Appendix C Functional Partitioning for Separated Equipment Architecture C-1

Appendix D Functional Requirements for the Data/Management Interface D-1
D.1 Data/Management Interface D-1
D.2 Data/Control Message Exchange D-1

Appendix E Audio Test Vectors E-1
E.1 Introduction E-1
E.2 Test Vector for Setting Audio Levels E-1
E.2.1 Compressed Test Vector (CTV) Description E-1
E.2.2 Applications E-4
E.2.3 Summary E-4
E.3 Compressed Silence Test Vector E-4
E.3.1 Compressed Silence Test Vector (CSV) Description E-4
E.3.2 Summary E-7

LIST OF FIGURES

Page

Figure 1-1: VDL Mode 3 Protocol Layers Using ATN/OSI Nomenclature 3
Figure 1-2a: VDL Mode 3 Functions in Integrated Equipment Architecture (Voice and Data) 4
Figure 1-2b: VDL Mode 3 Functions in Integrated Equipment Architecture (Voice Only) 5
Figure 1-3: VDL Mode 3 Functions in Separated Equipment Architecture 6
Figure 2-1: Ground-to-Air Reference Link Voice Quality Measurement 25
Figure 2-2: Air-to-Ground Reference Link Voice Quality Measurement 25
Figure 2-3: Transmitter Reference Test Sequence (One Period of 24 Shown) 34
Figure 2-4: ISO 9646 Test Configuration 37
Figure 2-5: Upper Tester Functional Block Diagram 38
Figure 2-6: Lower Tester Functional Block Diagram 39
Figure 2-7: Standard Test Set Configuration 1 - for Class IB0, Class IV0, and Class ID* Equipment 45
Figure 2-8: Standard Test Set Configuration 2 - for Class SL0 Equipment 46
Figure 2-9: Standard Test Set Configuration 3 - for Class SU* Equipment 47
Figure 2-10: Receiver BER Measurement 48
Figure 2-10a: Frequency Modulated VDL Mode 3 Source 54
Figure 2-11: Intermodulation Measurement 57
Figure 2-12: Output Power Measurement 59
Figure 2-13: RF Power Rise and Release Time Measurement Also Suitable for Symbol Constellation Error 60
Figure 2-14: Ramp Up and Beginning of VDL Mode 3 Burst with Synchronization Sequence S_2 (Illustrating RF Rise Time) 61
Figure 2-15: Spurious Emissions Measurement 64
Figure 2-15a: Spurious Emissions Measurement Under VSWR Load 64
Figure 2-16: First Adjacent Channel Power Measurement 65
Figure 2-17: Second, Third, and Fourth Adjacent Channel Power Measurement 67
Figure 2-18: Power Measurement Beyond the Fourth Adjacent Channel 69
Figure 2-19: Load VSWR Capability 71
Figure 2-20: Frequency Tolerance Test Setup 72
Figure E-1: VDL Mode 3 Receive Signal Flow with CTV E-1
Figure E-2: CTV Waveform (400 Hz) E-2
Figure E-3: CTV Frequency Domain View (FULL) E-3
Figure E-4: CTV Frequency Domain View (ZOOM) E-3
Figure E-5: VDL Mode 3 Receive Signal Flow using CSV E-5
Figure E-6: Single Frame (SF-CSV) Frequency Domain View E-6
Figure E-7: Multiple Frame (MF-CSV) Frequency Domain View E-6

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1-1: Reference Documents 10
Table 2-1: Equipment Architecture Class for VDL Mode 3 Avionics Radio 14
Table 2-2: Receiver Environmental Test Conditions Matrix 28
Table 2-3: Transmitter Environmental Test Conditions Matrix 30
Table 2-4: Example of Test Set Configuration Table 75
Table 2-5: Test Group Definition 76
Table 2-6: Test 1-1 Test Set Configuration 77
Table 2-7a: Test 1-2a Test Set Configuration 78
Table 2-7b: Test 1-2b Test Set Configuration 79
Table 2-7c: Test 1-2c Test Set Configuration 81
Table 2-7d: Test 1-2d Test Set Configuration 82
Table 2-8: Test 1-3 Test Set Configuration 83
Table 2-9: Test 1-4 Test Set Configuration 84
Table 2-10: Test 1-5 Test Set Configuration 86
Table 2-11: Test 1-6 Test Set Configuration 87
Table 2-12: Test 1-7 Test Set Configuration 88
Table 2-13: Test 1-8 Test Set Configuration 89
Table 2-14: Test 1-9 Test Set Configuration 90
Table 2-14a: Test 1-10 Test Set Configuration 91
Table 2-14b: Test 1-11 Test Set Configuration 92
Table 2-14c: Test 1-12 Test Set Configuration 93
Table 2-14d: Test 1-13 Test Set Configuration 94
Table 2-15: Test 2-1 Test Set Configuration 95
Table 2-16: Test 2-2 Test Set Configuration 96
Table 2-17: Test 2-3 Test Set Configuration 97
Table 2-18: RESERVED 98
Table 2-19: Test 2-5 Test Set Configuration 98
Table 2-20: Test 2-6 Test Set Configuration 99
Table 2-21: Test 2-7 Test Set Configuration 100
Table 2-22: Test 2-10 Test Set Configuration 104
Table 2-22a: Test 2-12 Test Set Configuration 105
Table 2-23: Test 3-1 Test Set Configuration 107
Table 2-24: Test 3-2 Test Set Configuration 108
Table 2-25: Test 3-3 Test Set Configuration 109
Table 2-26: Test 3-4 Test Set Configuration 111
Table 2-27: Test 3-5 Test Set Configuration 116
Table 2-27a: Test 3-6 Test Set Configuration 117
Table 2-28: Test 4-1 Test Set Configuration 117

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2-29: Test 4-2 Test Set Configuration 118
Table 2-30: Test 4-3 Test Set Configuration 119
Table 2-31: Test 4-4 Test Set Configuration 120
Table 2-32: Test 4-5 Test Set Configuration 121
Table 2-33: Test 4-6 Test Set Configuration 123
Table 2-34: Test 4-7 Test Set Configuration 124
Table 2-35: Test 4-8 Test Set Configuration 124
Table 2-36: Test 4-9 Test Set Configuration 125
Table 2-37: Test 4-10 Test Set Configuration 126
Table 2-38: Test 4-11 Test Set Configuration 127
Table 2-38a: Test 4-12 Test Set Configuration 127
Table 2-38b: Test 4-13 Test Set Configuration 128
Table 2-38c: Test 4-14 Test Set Configuration 129
Table 2-39: Test 5-1 Test Set Configuration 130
Table 2-40: Test 5-2 Test Set Configuration 131
Table 2-41: Test 5-3 Test Set Configuration 133
Table 2-42: Test 5-4 Test Set Configuration 133
Table 2-43: Test 6-1 Test Set Configuration 134
Table 2-44: Test 6-2 Test Set Configuration 135
Table 2-45: Test 7-1 Test Set Configuration 136
Table 2-46a: Test 7-2a Test Set Configuration 137
Table 2-46b: Test 7-2b Test Set Configuration 138
Table 2-47: Test 8-1 Test Set Configuration 139
Table 2-48: 8208 Compressor Subnetwork Test Summary 144
Table 2-49: Test 9-1 Test Set Configuration 145
Table 2-50: ISO 8208 and VDL Mode 3 ANI Packet Transactions for Error Recovery Testing 155
Table 2-51: Test 10-1 Test Set Configuration 173
Table 2-52: Test 10-2 Test Set Configuration 174
Table 2-53: Test 10-3 Test Set Configuration 175
Table 2-54: RESERVED 175
Table 2-55: RESERVED 175
Table 2-56: Test 12-1 Test Set Configuration 176
Table 3-1: Example of Interference Protection for GNSS and AMSS 183
Table B-1: Traceability Matrix For Environmental Conditions B-3
Table B-2: Traceability Matrix For Standard Conditions B-16
Table C-1: VDL Mode 3 Functional Partitioning Between the VDR and CMU C-2
Table D-1: Data/Control Messages D-1

1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1.1 Introduction

This document contains the minimum operational performance standards (MOPS) and verification procedures for an aircraft Very High Frequency (VHF) Digital Link (VDL) Mode 3 transceiver, intended to be used for air-ground (A/G) voice and data communications. The document is designed so that equipment certified to its standards will be compatible with the VDL Mode 3 Minimum Aviation System Performance Standards (MASPS) in RTCA DO-224B.

Compliance with these standards is one means of assuring that VDL Mode 3 equipment will function satisfactorily under all conditions normally encountered in air traffic control (ATC) A/G operations and that data formats will be compatible with the Aeronautical Telecommunications Network (ATN). These standards specify characteristics useful to designers, manufacturers, installers, and users of the VDL Mode 3 A/G communications system equipment.

This document is organized in four major technical sections and appendices as follows:

Section 1 describes the purpose and scope.

Section 2 contains minimum performance requirements under both standard and environmental test conditions with equipment performance verification procedures.

Section 3 describes installed equipment performance tests.

Section 4 describes operational performance tests.

Appendix A contains a list of acronyms used in this document.

Appendix B contains matrices that cross reference requirements to verification testing and equipment architecture classes under environmental conditions and for standard conditions. This appendix is normative in the sense that it specifically identifies which requirements make up the minimum set for the standard classes of equipment.

Appendix C defines the assumed functional partitioning of VDL Mode 3 protocol functions for the separated equipment architecture.

Appendix D provides an example of the Data/Management Interface for the separated equipment architecture. This example is described at a high level. No protocol details (e.g., bit definition, data rate, physical layer details, etc.) for the Data/Management Interface are given.

Appendix E defines test vectors for evaluation of the vocoder audio levels and a silence test vector for BER testing.

1.2 System Overview

The VDL Mode 3 A/G communications system provides functionally simultaneous voice and data communications between aircraft and ground-based users. The VDL Mode 3 A/G communications system architecture is defined to provide coverage similar to

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