



Broadcasting Services (Parental Lock) Technical Standard 2020

The Australian Communications and Media Authority makes the following technical standard under subsections 130B(1) and 130B(7) of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*.

Dated: 17 September 2020

Fiona Cameron
[signed]
Member

Creina Chapman
[signed]
Member/~~General Manager~~

Australian Communications and Media Authority

1 Name

This is the *Broadcasting Services (Parental Lock) Technical Standard 2020*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the start of the day after the day it is registered on the Federal Register of Legislation.

Note: The Federal Register of Legislation may be accessed free of charge at www.legislation.gov.au.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under subsections 130B(1) and 130B(7) of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*.

4 Repeal of the *Broadcasting and Datacasting Services (Parental Lock) Technical Standard 2010*

The *Broadcasting and Datacasting Services (Parental Lock) Technical Standard 2010* (F2010L02220) is repealed.

5 Definitions

- (1) In this instrument:

Act means *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*.

classification code has the meaning given by subsection (2).

electricity supply body means an authority or body corporate that carries on either or both of the following businesses:

- (a) supplying electricity;
- (b) managing the supply of electricity.

parental lock capabilities means technical capabilities that will alone, or in conjunction with any other capability on domestic reception equipment, block a television program or datacasting content with a particular classification code from being shown unless the correct personal identification number code is entered into the domestic reception equipment.

program classification information means information that is:

- (a) about the classification code for a television program or datacasting content;
- (b) transmitted using the broadcasting services bands to a domestic digital television receiver as part of the data that accompanies the television program or datacasting content (whether or not the information is also transmitted to the receiver by a separate transmission).

Note: A number of other expressions used in this instrument are defined in the Act, including the following:

- (a) broadcasting service;
- (b) broadcasting services bands;
- (c) datacasting service;
- (d) domestic digital television receiver.

- (2) In this instrument, each of the following (in order from lowest to highest) is a *classification code* that applies to a television program or datacasting content:
- (a) not classified;

- (b) pre-school (P);
- (c) children's (C);
- (d) general (G);
- (e) parental guidance recommended (PG);
- (f) mature audience 15+ (M);
- (g) mature adult audience 15+ (MA);
- (h) restricted 18+ (R).

6 References to other instruments

In this instrument, unless the contrary intention appears:

- (a) a reference to any other legislative instrument is a reference to that other legislative instrument as in force from time to time; and
- (b) a reference to any other kind of instrument or writing is a reference to that other instrument or writing as in force or in existence at the commencement of this instrument.

Note 1: For references to Commonwealth Acts, see section 10 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*; and see also subsection 13(1) of the *Legislation Act 2003* for the application of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* to legislative instruments.

Note 2: All Commonwealth Acts and legislative instruments are registered on the Federal Register of Legislation.

7 Purpose

The purpose of this instrument is to ensure that particular domestic reception equipment has parental lock capabilities, or distributes information that enables the parental lock capabilities in other domestic reception equipment to operate.

8 Standard – domestic digital television receiver (general)

- (1) For subsection 130B(1) of the Act, this section sets out a technical standard for a domestic digital television receiver, except where section 9 or section 10 applies to the receiver.
 - Note 1: Subsection 130B(1) of the Act applies in relation to domestic reception equipment. A domestic digital television receiver is domestic reception equipment.
 - Note 2: Section 9 of this instrument applies to modular reception equipment. Section 10 of this instrument applies to amplifiers and distribution devices.
- (2) The domestic digital television receiver must have parental lock capabilities.
- (3) The parental lock capabilities must be able to identify the classification code that applies to a television program by using the program classification information for the program.
- (4) The parental lock capabilities must be able to identify the classification code that applies to datacasting content by using the program classification information for the content.
- (5) The parental lock capabilities must be able to be set by the user of the domestic digital television receiver so that the user can choose to make the receiver block any of the following:
 - (a) television programs and datacasting content with a classification code of PG or higher;
 - (b) television programs and datacasting content with a classification code of M or higher;

- (c) television programs and datacasting content with a classification code of MA or higher.

9 Standard – domestic digital television receiver (modulation reception equipment)

- (1) For subsection 130B(1) of the Act, this section sets out a technical standard for a domestic digital television receiver that:
 - (a) can operate to show a television program or datacasting content only if it is used with another device; and
 - (b) cannot be connected to an electricity system of an electricity supply body otherwise than through the device mentioned in paragraph (a).

Note: Subsection 130B(1) of the Act applies in relation to domestic reception equipment. A domestic digital television receiver is domestic reception equipment.

- (2) If the domestic digital television receiver:
 - (a) is supplied with software; and
 - (b) operates as a domestic digital television receiver when used with the software;the receiver must have parental lock capabilities when used with the software.
- (3) The parental lock capabilities must be able to identify the classification code that applies to a television program by using the program classification information for the program.
- (4) The parental lock capabilities must be able to identify the classification code that applies to datacasting content by using the program classification information for the content.
- (5) The parental lock capabilities must be able to be set by the user of the domestic digital television receiver so that the user can choose to make the receiver block any of the following:
 - (a) television programs and datacasting content with a classification code of PG or higher;
 - (b) television programs and datacasting content with a classification code of M or higher;
 - (c) television programs and datacasting content with a classification code of MA or higher.

10 Standard – domestic digital television receiver (amplifiers and distribution devices)

- (1) For subsection 130B(1) of the Act, this section sets out a technical standard for a domestic digital television receiver that:
 - (a) is an amplifier or distribution device used in the installation of antenna systems that support terrestrial reception of broadcasting services, datacasting services or both; and
 - (b) is capable of receiving a service that was transmitted using coded orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (**COFDM**), using either of the following modulation techniques:
 - (i) quadrature phase shift keying (**QPSK**); or
 - (ii) quadrature amplitude modulation (**QAM**); and
 - (c) is designed to demodulate or decode the service and then remodulate or re-encode the service; and
 - (d) is designed to use COFDM to distribute the service to one or more other domestic digital television receivers connected to the amplifier or distribution device, which use either of the following modulation techniques when receiving the service:
 - (i) QPSK; or

(ii) QAM.

Note: Subsection 130B(1) of the Act applies in relation to domestic reception equipment. A domestic digital television receiver is domestic reception equipment.

- (2) The amplifier or distribution device must include in the distributed service the program classification information necessary to enable parental lock capabilities to operate in the connected receivers mentioned in paragraph (1)(d).

11 Exemptions

For subsection 130B(7) of the Act, the domestic reception equipment mentioned in the following table is exempt in relation to this instrument from subsections 130B(2) and (3) of the Act:

Item	Domestic reception equipment
1	<p>A domestic digital television receiver of a kind that was supplied for the first time before the <i>Broadcasting and Datacasting Services (Parental Lock) Technical Standard 2010</i> (the original standard) applied, in accordance with section 6 of the original standard, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) a particular model of domestic digital television receiver that was supplied by a wholesaler to a retailer before the original standard applied; and(b) a domestic digital television receiver that was sold by a retailer to a customer before the original standard applied.
2	<p>A domestic digital television receiver that is imported into Australia for the sole purpose of being exported.</p>