INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ITU-T N.63

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SOUND – PROGRAMME AND TELEVISION TRANSMISSION CIRCUITS

TEST SIGNALS TO BE USED BY THE BROADCASTING ORGANIZATIONS DURING THE PREPARATORY PERIOD

ITU-T Recommendation N.63

(Extract from the *Blue Book*)

NOTES

1 ITU-T Recommendation N.63 was published in Fascicle IV.3 of the *Blue Book*. This file is an extract from the *Blue Book*. While the presentation and layout of the text might be slightly different from the *Blue Book* version, the contents of the file are identical to the *Blue Book* version and copyright conditions remain unchanged (see below).

2 In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

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After the broadcasting organizations have taken over the international television connection, they may decide to make measurements on the complete connection from the point where the television programme is produced to the point or points where it is to be received.

The broadcasting organizations often use live pictures for testing during the preparatory period, especially when a standards convertor is involved. If for any reason they should need to send test signals then it is desirable that the telecommunication Administrations should recommend the broadcasting organizations in their countries to send signals that are in accordance with those recommended in Recommendation N.67 (at levels in accordance with Recommendation N.60), so that the staff at intermediate video interconnection points can, if necessary, compare the results of the measurements made by the broadcasting organizations with those obtained by the telecommunication Administrations during the line-up period. There is no occasion to readjust the output levels of the station equipment since these have already been set during the line-up period.

All test signals transmitted prior to the actual television transmission, being full field or otherwise, should be superimposed with the identification of the broadcaster and location from where the test signal is originating. This identification may be transmitted either in monochrome, or in colour, according to preference or to suit the technical requirements of the particular test signal being transmitted. If the local language of the originating source is not an internationally recognized language then the identification signal should be displayed not only in the local language of the country concerned but also in one of the internationally recognized languages.

When a full field signal is transmitted simply as a means to check link or tandem connection continuity, it may comprise any suitable composite video signal (such as test pattern, pulse/bar or other suitable picture or pattern) provided that it contains specific signal components that include Peak White, synchronizing pulses and the identification signal (as previously described) of the station or broadcaster transmitting the signal. The composite signal (colour bars plus captions, etc.) must not exceed 1 volt (peak-to-peak) in order to preclude interference with adjacent video channels, particularly on half transponder satellite operation.

When television pictures which contain electronically generated components, e.g. captions, are used, the out-of-band-spectral power in any 4 kHz band above 1.2 times the nominal video bandwidth shall not exceed –50 dB.