



TIA STANDARD

Telecommunications

Telephone Terminal Equipment

Connector Requirements for Connection of Terminal Equipment to the Telephone Network

TIA-1096-A
(Revision of TIA-1096)

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FOREWORD

(This foreword is not part of this Standard.)

The requirements concerning mechanical characteristics and dimensions of the plug and jack connectors described in this document were originally contained in Subpart F of Part 68 of the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) Rules. When the Commission created the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments (ACTA) in Report & Order FCC 00-400 on CC Docket No. 99-216, it turned over responsibility for maintaining most of the technical criteria in Part 68 to industry. In compliance with one of the provisions of that Report & Order, the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) created Interim Standard IS-968 to provide an initial set of technical criteria identical to that which then existed in Part 68. Thus, the Part 68, Subpart F connector requirements were included in TIA IS-968 that was adopted by the ACTA in 2001. In 2002, TIA IS-968 was superseded by TIA-968-A, which was also adopted by the ACTA.

The original Part 68, Subpart F specifications included requirements that 6-position and 8-position modular connector contacts provide a hard gold to hard gold interface, or equivalent, when a plug and jack were mated. In Docket No. 88-57, the FCC requested the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA) to develop a procedure for demonstrating the equivalency of alternative contact materials to hard gold. In 1989, TIA Subcommittee TR-41.9 included such a procedure in its Telecommunications Systems Bulletin EIA/TIA TSB-31 on suggested Part 68 test methods.

In its work to revise TSB-31-B, TR-41.9 was reminded that TSBs are intended to provide guidance, not contain mandatory requirements. However, separating the test procedure from the requirements for determining the hard gold equivalence of alternative contact materials proved extremely challenging. A solution was found by removing the requirements concerning mechanical characteristics and dimensions of the plug and jack connectors from TIA-968-A and combining them with test procedures and requirements for hard gold and alternative contact materials from TSB-31-B into this new standard, TIA-1096.

An error was found in Figures 4-29 and 4-30 of TIA-1096 after it had been approved and submitted to ACTA for adoption. Although the figures were identified as showing an 8-position keyed plug, they actually depicted an un-keyed plug. Further checking found this error first occurred in IS-968 and had continued to be perpetuated. This revision of TIA-1096 corrects that error by properly depicting an 8-position keyed plug as originally shown in Subpart F of Part 68.

This standard was produced by Subcommittee TR-41.9, Technical and Administrative Regulatory Considerations. It was developed in accordance with ANSI and TIA procedural guidelines and represents the consensus position of the Subcommittee, which served as the formulating group. It has also received the concurrence of Engineering Committee TR-41, User Premises Telecommunications Requirements.