

HD Radio Complete SIS Information Basics

Definition

Station Information Services (SIS) data provides basic information about the station such as call sign, as well as information not displayable to the consumer such as the station identification number. The SIS information is in general, common to all programs, since it originates at the exciter/exporter, whether or not the broadcast system includes an importer for SPS programs. Refer to the NRSC-5 document SY_IDD_1020s for further details.

SIS also provides information to add an advanced data receiver in seeking / scanning for data services on the channel. Therefore, it is very important that the SIS be set properly at the station during broadcast.

- Station Call-sign and Station Slogan should be broadcast consistently and accurately on all HD radio stations. **The SIS information will need to be updated after every software update.**

Table 1 describes the key SIS fields that iBiquity strongly recommends to be always supported. Table 2 describes optional SIS fields. Table 3 describes SIS fields that are required in order to support data services. Note that in order for a field to be sent, it must be enabled in the Exciter / Exporter Station Information schedule. All of the fields described in Tables 1 through 3 are enabled by default in software versions 4.X and above.

Table 1 - Key SIS Fields

Exciter / Exporter Field	NRSC-5 Designation	Description
Call sign Standard	Station Name – Short Format	Identifies the 4-alpha-character station call sign plus an optional (-FM) extension.
Station Slogan Universal	Station Slogan	Provides the slogan for the MPS program. Note that each SPS program may also have a unique slogan, but this information is provided by the SIG channel in the importer.
Service Program Type	Service Program Type (part of Service Information message)	Equivalent to the RBDS PTY field. Provides the program type for the MPS program. Note that each SPS program may also have a unique program type, but this information is provided by the SIG channel in the importer.

Table 2 - Optional SIS Fields

Exciter / Exporter Field	NRSC-5 Designation	Description
Date and Time Information	SIS Parameter Message	May be used by the receiver to display the exact date/time of day, adjusted by the time zone of the station. Note that for the receiver to display this information, the station must be using a GPS-locked time base.
Station Message	Station Message	May be used to convey textual information of general interest to the consumer such as weather forecasts or public service announcements. Includes a high-priority delivery feature to convey emergencies that may be in the listening area.

Table 3 – SIS Fields Required to Support Data Services

Exciter / Exporter Field	NRSC-5 Designation	Description
Station Identification	Station ID Number	Consists of Country Code and FCC facility ID. Used by the receiver to perform alternate frequency searches of data services. IT is very important for each station to correctly populate their FCC-assigned ID in order for seek/scan of data services to perform correctly.

Service Data Type / MIME Type (part of service information message)	Service Data Type / MIME Type (part of Service Information message)	This information originates from the broadcast token and is not entered manually through the GUI. However, the service information must be enabled in the SIS schedule. Broadcasters who have stations in an HD data services networks, such as BTC or TTN, should consult service provider documentation to ensure SIS service message settings comply with the applicable data providers requirements.
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Methods to implement accurate SIS information

- Station call-sign is typically set up in the HD radio Exciter.
- The Station Slogan should be used to broadcast more information about the main program such as "Cool 95" or "Rock 101 Rocks Atlanta"
- It is recommended to keep the Station Slogan under 20 characters since receivers have different display constraints.

Broadcast monitors that display Extended SIS are the accurate monitoring tool for SIS information.

Commercially available HD Radio receivers may also be used as a test tool to monitor that the SIS information is being broadcast and displayed correctly on the receiver.