

The 5 W's about TSID

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What is TSID?

TSID (which stands for Transmission Signal Identifier) is a 16-bit packet contained within the Extended Data Services (XDS) of EIA-608B. Each station is given a unique TSID identifier that has been assigned by the FCC to insert into their Station signal. The recent FCC mandate states the TSID packet must be present in the broadcasters NTSC signal if the broadcaster chooses to have PSIP guide information.

"The FCC emphasized that when the NTSC channel is announced in PSIP, transmission of the NTSC TSID in line 21, field 2 of the NTSC broadcast is now mandatory (as required by A/65B)".

In short, to ensure proper operation of digital receivers, the TSID data within the NTSC signal must be present. DTV receivers will compare the TSID information received in the PSIP with the TSID information in the corresponding NTSC broadcast, verifying that the NTSC signal referenced in the PSIP is actually the desired signal.

Where is TSID located?

TSID is contained within the XDS information of Field 2. XDS provides the transport mechanism to identify advisories about mature program content, station identification, program ID, etc. In the DTV world, the TSID information resides in the PAT table (Program Association Table -identifies MPEG-2 programs in a transport stream) and the TVCT table (Terrestrial Virtual Channel Table-identifies and describes virtual channels).

When and who is TSID mandated for?

The FCC states, "All stations are required to comply with the PSIP Standard within 120 days after publication of the R&O in the Federal Register"

How to Insert TSID?

The Evertz family of Closed Caption encoders all support the insertion of the TSID packet into your Analog or SD-SDI broadcast stream. In fact, Evertz has supported this feature for more than 3 years! If you currently own an 8084, 8084AD, 8085, or HD9084 closed caption encoder, you can support the insertion of TSID using Evertz Metacast 2 or 808x software. Evertz provides all flavors of encoders including Analog, SD-SDI, and HD-SDI video formats.

The Evertz family of Closed Caption monitoring products, 7760CCM, 7760CCM-T, and 7760CCM-HD, provide confidence monitoring of your EIA-608 and EIA-708 data. This includes the Transmission Signal Identifier (TSID), Copy Generation Management System (CGMS-A), Program ID, Time in show, Program name, Program type, V-chip rating, Program description, Network name, Station ID, Time of day, Time zone, Closed Captioning, and Text Channels.

Metacast 2 and 808x are both software packages supporting the insertion of the TSID packet. Metacast 2 has been designed to simplify the encoding of XDS (V-Chip, TSID, CGMS-A, Program ID, etc.) information by gathering data from pre-compiled playlists or schedules. 808x Configware is a **free** software used to insert Static XDS data and works strictly with Evertz closed captions encoders. This would include the insertion of the TSID packet. The software is available for free download from our website at www.evertz.com.

Please visit Evertz website at www.evertz.com or contact us for detailed information about our closed caption line.

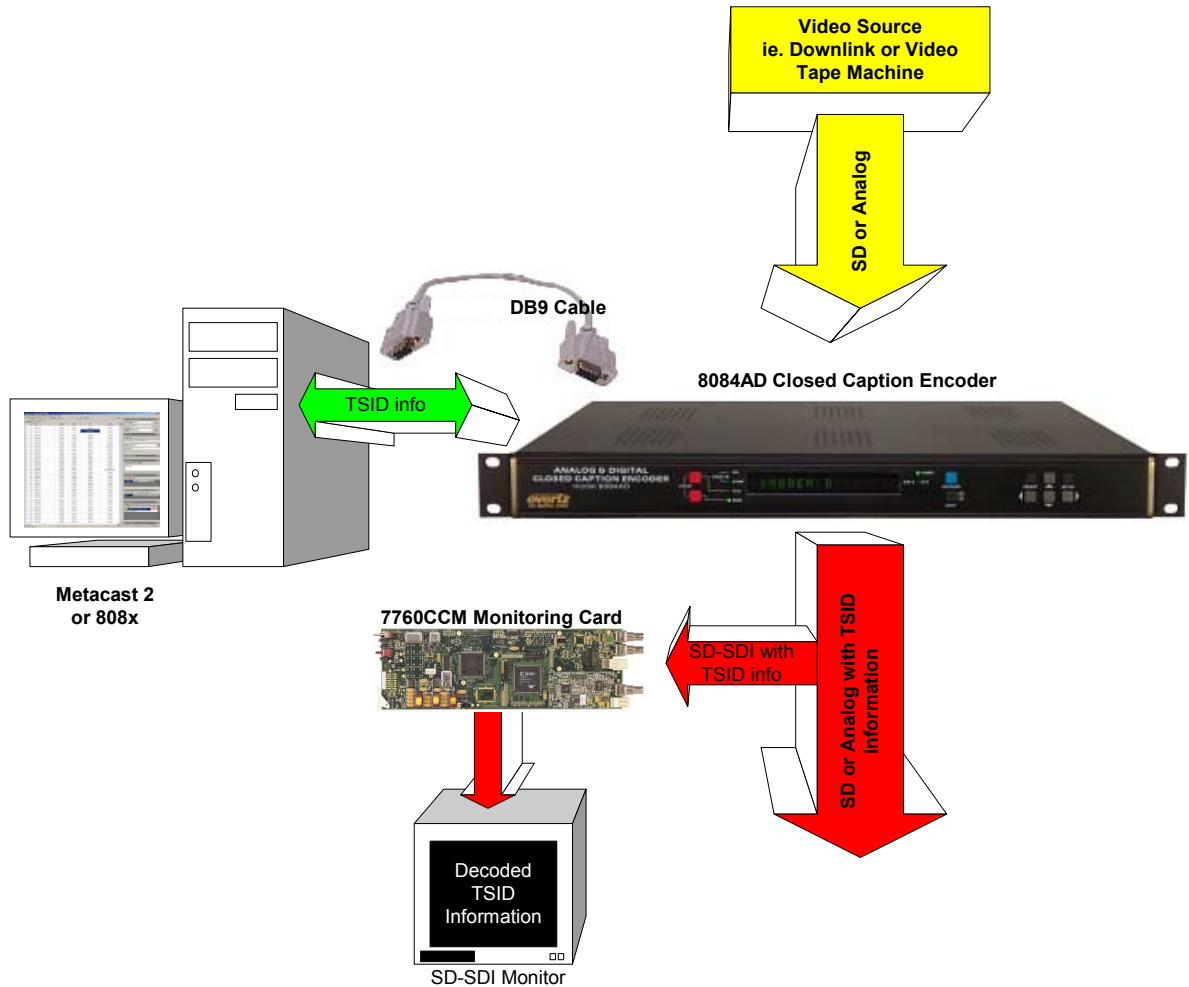
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The diagram below shows an example setup to insert TSID information into an Analog or SD-SDI video stream. Evertz 8084AD has the capability of inserting the TSID information onto both video standards simultaneously.



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