

1 Scope

This document provides an example MISP (Motion Imagery Standards Profile) compliant file/stream constructed from technologies approved by the Motion Imagery Standards Board. The intent is to identify the key elements that comprise a compliant file/stream; not to show all possible combinations of available technologies. Finally, this document is a good starting point for those new to the practices of the MISB for it indicates further documentation useful in adhering to MISB practices.

2 References

- MISB STD 9710 *High Definition Television Systems (HDTV), MISP*
- MISB RP 9720b *MISM, High Definition Motion Imagery, MISP*
- MISB STD 9703 *Digital Motion Imagery, Uncompressed Baseband Signal Transport and Processing, MISP*
- MISB STD 9723 *Compressed High Definition Advanced Television (ATV) and Associated Motion Imagery Systems, MISP*
- MISB EG 0802 *H.264/AVC Coding and Multiplexing, May 2009*
- MISB STD 0902 *Motion Imagery Sensor Minimum Metadata Set, Jun 2010*
- MISB STD 0601 *UAS Datalink Local Metadata Set, Mar 2010*
- MISB STD 0102 *Security Metadata Universal and Local Sets for Digital Motion Imagery, Sep 2009*
- MISB STD 0807 *MISB KLV Metadata Dictionary, Jun 2010*
- MISB STD 0107 *Bit and Byte Order for Metadata in Motion Imagery Files and Streams, Oct 2001*
- MISB STD 9715 *Time Reference Synchronization, MISP*
- MISB STD 9713 *Data Encoding Using Key-Length-Value, MISP*
- MISB RP 9717 *Packing KLV Packets into MPEG-2 Systems Streams, MISP*
- MISB EG 0607 *MISB Metadata Registry and Processes, Dec 2008*
- MISB STD 9708 *Imbedded Time Reference for Motion Imagery Systems, MISP*
- MISB STD 0604 *Time Stamping Compressed Motion Imagery, Mar 2010*
- MISB RP 0603 *Common Time Reference for Digital Motion Imagery Using Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), Aug 2006*

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| MISB RP 0605 <i>Uncompressed</i> | <i>Inserting Time Code and Metadata in High Definition Video, May 2008</i> |
| MISB RP 0101 | <i>Use of MPEG-2 Systems Streams in Digital Motion Imagery Systems</i> |
| MISB STD 9701 | <i>MPEG-2 Transport Stream, MISP</i> |
| MISB RP 0804 | <i>Real Time Protocol for Full Motion Video, May 2010</i> |
| MISB TRM 1007 | <i>Surfing the MISP, May 2010</i> |
| MISB TRM 1006 | <i>Key-Length-Value (KLV) Users Guide, May 2010</i> |
| IETF Draft | <i>RTP Payload for SMPTE 336M Encoded Data, draft-ietf-avt-rtp-klv-00.txt, Apr 2010</i> |

3 Acronyms

| | |
|-------|---|
| AAF | Advanced Authoring Format |
| AVC | Advanced Video Codec (H264) |
| DAM | Digital Asset Management System |
| DTS | Decoding Time Stamp |
| EG | Engineering Guideline |
| ES | Elementary Stream |
| FMV | Full Motion Video |
| Gb | Giga-bits (10^9) |
| IRSM | Infrared System Matrix |
| kB | kilo-bytes |
| KLV | Key-Length-Value |
| LVSD | Large Volume Streaming Data |
| Mb | Mega Bits (10^6) |
| MI | Motion Imagery |
| MISM | Motion Imagery System Matrix |
| MISP | Motion Imagery Standards Profile |
| MXF | Material Exchange Format |
| PED | Processing-Exploitation-Dissemination |
| PES | Packetized Elementary Stream |
| PID | Packet Identifier |
| PTS | Presentation Time Stamp |
| RP | Recommended Practice |
| RTP | Real Time Protocol |
| RTSP | Real Time Streaming Protocol |
| SDI | Serial Data Interface |
| SMPTE | Society for Motion Picture and Television Engineers |
| STD | Standard |
| TRM | Technical Reference Material |
| TS | MPEG-2 Transport Stream |
| UTC | Universal Coordinated Time |
| VANC | Vertical Ancillary Data |
| VBI | Vertical Blanking Interval |

4 Introduction

The definition of MISP Compliance is provided in MISP 6.0 as follows:

MISP COMPLIANCE Definition:

“Motion Imagery Standards Profile (MISP) compliance is based upon compliance to a specified approved version of the MISP (e.g. MISP Version (V) 4.4, MISP V4.5, etc.). The motion imagery system supplier specifies the MISP version for which it is seeking compliance along with four qualifications:

1. The MISM-Level(s) that the video compression is to operate within (across)
2. The metadata STD/RP/EG implemented
3. The transport/file format STD/RP/EG for transport/storage of the motion imagery
4. The timing/synchronization STD/RP/EG implemented

MISM levels are as defined per the MISP version specified by the system supplier. All signals tested are assumed digital. Supported video compression includes MPEG-2, MPEG-4 Part 10 (i.e. AVC or H.264) and motion JPEG 2000. Metadata is tested for compliance to the specified version of the MISP and respective STDs/RPs/EGs. MISP compliant systems shall produce metadata elements from Standard 0601 or EG 0104 (legacy systems only), optionally using metadata keys from MISB Standard 0807, SMPTE RP 210, and other MISB RPs/EGs of their choice. The minimum metadata set for Standard 0601 is given by Standard 0902. In addition, Security metadata shall comply with MISB Standard 0102. Supported file formats include MPEG-2 Transport Stream (TS), Real Time Protocol (RTP), Material Exchange Format (MXF) and Advanced Authoring Format (AAF). Furthermore, if the motion imagery system uses MXF/AAF it shall comply with Standard 0301. Draft RPs/EGs will not be tested until approved by the MISB. Note: While it is strongly advised to reference the latest version of the MISP in assuring full compliance, adherence to MISP Version 4.4 and subsequent versions fulfill the requirements for compliance testability.”

A MISP-compliant file/stream must have the following three components with timing/synchronization implicit in the metadata and/or media container:

1. **Motion imagery:** uncompressed or compressed (the essence)
2. **Metadata:** Key-Length-Value form (e.g. mission, security, optional PED data)
3. **Media Container:** approved package that carries MI, metadata, or both. In a MPEG-2 transport stream (TS) both MI and metadata must be present. In Real-Time Transport Protocol (RTP), MI and metadata are independently carried as separate streams with appropriate timing that associate the individual media streams.

Files and streams consist of compressed imagery and metadata appropriately supplied with timing. A “file” is generally considered a complete media package, such as a video clip stored on a server. A “stream” could be a live event transmitted directly from a sensor, or a pre-recorded file that is subsequently played out in continuous fashion. Both files and streams are composed of motion imagery and metadata that may be either multiplexed together into one unified transport stream container or each packaged within separate RTP containers.

Example File/Stream Construction

Figure 1 shows the fundamental building blocks in constructing a compliant file or stream. A sensor produces a motion imagery sequence, which is then compressed by an encoder. The mission computer collects dynamic data relevant to the mission, such as geospatial positioning, sensor angles, etc. and produces this data as mission metadata. Required security information is inserted as additional metadata. Optionally, other types of metadata such as chat, annotation, graphics, audio, etc. may be added to the file/stream at any point during collection, or downstream processing. Ideally, both the compressed motion imagery stream and the composite stream of metadata information are independently time stamped indicating the time of data capture. Finally, the data is packaged for downstream delivery into one unified MPEG-2 transport stream container, or as individual media types within individual RTP containers.

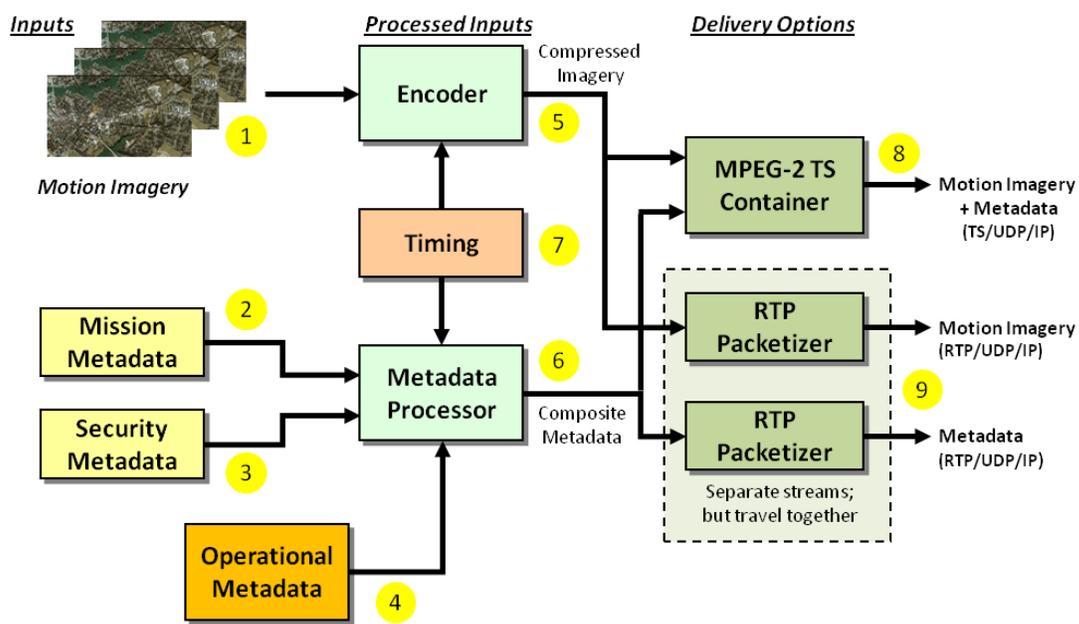


Figure 1 – A General Structure for Constructing a MISP-Compliant File/Stream

Inputs

1. *Motion Imagery*: Streaming imagery input at a rate ranging from 1-60 frames per second.
2. *Mission Metadata*: Metadata specific to the mission and manner in which the motion imagery collection was performed.
3. *Security Metadata*: Metadata defining the appropriate handling and classification of the motion imagery, metadata, and resultant products.
4. *Operational Metadata* (optional): Ancillary metadata input as a result of analyst annotations, chat room communications, audio recordings, etc. This type of metadata can be input at any point during collection and processing of the data or after dissemination of the initial product.

Processed Inputs

5. *Compressor*: Hardware or software that removes redundancies in the motion imager stream, thereby reducing the amount data needed to represent the sequence. Compression can be

lossless (perfectly reversible), but in most cases it is lossy (some loss in signal fidelity). MISB allowed compression types include H.264/AVC, MPEG-2 and JPEG2000.

6. *Metadata Processor*: Hardware or software that combines the various forms of metadata into a synchronized metadata stream.
7. *Timing*: Time stamping of both the essence and the metadata affords correlation of the video and metadata streams for downstream display and processing.

Delivery Options

8. *MPEG-2 TS Container*: wrapper for carriage of motion imagery and metadata for delivery over a communications channel.
9. *RTP Packetizer*: Real Time Protocol designed for carriage of real time signals over internet protocol, where one RTP channel carries one media type. Thus, motion imagery and metadata would require two RTP channels.

Table 1 identifies the functional elements needed to create a MISB compliant motion imagery file. The dotted lines indicate that these data may be carried either independently or together. The MISB is very specific in defining methods for data transport, allowed compression types, metadata syntax, semantics and elements, timing standards and relationships, and data packaging using standardized containers. These details are more thoroughly defined within the MISB and associated documents.

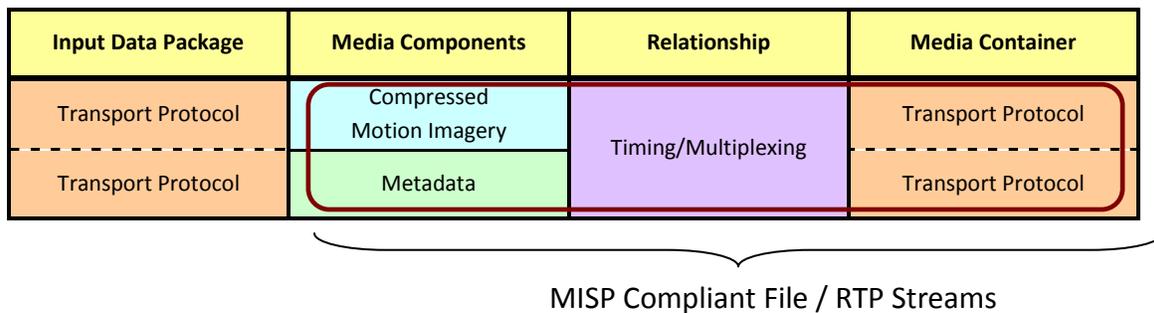


Table 1 – Media Elements, Timing, and Container

Table 2 shows that motion imagery may be supplied over a SDI (serial digital interface) -*the transport protocol* to an H.264/AVC encoder-*media component*. The metadata-*media component* may be supplied within the same SDI signal, or via some other input protocol means, such as Ethernet, or RS-232. The relationship between the two media component types is maintained through timing assigned and contained within each media component. The two media components may then be packaged together, or as individual single components, depending on the desired protocol.

Example Implementation: A Digital FMV Sensor System

Figure 2 shows an example of a high-definition digital sensor collection system with the required processing steps of Figure 1 performed on a platform. Appendix A provides information on legacy systems; it is provided only for completeness.

| Input Data Package | Media Components | Relationship | Output Data Package |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Transport Protocol | Compressed MI | Timing/Multiplex | Transport Protocol |
| HD-SDI SDI Other | H.264/AVC MPEG-2 | MPEG-2 TS RTP | <i>File</i> |
| | Metadata | | MPEG-2 TS AAF/MXF |
| | <i>Mission</i> <i>Security</i> | | <i>Stream</i> |
| | KLV | | MPEG-2 TS RTP |

Table 2 – Specific Technologies for Electro-optical and Infrared Imagery

The various MISB standards and practices used to guide this design will be highlighted for each step in the process to demonstrate their applicability.

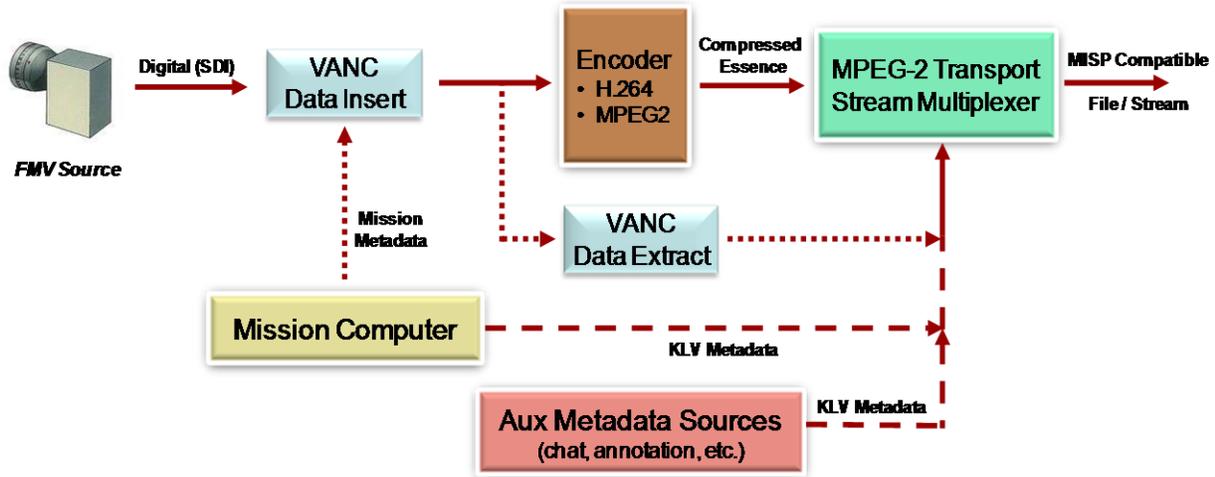


Figure 2 – Digital FMV Sensor System

Step 1: FMV Source – the sensor and channel constraints

Since the source is high definition (HD) video it is prudent to review the HD MISM (Motion Imagery System Matrix) in the MISB to determine if the overall system can support the required bandwidth to meet the CONOPS. **MISB RP 9720b - MISM, High Definition Motion Imagery** indicates that three levels support HD depending on its use. This MISM covers image spatial resolutions up to 1920 by 1080p at 60 frames per second down to 1280 by 720p at 30 frames per second. The compression type selected, MPEG-2 or H.264/AVC indicates the bandwidth range needed to support a particular level of quality per the application. In this case, the bandwidth ranges from a maximum of 2.4 Gb/sec in Level L11 (for uncompressed HD) to a nominal bandwidth of 6 Mb/sec (H.264/AVC) in Level 9H. Although the compression affords greater compression at the expense of image quality, **MISB EG 0904 - H.264 Bandwidth/Latency/Quality Tradeoffs** offers suggested methods

to meet bandwidth constraints by reducing the spatial image size (scaling), reducing the image field of view (cropping), or reducing the temporal rate.

Step 2: VANC Data Insert – the sensor’s interface

The next step is to understand the interface of the sensor. If the interface adheres to an industry standard then the data format and its usage is well understood. In this particular case, **MISB STD 9710 - High Definition Television Systems (HDTV)** provides reference to the SMPTE HD-SDI (High Definition Serial Digital Interface) as a recognized interface supported by the MISB.

HD-SDI transports the digital FMV data from the sensor to the encoder. In HD-SDI a reserved data space called the VANC (Vertical Ancillary Data Space) contained within each video frame is available to place non-video data, much like the Vertical Blanking Interval (VBI) for NTSC. Metadata can be placed within the VANC for carriage to a downstream process, such as an encoder, that will subsequently extract this data from the VANC. For more on the VANC and its capabilities see **MISB RP 0605 - Inserting Time Code and Metadata in High Definition Uncompressed Video**. For time reference information see **MISB STD 9715 - Time Reference Synchronization** and also **MISB STD 0603 - Common Time Reference for Digital Motion Imagery Using Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)**.

Step 3: Encoder – motion imagery compression

The HD motion imagery is compressed according to **MISB STD 9723 - Compressed High Definition Advanced Television (ATV) and Associated Motion Imagery Systems**. Both H.264/AVC and MPEG-2 are accepted compression types for video. The MISB leverages industry standards and practices where possible; however, where a standard is very broad, the MISB will seek to limit the standard in order to achieve community interoperability. In particular, **MISB EG 0802 - H.264/AVC Coding and Multiplexing** provides parameters and application-specific modes within the H.264/AVC standard that are deemed more optimal within our community of practice.

Step 4: Metadata – mission, security, and auxiliary

Metadata is collected by the mission computer, or optionally input from other sources, such as by an operator or analyst. If metadata is inserted into the SDI VANC then that data must be extracted and input to the transport stream multiplexer. Otherwise, the metadata may come from the mission computer directly, and be input to the multiplexer.

Regardless of the metadata source all metadata must abide by the MISB standards for syntax and semantics, which is in SMPTE KLV (Key-Length-Value) form. This binary format was chosen because of its efficiency and extendibility. Certain MISB standards govern the format of the metadata (see **MISB STD 0107 - Bit and Byte Order for Metadata in Motion Imagery Files and Streams** and **MISB STD 9713 - Data Encoding Using Key-Length-Value**). The MISB maintains a listing of all metadata keys in **MISB STD 0807 - KLV Metadata Dictionary** with a corresponding document **MISB EG 0607 - MISB Metadata Registry and Processes** that describes the fundamentals of the metadata dictionary. A

tutorial on KLV structures and rules can be found in the **MISB TRM 1006 - Key-Length-Value (KLV) Users Guide**.

While many KLV elements supported by the MISB describe important mission data, not all are mandated to meet MISP compliance. Certain mission metadata and security metadata must, however, be present.

Mission Metadata

MISB STD 0902 - Motion Imagery Sensor Minimum Metadata Set specifies the mandated set of KLV elements that characterize many of the dynamic parameters collected during a mission. This set is drawn from a more complete set defined in **MISB STD 0601 - UAS Datalink Local Metadata Set**. This minimum set was selected to enable basic discovery and retrieval functionality in exploitation. While certain mission metadata may be updated at the motion imagery frame rate, “Metadata elements contained in the Minimum Metadata Set **shall** be reported no less than once every thirty seconds (30) under all circumstances.”

Security Metadata

The security metadata set defined in **MISB Standard 0102 - Security Metadata Universal and Local Sets for Digital Motion Imagery** must be present within the metadata file or stream to be MISP compliant. It is recommended that this KLV local data set be placed early in the file/stream to help determine the security level of the data early without searching through the entire dataset, and that its repetition within the file/stream occur at least every 10 seconds (STD 0902). *A point of clarity: the required elements of the local security set as defined in Standard 0102 are identified within Standard 0902. Thus, choosing to define security using Standard 0902 satisfies the requirement for MISP compliance.*

Auxiliary Metadata (optional)

Other types of metadata may be inserted at the sensor, or anywhere within the processing/exploitation workflow or after dissemination of the initial products. Numerous MISB practices for data such as chat, annotation, and audio are documented in RP's and EG's. All such metadata must conform to the KLV format. Care must be taken to allow for the additional overhead in bandwidth that these types of metadata may incur. Refer to the MISB website for more information on these various data types.

Synchronous versus Asynchronous Metadata

Metadata can be carried along with video in two ways. Synchronous metadata means that the metadata is packaged with associated timing at the transport layer so that it can be temporally related to the appropriate video frame(s). In short, synchronous metadata allows for rigid correlation between a particular frame(s) in the video sequence and the collected metadata at that point in time. In contrast, asynchronous metadata lacks rigid temporal assignment. Asynchronous metadata is *grossly* associated with the motion imagery stream.

All metadata that is of the synchronous type that belongs to the same program within a transport stream is added as a new service or an existing service. This holds similarly for asynchronous metadata types. Thus, mixing of synchronous/asynchronous types is not allowed (see STD 0604).

Step 5: MPEG-2 Transport Stream Multiplexer – timing and transport

With the HD video in compressed form (compressed essence, Figure 1) and the KLV metadata populated the job is now to package the two for subsequent delivery. In the example of Figure 1, the two media types are combined into a MPEG-2 transport stream; see **MISB STD 9701 - MPEG-2 Transport Stream**.

MISB STD 9708 - Imbedded Time Reference for Motion Imagery Systems identifies the three documents RP 0603, STD 0604, and RP 0605 as the DoD/IC/NSG standards for time annotation and imbedded time references for motion imagery systems. Understanding the timing mechanisms allowed under the MISB is critical to successful application and compliance.

MISB STD 0604 - Time Stamping Compressed Motion Imagery specifies several methods that can provide tremendous value to a collected asset, specifically in exploitation processes. *This is an important document that should be read, because maintenance of the time relationship between the imagery and the metadata is extremely critical in the exploitation of an asset.* The placement and format of timestamps and time code within the imagery is covered in this standard.

Mission time stamps are absolute and represent actual event times. They are represented in UTC (Universal Coordinated Time) along with the ASCII identifier MISPmicrosecond (see STD 0604). Mission time stamps in the compressed video stream will be identical to those carried in the metadata if both the video and metadata are captured at the same time. Accurate time stamps aid post-processing and exploitation of an event. Ideally, the video and metadata will be timed together in a synchronous manner, and this too is outlined in STD 0604.

Time code is a relative timing mechanism that proves itself valuable in editing content and also in co-locating metadata and other intelligence data within a digital asset management (DAM) system. Time code format is HH:MM:SS:FF, where HH represents hours, MM minutes, SS seconds, and FF the number of frames per second of video.

Time stamps are required elements in the metadata. Time stamping of the motion imagery is strongly recommended and necessary in order to facilitate proper mapping of metadata to the appropriate video frame(s).

The MPEG-2 Transport Stream

Step A – the elementary stream

To understand how data is carried in a transport stream it is instructive to start at the beginning of the process with the uncompressed source imagery.

Figure 3 shows how a series of uncompressed digital video frames are compressed.

An MPEG video stream is composed of a series of full, predictive, and bidirectional frames referred to as I, P, and B frames. I (Intraframe) frames (or full pictures) are coded based on information within a frame independent of surrounding frames and, therefore, generally compress the least (80kB). P (Predictive) frames are predicted from I frames (or other P frames), and thus, compress more than I frames (20kB). Finally, B (Bi-directional) frames are predicted from both I and P frames in a bi-directional fashion using image information from frames both before and after. B frames generally compress the most (5kB); however, their dependence on neighboring frames makes them very susceptible to the propagation of errors in reconstruction. I, P, and B compressed frames are called Access Units. Step A shows a coding structure of one I, two B, and one P frame. This pattern, while not unique, will repeat over the entire coded sequence. Note also that the compressed numbers are for illustration only and will differ substantially as a function of image scene complexity and encoder algorithm.

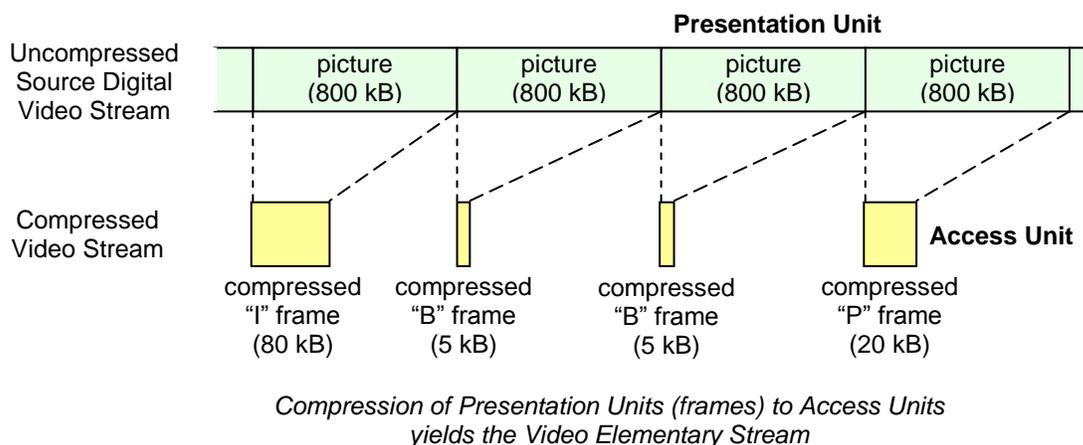


Figure 3 – Step A: the compression process

Step B – creating a packetized elementary stream

Once the source uncompressed imagery is compressed into Access Units it must be prepared for packaging into the MPEG-2 transport stream. Step B in the process (Figure 4) is to create packetized elementary stream (PES) packets of each compressed stream (remember there may be multiple streams of video, audio, metadata, etc) with accompanying information that indicates what is contained in the packet and how it should be decoded. A PES packet header carries this control information.

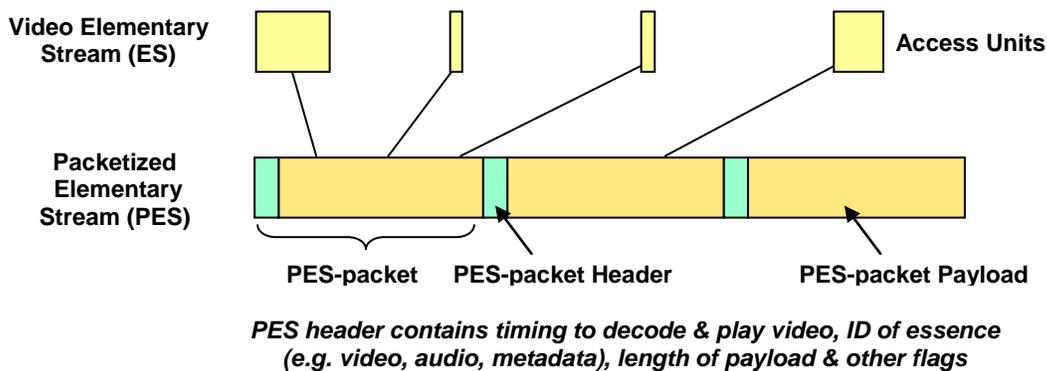


Figure 4 – Step B: packetizing the elementary stream

PES packets can vary in length and contain a number of Access Units. Within the PES header a decode time stamp (DTS) aids in decoding the data. A presentation time stamp (PTS) aids in the presentation to the display. The PTS is especially important in synchronizing the different media types (video, audio, metadata) at the display, and STD 0604 specifically provides guidelines for synchronization between the video and the metadata.

Step C – mapping into transport stream packets

PES packets are mapped into the transport stream itself. Each TS packet is fixed in size (188 bytes). A four-byte TS header contains various indicators, such as a start code for the TS packet, an error indicator for bad packets, a packet ID or PID that identifies what media the packet of data represents. This information is required so that a decoder can decipher the data appropriately.

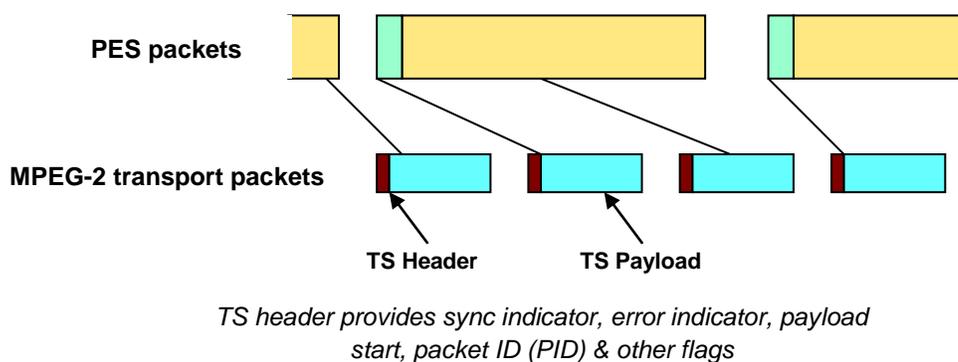
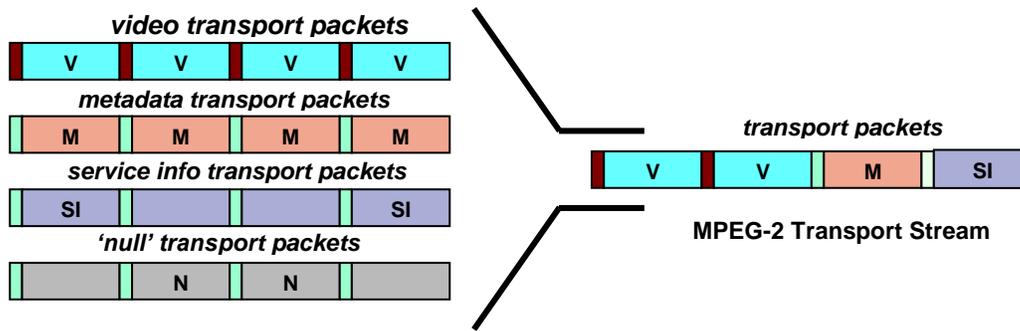


Figure 5 – Step C: mapping PES packets to transport stream packets

Finally, in Step D (Figure 6) the transport stream multiplexer ingests the individual packetized media streams into transport-stream-format packets, and interleaves them into one composite stream of data. The data rate of the final TS stream will reflect the aggregate sum of respective individual media components. The 'Null' packet serves to fill in gaps in the stream to help maintain a desired transport stream data rate.



Transport Stream composed of a mix of various elementary streams

Figure 6 – Step D: multiplexing media transport packets into one stream

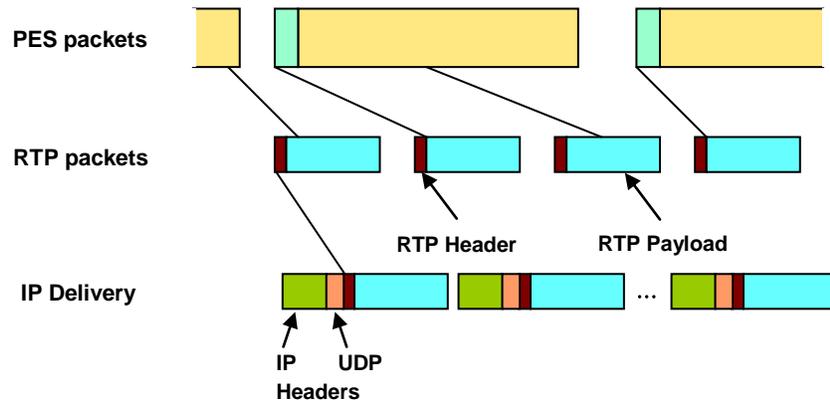
Although the process above illustrates how video is mapped into the transport stream, the metadata is similarly packetized and receives a PES header. Once packets of metadata are constructed they are then mapped into transport stream packets with a corresponding PTS if the streams are synchronous. STD 0604 provides details on how to package metadata appropriate to its intended use.

5 File/Stream Protocol

The motion imagery essence and the metadata together represent the collected “asset”. To be of value this asset must be kept intact within either a unified container, or with appropriate timing, to facilitate downstream decisions. There are several packaging methods available within the MISB suite of technologies: MPEG-2 TS (Transport Stream), RTSP/RTP, and AAF/MXF. These different packages are useful in different applications. MPEG-2 TS is the most used container in our community. It serves as both a vehicle for point-to-point transport and also for storage. RTP encapsulation is shown below. For more information on RTP and a prototype implementation see **MISB RP 0804 - Real-Time Protocol for Full Motion Video**.

5.1.1 Real Time Transport Protocol

The packaging of media for RTP follows the same first two steps of the process above for transport stream. Figure 7 shows a different step where the packetized data (PES packets) receive a RTP header on each PES packet, which then is encapsulated into an IP datagram with IP and UDP headers. A new draft for carriage of metadata over RTP is now under review by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), a governing body responsible for publications on RTP usage. Reference is made to *RTP Payload for SMPTE 336M Encoded Data*, draft-ietf-avt-rtp-klv-00.txt.



IP, UDP, RTP headers precede data composed of PES packets

Figure 7 – Packaging one media component for RTP delivery

6 Advice on Getting Started

The MISB web site (<http://www.gwg.nga.mil/misb/index.html>) publishes all the documents needed to construct a MISP-compliant file or stream. The MISP is the authoritative MISB reference. It contains references to all the Standards (STD), Recommended Practices (RP), Engineering Guidelines (EG), and Technical Reference Material (TRM) supported by the MISB, and also provides up-to-date industry references foundational to the MISB documents. The series of MISM (Motion Imagery System Matrix) tables for electro-optical imagery and IRSM (Infrared System Matrix) tables for Infrared imagery found in the MISP provide guidance on motion imagery formats, compression rates, transport channels and protocols.

The relevant MISB documentation that supports the example implementation above is recapped in Table 3 and denoted in Figure 8 (red markings). By reviewing these references, in concert with the MISP, no critical elements necessary for MISP compliance should be missed.

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| Electro-Optical Motion Imagery Format | MISB STD 9710 MISB RP 9720b | High Definition Television Systems (HDTV) MISM, High Definition Motion Imagery |
| Transport Protocol | MISB STD 9703 | Digital Motion Imagery, Uncompressed Baseband Signal Transport and Processing |
| Compression | MISB STD 9723 MISB EG 0802 | Compressed High Definition Advanced Television (ATV) and associated Motion Imagery Systems H.264/AVC Coding and Multiplexing |
| Metadata | MISB STD 0601 MISB STD 0102 MISB STD 0902 MISB STD 0807 MISB STD 0107 Streams MISB STD 9715 MISB STD 9713 MISB RP 9717 MISB EG 0607 | UAS Datalink Local Metadata Set Security Metadata Universal and Local Sets for Digital Motion Imagery Motion Imagery Sensor Minimum Metadata Set MISB KLV Metadata Dictionary Bit and Byte Order for Metadata in Motion Imagery Files and Streams Time Reference Synchronization Data Encoding Using Key-Length-Value Packing KLV Packets into MPEG-2 Systems Streams MISB Metadata Registry and Processes |
| Timing/Multiplexing | MISB STD 9708 MISB STD 0604 | Imbedded Time Reference for Motion Imagery Systems Time Stamping Compressed Motion Imagery |

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| | MISB RP 0603 | Common Time Reference for Digital Motion Imagery Using Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) |
| | MISB RP 0605 | Inserting Time Code and Metadata in High Definition Uncompressed Video |
| Media Container | MISB STD 9601 | Standard Definition Digital Motion Imagery, Compression Systems |
| | MISB STD 9701 | MPEG-2 Transport Stream |
| | MISB RP 0101 | Use of MPEG-2 System Streams in Digital Motion Imagery Systems |

Table 3 – Referenced MISB Documents for System in Figure 2

Various MISB references for compression, metadata, timing and transport protocol or storage can be quickly viewed with charts like that in Figure 8, found in **MISB TRM 1007 - Surfing the MISP**. While there are many documents, not all are necessary for a given application. Of most importance is diligence in following the particular metadata standard or practice—particularly security as outlined in STD 0102 and the required metadata in STD 0902. STD 0601 is instructive in understanding how KLV packets are encoded in KLV,

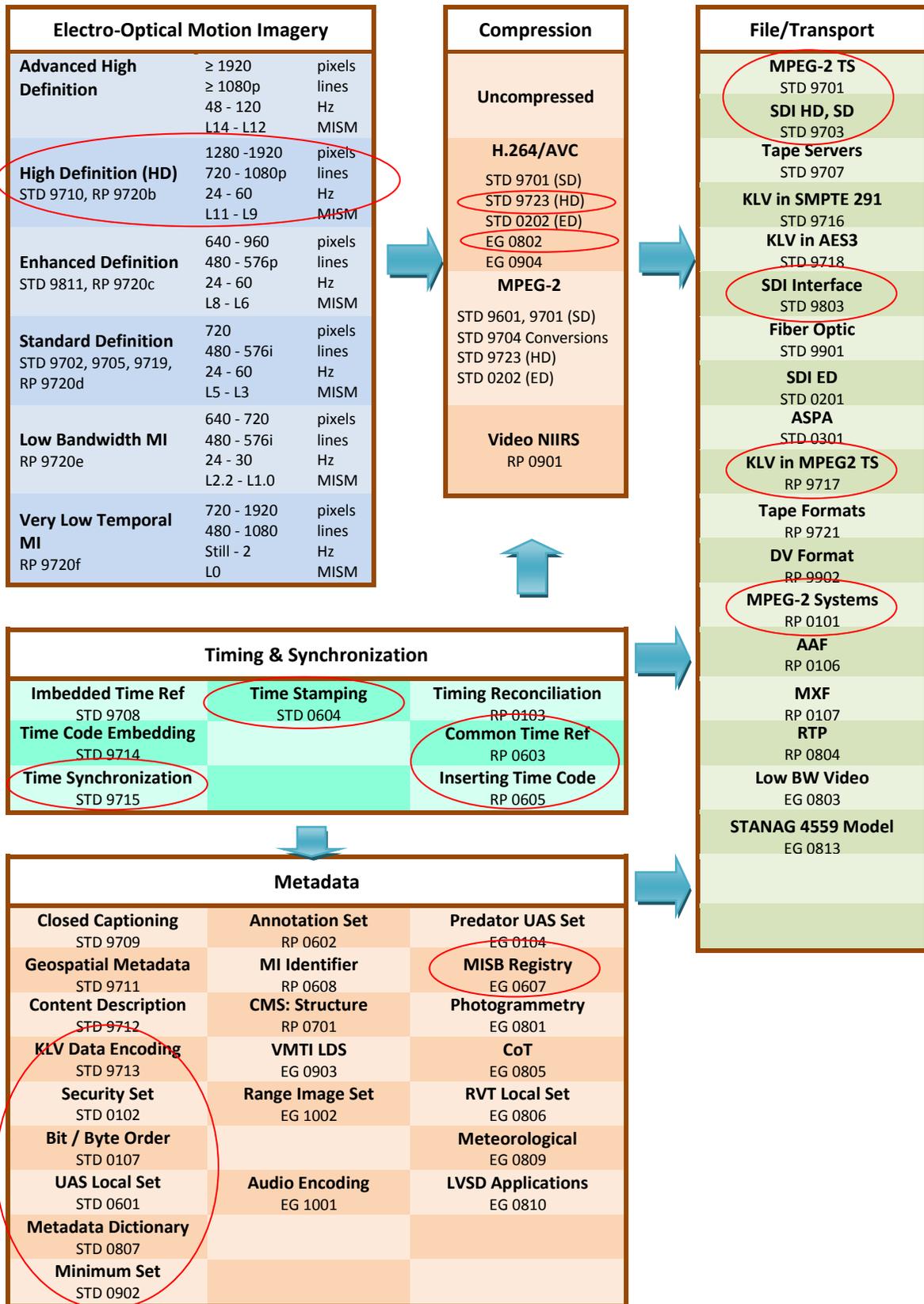


Figure 8 – Referenced MISB Documents (in red) for System in Figure 2

and other topics like platform data flow and error detection. STD 0604 addresses time stamping and time code for the motion imagery, time stamping of the metadata, synchronization of the imagery with the metadata, and how best to carry the metadata along with the motion imagery.

A motion imagery asset is much more valuable when it is accompanied with metadata; collecting pure MI alone is of little use downstream for exploitation. MISP compliant streams must contain metadata. Mission metadata is critical for assisting discovery and retrieval of an asset, and for relating one asset or intelligence data to another. The MISB provides encompassing metadata sets to support mission metadata. How to add enriched metadata, such as annotation, chat, audio, etc. is also provided through various MISB RP's and EG's. As more motion imagery is manipulated throughout the network with processes—such as transcoding for bandwidth-challenged edge delivery—the MISB will continue to look to industry for best practices and adopt or leverage those found applicable.

It is advisable to revisit the MISB web site periodically for updates and additions that may affect implementation decisions. The MISB encourages community participation and feedback in shaping the recommendations to best fit community needs. The goal is interoperability with standards as foundational and clarity an objective in our work.

The MISB supplies test files that represent various compression and metadata combinations for both standard and high definition video. These First Level Integration (FLI) files are generally less than one minute in duration. The metadata is typically random with respect to the actual video content. Although random, the metadata exercises all the keys and tags of a particular MISB metadata set with data values that are permitted. FLI test files are available on the protected MISB site for community use in testing products and systems.

Lastly, MISP testability for compliance is to a particular version of the MISP with certifications issued by the JITC (Joint Interoperability Test Command). Questions or misinterpretations of MISB documentation should be brought to the attention of the MISB. Periodic meetings (three per year) are held to discuss such issues and provide appropriate changes where needed.

Contact information for the MISB and the JITC:

MISB: <http://www.gwg.nga.mil/misb/contact.html>

JITC: Joint Interoperability Test Command/MIS-LAB

Fort Huachuca, AZ 85670-2798

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E-mail: MIS-LAB@disa.mil Website URL: <http://jitc.fhu.disa.mil/mis/>

Appendix A – An Analog NTSC Sensor (informative only)

While use of analog in any new deployments is strongly discouraged this section is intended to provide continuity in understanding of the processes from legacy system to digital system implementations.

Figure A1 illustrates a simplified sensor collection system where analog video is captured along with mission metadata. In this example, it is assumed that the encoding, metadata processing, and container packaging is done at the ground station.

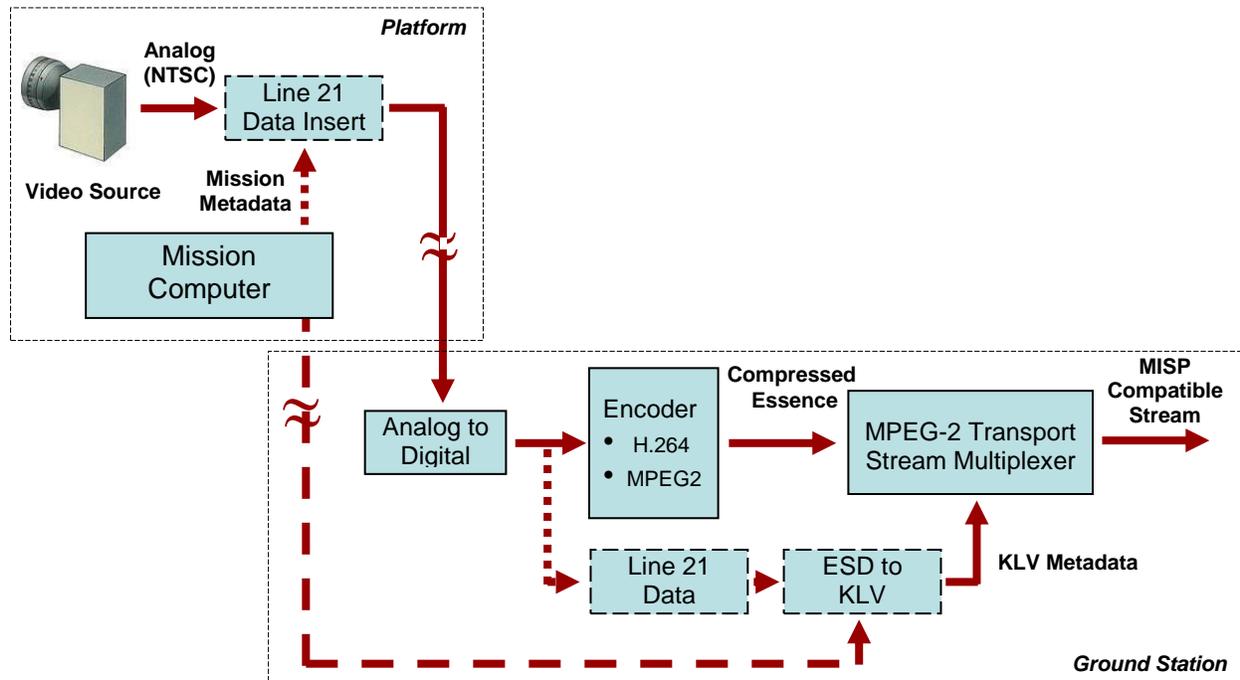


Figure A1 – Analog Video Sensor System

Mission metadata may be inserted into the analog video on Line 21 (designated for television closed captioning), or transmitted directly to the ground station through an independent path. Once at the ground station, the analog video is converted to digital and then encoded using H.264/AVC or MPEG-2 compression. Metadata inserted on Line 21 at the platform will be extracted and converted to KLV—if not already in KLV form. Metadata that arrives via an independent path from the platform will likewise be converted to KLV. In both cases the KLV metadata will be multiplexed with the compressed video essence into a MPEG-2 Transport package for dissemination or storage.

Let's examine some of the elements in this process further. The NTSC analog television standard supports 525 lines for one complete video frame. This is delivered to the display as two successive "fields," where each field is 262.5 lines, and reconstructed as complete frames in a process called interlace. Think of a numbered list of lines that make up an image where in one field the odd lines are "painted" followed by a second field that paints the even lines. Because the display phosphors have persistence and retain a portion of the previous field the illusion to the viewer is a flicker-free rendition of the picture.

The NTSC standard allows for roughly 482 lines to be used for picture content with the remaining lines—called the Vertical Blanking Interval (VBI)—hidden behind the bezel of the display. Line 21 is one such unused picture line. With the introduction of closed captioning Line 21 became one of the designated places to carry this data. This is also where metadata is often placed in analog capture systems. Mission metadata is sometimes modulated onto Line 21 as a means to carry the data with the video.

At the ground station the analog video is converted to digital through an analog-to-digital converter. This produces a number of samples called pixels (picture elements) horizontally. The vertical direction is already “digital” in that each scan line is discrete and independent of adjacent ones. Each pixel is typically quantized to eight bits of gray-scale resolution and the color components may be quantized to eight but typically fewer bits, such as four.

The digitized video signal is ready for compression through the encoder. In parallel, Line 21 of the analog video is stripped of any metadata that may have been inserted at the platform. If not in KLV form the metadata is then converted to KLV. Any metadata that comes directly from the platform independent of the video is also converted, if necessary. All KLV metadata is finally input to the transport stream multiplexer along with the compressed video essence.

The function of the transport stream multiplexer is to insert the two (or more) different data sources into one common package. One can think of the transport stream as containing a series of parallel tracks where each track can carry its own data type—analogue to a multi-lane highway. The “multiplex” serves to merge the various data lanes into one—think of merging traffic at an on-ramp. Certain track identifiers and management directories are placed into the transport stream to guide the extraction of the various data types at the decoder.

Similarly to the digital FMV example in the text optional metadata may be added to the composite multiplexed MI file/stream anywhere along the PED workflow. Such metadata may include chat, audio, annotations and other data types. See the MISB website for documents that guide such metadata additions.