



**Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS);
TTCN-3 Conformance Test Suite;
Part 3: Abstract Test Suite (ATS)
and Implementation eXtra Information for Testing (IXIT)**

Reference

RTS/MTS-1029503v1.12.1

Keywords

ATS, conformance, testing, TTCN

ETSI

650 Route des Lucioles
F-06921 Sophia Antipolis Cedex - FRANCE

Tel.: +33 4 92 94 42 00 Fax: +33 4 93 65 47 16

Siret N° 348 623 562 00017 - APE 7112B
Association à but non lucratif enregistrée à la
Sous-Préfecture de Grasse (06) N° w061004871

Important notice

The present document can be downloaded from the
ETSI [Search & Browse Standards application](#).

The present document may be made available in electronic versions and/or in print. The content of any electronic and/or print versions of the present document shall not be modified without the prior written authorization of ETSI. In case of any existing or perceived difference in contents between such versions and/or in print, the prevailing version of an ETSI deliverable is the one made publicly available in PDF format on [ETSI deliver](#).

Users should be aware that the present document may be revised or have its status changed,
this information is available in the [Milestones listing](#).

If you find errors in the present document, please send your comments to
the relevant service listed under [Committee Support Staff](#).

If you find a security vulnerability in the present document, please report it through our
[Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure \(CVD\)](#) program.

Notice of disclaimer & limitation of liability

The information provided in the present deliverable is directed solely to professionals who have the appropriate degree of experience to understand and interpret its content in accordance with generally accepted engineering or other professional standard and applicable regulations.

No recommendation as to products and services or vendors is made or should be implied.

No representation or warranty is made that this deliverable is technically accurate or sufficient or conforms to any law and/or governmental rule and/or regulation and further, no representation or warranty is made of merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose or against infringement of intellectual property rights.

In no event shall ETSI be held liable for loss of profits or any other incidental or consequential damages.

Any software contained in this deliverable is provided "AS IS" with no warranties, express or implied, including but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose and non-infringement of intellectual property rights and ETSI shall not be held liable in any event for any damages whatsoever (including, without limitation, damages for loss of profits, business interruption, loss of information, or any other pecuniary loss) arising out of or related to the use of or inability to use the software.

Copyright Notification

No part may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm except as authorized by written permission of ETSI.

The content of the PDF version shall not be modified without the written authorization of ETSI.

The copyright and the foregoing restriction extend to reproduction in all media.

© ETSI 2024.
All rights reserved.

Contents

Intellectual Property Rights	4
Foreword.....	4
Modal verbs terminology.....	4
1 Scope	5
2 References	5
2.1 Normative references	5
2.2 Informative references.....	6
3 Definition of terms, symbols and abbreviations.....	6
3.1 Terms.....	6
3.2 Symbols.....	7
3.3 Abbreviations	7
4 Abstract Test Method (ATM).....	7
5 The ATS development process.....	8
5.1 Requirements and test purposes	8
5.2 ATS structure	8
5.2.1 Test case grouping	8
5.2.2 Test case identifiers	9
5.3 ATS specification framework.....	10
5.3.1 Use of TTCN-3	10
5.3.1.1 General	10
5.3.1.2 TTCN-3 naming conventions.....	10
5.3.1.3 TTCN-3 comment tags.....	12
5.4 ATS archive.....	14
6 PIXIT conformance.....	14
7 ATS conformance	15
Annex A (normative): Abstract Test Suite (ATS)	16
A.1 The ATS in TTCN-3 core (text) format	16
Annex B (normative): Partial IXIT pro forma.....	17
B.0 The right to copy	17
B.1 Introduction	17
History	18

Intellectual Property Rights

Essential patents

IPRs essential or potentially essential to normative deliverables may have been declared to ETSI. The declarations pertaining to these essential IPRs, if any, are publicly available for **ETSI members and non-members**, and can be found in ETSI SR 000 314: "*Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs); Essential, or potentially Essential, IPRs notified to ETSI in respect of ETSI standards*", which is available from the ETSI Secretariat. Latest updates are available on the ETSI Web server (<https://ipr.etsi.org/>).

Pursuant to the ETSI Directives including the ETSI IPR Policy, no investigation regarding the essentiality of IPRs, including IPR searches, has been carried out by ETSI. No guarantee can be given as to the existence of other IPRs not referenced in ETSI SR 000 314 (or the updates on the ETSI Web server) which are, or may be, or may become, essential to the present document.

Trademarks

The present document may include trademarks and/or tradenames which are asserted and/or registered by their owners. ETSI claims no ownership of these except for any which are indicated as being the property of ETSI, and conveys no right to use or reproduce any trademark and/or tradename. Mention of those trademarks in the present document does not constitute an endorsement by ETSI of products, services or organizations associated with those trademarks.

DECT™, **PLUGTESTS™**, **UMTS™** and the ETSI logo are trademarks of ETSI registered for the benefit of its Members. **3GPP™** and **LTE™** are trademarks of ETSI registered for the benefit of its Members and of the 3GPP Organizational Partners. **oneM2M™** logo is a trademark of ETSI registered for the benefit of its Members and of the oneM2M Partners. **GSM®** and the GSM logo are trademarks registered and owned by the GSM Association.

Foreword

This Technical Specification (TS) has been produced by ETSI Technical Committee Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS).

The present document is part 3 of a multi-part deliverable covering a TTCN-3 conformance test suite, as identified below:

- Part 1: "Implementation Conformance Statement (ICS)";
- Part 2: "Test Suite Structure and Test Purposes (TSS&TP)";
- Part 3: "Abstract Test Suite (ATS) and Implementation eXtra Information for Testing (IXIT)".**

Modal verbs terminology

In the present document "**shall**", "**shall not**", "**should**", "**should not**", "**may**", "**need not**", "**will**", "**will not**", "**can**" and "**cannot**" are to be interpreted as described in clause 3.2 of the [ETSI Drafting Rules](#) (Verbal forms for the expression of provisions).

"**must**" and "**must not**" are **NOT** allowed in ETSI deliverables except when used in direct citation.

1 Scope

The present document specifies the Abstract Test Suite (ATS) for the TTCN-3 conformance test suite, as defined in ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] in compliance with the relevant guidance given in the pro forma for TTCN-3 reference test suite ETSI TS 102 950-2 [8].

The objective of the present document is to provide a basis for conformance tests for TTCN-3 tools giving a high probability of standard conformance with respect to TTCN-3 tools from different vendors. In the present document only the core language features, specified in ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] have been considered but not the tool implementation (see ETSI ES 201 873-5 [i.1] and ETSI ES 201 873-6 [i.2]), language mapping (see ETSI ES 201 873-7 [i.3], ETSI ES 201 873-8 [i.4] and ETSI ES 201 873-9 [i.5]) and language extension (see ETSI ES 202 781 [i.6], ETSI ES 202 784 [i.7] and ETSI ES 202 785 [i.8]) aspects. The test notation used in the ATS attached in a zipped file is in TTCN-3 and it is part of the present document.

Annex A provides the Tree and Tabular Combined Notation (TTCN-3) part of the ATS.

Annex B provides the partial Protocol Implementation eXtra Information for Testing (PIXIT) pro forma of the ATS.

2 References

2.1 Normative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

Referenced documents which are not found to be publicly available in the expected location might be found at <https://docbox.etsi.org/Reference/>.

NOTE: While any hyperlinks included in this clause were valid at the time of publication, ETSI cannot guarantee their long term validity.

The following referenced documents are necessary for the application of the present document.

- [1] [ETSI ES 201 873-1 \(V4.15.1\)](#): "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 1: TTCN-3 Core Language".
- [2] [ETSI ES 201 873-10](#): "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 10: TTCN-3 Documentation Comment Specification".
- [3] [ETSI TS 102 351](#): "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); Internet Protocol Testing (IPT); IPv6 Testing: Methodology and Framework".
- [4] [ISO/IEC 9646-1:1994](#): "Information technology -- Open Systems Interconnection -- Conformance testing methodology and framework - Part 1: General concepts".
- [5] [ISO/IEC 9646-4:1994](#): "Information technology -- Open Systems Interconnection -- Conformance testing methodology and framework -- Part 4: Test realization".
- [6] [ISO/IEC 9646-5:1994](#): "Information technology -- Open Systems Interconnection -- Conformance testing methodology and framework -- Part 5: Requirements on test laboratories and clients for the conformance assessment process".
- [7] [ISO/IEC 9646-7:1995](#): "Information technology -- Open Systems Interconnection -- Conformance testing methodology and framework -- Part 7: Implementation Conformance Statements".
- [8] [ETSI TS 102 950-2](#): "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); TTCN-3 Conformance Test Suite; Part 2: Test Suite Structure and Test Purposes (TSS&TP)".

2.2 Informative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE: While any hyperlinks included in this clause were valid at the time of publication, ETSI cannot guarantee their long term validity.

The following referenced documents are not necessary for the application of the present document but they assist the user with regard to a particular subject area.

- [i.1] ETSI ES 201 873-5: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 5: TTCN-3 Runtime Interface (TRI)".
- [i.2] ETSI ES 201 873-6: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 6: TTCN-3 Control Interface (TCI)".
- [i.3] ETSI ES 201 873-7: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 7: Using ASN.1 with TTCN-3".
- [i.4] ETSI ES 201 873-8: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 8: The IDL to TTCN-3 Mapping".
- [i.5] ETSI ES 201 873-9: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; Part 9: Using XML schema with TTCN-3".
- [i.6] ETSI ES 202 781: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; TTCN-3 Language Extensions: Configuration and Deployment Support".
- [i.7] ETSI ES 202 784: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; TTCN-3 Language Extensions: Advanced Parameterization".
- [i.8] ETSI ES 202 785: "Methods for Testing and Specification (MTS); The Testing and Test Control Notation version 3; TTCN-3 Language Extensions: Behaviour Types".

3 Definition of terms, symbols and abbreviations

3.1 Terms

For the purposes of the present document, the terms given in ISO/IEC 9646-1 [4], ISO/IEC 9646-7 [7], ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] (TTCN-3) and the following apply:

Abstract Test Method (ATM): description of how an IUT is to be tested, given at an appropriate level of abstraction to make the description independent of any particular realization of a Means of Testing, but with enough detail to enable abstract test cases to be specified for this method

Abstract Test Suite (ATS): test suite composed of abstract test cases

ICS pro forma: document, in the form of a questionnaire, which when completed for an implementation or system becomes an ICS

Implementation Conformance Statement (ICS): statement made by the supplier of an implementation claimed to conform to a given specification, stating which capabilities have been implemented

Implementation eXtra Information for Testing (IXIT): statement made by a supplier or implementor of an IUT which contains or references all of the information related to the IUT and its testing environment, which will enable the test laboratory to run an appropriate test suite against the IUT

Implementation Under Test (IUT): implementation of one or more OSI protocols in an adjacent user/provider relationship, being part of a real open system which is to be studied by testing

IXIT pro forma: document, in the form of a questionnaire, which when completed for the IUT becomes the IXIT

Means Of Testing (MOT): combination of equipment and procedures that can perform the derivation, selection, parameterization and execution of test cases, in conformance with a reference standardized ATS and can produce a conformance log

3.2 Symbols

Void.

3.3 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the following abbreviations apply:

ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
ATM	Abstract Test Method
ATS	Abstract Test Suite
BNF	Backus-Naur Form
ETS	Executable Test Suite
HTML	HyperText Markup Language
ICS	Implementation Conformance Statement
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IUT	Implementation Under Test
IXIT	Implementation eXtra Information for Testing
MOT	Means Of Testing
MTS	Methods for Testing and Specification
OSI	Open Systems Intercommunication
PIXIT	Protocol Implementation eXtra Information for Testing
TC	Test Case
TCI	TTCN-3 Control Interface
TP	Test Purpose
TS	Test System
TSS	Test Suite Structure
TSS&TP	Test Suite Structure and Test Purposes
TTCN	Testing and Test Control Notation
TTCN-3	Testing and Test Control Notation edition 3

4 Abstract Test Method (ATM)

This clause describes the ATM used to test the conformance of TTCN-3 tool implementations as described in part 1 of the TTCN-3 core language standard ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]. In the ATM, the work is performed on two levels:

- The TTCN-3 tool level. In TTCN-3 conformance tests, it is the TTCN-3 tool which is under test, i.e. the IUT. However, unlike in protocol conformance testing, it is not standardized how test inputs, i.e. TTCN-3 modules, are provided. Neither are there any standardized interfaces to monitor the reaction of the TTCN-3 tool to the test input. Outputs can only be observed indirectly by monitoring tool outputs such as tool specific command line information, graphical user interfaces, or test execution logs. The tool output is processed further in the tool output evaluation level in order to derive the tool conformance verdicts.
- The TTCN-3 tool output evaluation level. Here, the output of a TTCN-3 tool is indirectly observed, e.g. rejection of TTCN-3 code due to a compile-time error in a command line notification, logging of one or multiple test verdicts in a tool specific window or an execution trace. The observation is evaluated to assess the tool conformance as a result of stimulating the tool with the TTCN-3 modules. Compliance or support of the logging interface specified as part of the TTCN-3 Control Interface standard (TCI) is not required.

NOTE: The loading of the TTCN-3 modules and presentation of the output by the TTCN-3 tools is beyond the scope of the present document.

The ATS document contains the test inputs, i.e. TTCN-3 modules, for TTCN-3 tools do not automate the execution of TTCN-3 tool conformance tests. TTCN-3 tool conformance test decisions shall be made on the basis of expected outputs as specified in the test purposes provided in the documentation and as part of the documentation of TTCN-3 tests in the ATS. Three different tool output classifications for TTCN-3 inputs exist:

- Rejection as invalid, i.e. the TTCN-3 input is declared syntactically or semantically incorrect by the tool. This can either happen at compile-time or at runtime.
- Rejection to execute, i.e. an ETS is produced from the test input, but an execution does not take place.
- Execution with results, i.e. the compiled or interpreted TTCN-3 code is executed and different kinds of outputs are produced that can be subject of an evaluation, for example, a logged TTCN-3 test verdict in a test execution trace (none, pass, fail, inconc) in a file or the console output. The respective tool outputs have to specify the expected execution results in order to be able to evaluate whether the conformance test is successful.

A TTCN-3 tool conformance test can attempt to trigger every kind of such outputs in a controlled way, i.e. a test input that is rejected as invalid does not imply a failing conformance test verdict, but instead results in a pass verdict for the conformance test if the test is designed to trigger the rejection. More generally: a TTCN-3 tool conformance test passes if the tool output corresponds to the expected output. The range of expected outputs is described by the tool output classification above.

For a detailed description on how test verdict and test purposes are encoded and how they shall be evaluated with the ATS of annex A, refer to clause 5.3.1.3 and the descriptions for the document tags @verdict and @purpose.

5 The ATS development process

5.1 Requirements and test purposes

For each test purpose there is a table defined in clause A.2 of ETSI TS 102 950-2 [8]. The requirements applicable to this TP are given by a reference to ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]. There are no explicit formulations of requirements.

5.2 ATS structure

5.2.1 Test case grouping

The ATS structure defined in table 1 is based on the structuring of Test Purposes in clause A.2 of ETSI TS 102 950-2 [8]. The group names in columns 1 to 3 of table 1 are those assigned in the ATS; they are based on the names provided in clause A.2 of ETSI TS 102 950-2 [8], but use the naming conventions defined for the ATS (see clause 5.3.1.2). The test case identifier naming scheme differentiates between positive and negative tests as well as syntactical and semantics tests:

- Syntactical tests are tests that refer to annex A of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]. They include pure syntactical tests and tests regarding the static semantics to the degree of detail that annex A provides.
- Semantic tests are tests that refer to the checking of properties regarding the static and dynamic semantics of TTCN-3 according to the specific clauses of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1].
- Positive tests are tests that shall work with a standards compliant TTCN-3 tool.
- Negative tests are tests that shall not work with a standards compliant TTCN-3 tool.

The test cases shall conform to the following correctness rules:

- Negative syntactic tests shall be correct with respect to the TTCN-3BNF and the static semantics of TTCN-3, but violate only one specific TTCN-3BNF rule or static semantic rule specified in annex A of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]. They shall not produce an ETS.

- Positive syntactic tests shall be correct with respect to the TTCN-3BNF and the static semantics of TTCN-3. They may produce an ETS and if it contains a control-part or a test case, it should be executed.
- Negative semantic tests shall be correct with respect to the TTCN-3BNF and the static semantics of TTCN-3, but violate the semantics of one specific text clause of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]. They may produce an ETS. If an ETS is produced and if it contains a control-part or a test case, it should be executed.
- Positive semantic tests shall be correct with respect to the TTCN-3BNF, the static semantics of TTCN-3, and the respective text clauses of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1]. They shall produce an ETS. If an ETS is produced and if it contains a control-part or a test case, it should be executed.

The test case identifiers and their group index do not imply the correct execution order of a TTCN-3 tool conformance test. Grouping and sub-grouping in the ATS is realized with the help of the ATS directory structure.

Table 1: Example ATS structure of positive tests

Group	Subgroup	Group Index
Basic language elements	Identifiers and keywords	Syn_0501_Identifier
	Identifiers and keywords	Sem_0501_Identifier
	Scope rules	Syn_0502_Scopes
	Scope rules	Sem_0502_Scopes
	Ordering of language elements	Syn_0503_Ordering
	Ordering of language elements	Sem_0503_Ordering
	Parameterization	Syn_0504_Parameterization
	Parameterization	Sem_0504_Parameterization
	Cyclic Definitions	Syn_0505_Cyclic
	Cyclic Definitions	Sem_0505_Cyclic

Table 2: Example ATS structure of negative tests

Group	Subgroup	Group Index
Basic language elements	Identifiers and keywords	NegSyn_0501_Identifier
	Identifiers and keywords	NegSem_0501_Identifier
	Scope rules	NegSyn_0502_Scopes
	Scope rules	NegSem_0502_Scopes
	Ordering of language elements	NegSyn_0503_Ordering
	Ordering of language elements	NegSem_0503_Ordering
	Parameterization	NegSyn_0504_Parameterization
	Parameterization	NegSem_0504_Parameterization
	Cyclic Definitions	NegSyn_0505_Cyclic
	Cyclic Definitions	NegSem_0505_Cyclic

5.2.2 Test case identifiers

The test case names are built up according to the following scheme:

<"TC">"_ "<Group index>"_ "<TC number>

where:

- double quotes (") are used to enclose literal strings;
- <Group index> containing positive and negative syntactic and semantic test, refers to ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] clause numbers and names;
- <TC number> is a running 3-digit decimal number, starting in each subgroup path with "001".

EXAMPLE: TC_Syn_0501_Identifier_001:

- The example refers to a positive syntactical identifier and keyword test case.

- ii) It is the first test case of this group/subgroup.

NOTE 1: This naming scheme corresponds to the TP identifiers and test case names as defined in clause A.2 of ETSI TS 102 950-2 [8].

NOTE 2: The TP identifier of TC_Syn_0501_Identifier_001 is TP_Syn_0501_Identifier_001.

5.3 ATS specification framework

5.3.1 Use of TTCN-3

5.3.1.1 General

TTCN-3, as defined in ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1], is used as the ATS specification language.

A number of requirements have been identified for the development and production of the TTCN-3 specification for the ATS:

- 1) Top-down design.
- 2) A uniquely defined testing architecture and test method.
- 3) Uniform TTCN-3 style and naming conventions.
- 4) Human-readability.
- 5) The TTCN-3 specification shall be feasible, implementable, compilable, and maintainable.
- 6) Test cases shall be designed in a way to be easily adaptable, upwards compatible with the evolution of the base protocol and protocol interworking of future releases.
- 7) The test declarations, data structures, and data values shall be largely reusable.
- 8) Modularity and modular working method.
- 9) Minimizing the requirements of intelligence on the emulators of the lower testers.
- 10) Giving enough design freedom to the test equipment manufacturers.

Fulfilling these requirements should ensure the investment of the TTCN-3 implementation vendors and users of the ATS having stable testing means for a relatively long period.

5.3.1.2 TTCN-3 naming conventions

Like in other software projects using a programming language, the use of naming conventions supports or increases:

- a) the readability;
- b) the detection of semantic errors;
- c) the shared work of several developers;
- d) the maintainability.

The naming conventions applied to Reference Test suite ATS are based on the following underlying principles:

- when constructing meaningful identifiers, the general guidelines specified for naming in clause 9 of ETSI TS 102 351 [3] should be followed;
- the names of TTCN-3 objects being associated with standardized data types (e.g. in the base protocols) should reflect the names of these data types as close as possible (of course not conflicting with syntactical requirements or other conventions being explicitly stated);

- the subfield names of TTCN-3 objects being associated with standardized data type should also be similar to corresponding element names in the base standards (be recognizable in the local context);
- in most other cases, identifiers should be prefixed with a short alphabetic string (specified in table 4) indicating the type of TTCN-3 element it represents;
- prefixes should be separated from the body of the identifier with an underscore ("_");
- only test case names, module names, data type names, and module parameters should begin with an upper-case letter. All other names (i.e. the part of the identifier following the prefix) should begin with a lower-case letter.

Table 4 specifies the naming guidelines for each element of the TTCN-3 language indicating the recommended prefix and capitalization.

Table 3: Void

Table 4: TTCN-3 naming convention

Language element	Naming convention	Prefix	Example	Notes
Module	Use upper-case initial letter	<i>none</i>	IPv6Templates	
TSS grouping	Use all upper-case letters	<i>none</i>	TP_RT_PS_TR	
Item group within a module	Use lower-case initial letter	<i>none</i>	messageGroup	
Datatype	Use upper-case initial letter	<i>none</i>	SetupContents	
Message template	Use lower-case initial letter	m_	m_setupInit m_setupBasic	Note 1
Message template with wildcard or matching expression	Use lower-case initial letters	mw_	mw_anyUserReply	Note 2
Signature template	Use lower-case initial letter	s_	s_callSignature	
Port instance	Use lower-case initial letter	<i>none</i>	signallingPort	
Test component ref	Use lower-case initial letter	<i>none</i>	userTerminal	
Constant	Use lower-case initial letter	c_	c_maxRetransmission	
External constant	Use lower-case initial letter	cx_	cx_macId	
Function	Use lower-case initial letter	f_	f_authentication()	
External function	Use lower-case initial letter	fx_	fx_calculateLength()	
Altstep (incl.Default)	Use lower-case initial letter	a_	a_receiveSetup()	
Testcase	Use numbering as specified in clause 5.2.2	TC_	TC_COR_0009_47_ND	
Variable (local)	Use lower-case initial letter	v_	v_macId	
Variable (defined within a component)	Use lower-case initial letters	vc_	vc_systemName	
Timer (local)	Use lower-case initial letter	t_	t_wait	
Timer (defined within a component)	Use lower-case initial letters	tc_	tc_authMin	
Moduleparameter	Use all uppercase letters	<i>none</i>	PX_MAC_ID	Note 3
Parameterization	Use lower-case initial letter	p_	p_macId	
EnumeratedValue	Use lower-case initial letter	e_	e_syncOk	
NOTE 1: This prefix has to be used for all template definitions which do <i>not</i> assign or refer to templates with wildcards or matching expressions, e.g. templates specifying a constant value, parameterized templates without matching expressions, etc.				
NOTE 2: This prefix has to be used in identifiers for templates which either assign a wildcard or matching expression (e.g. ?, *, value list, ifpresent, pattern, etc.) or reference another template which assigns a wildcard or matching expression.				
NOTE 3: In this case it is acceptable to use underscore as a word delimiter.				

5.3.1.3 TTCN-3 comment tags

Any TTCN-3 definition in the Test Suite Repository or Library should contain embedded comment tags, according to ETSI ES 201 873-10 [2]. These comment tags can be used by tools to extract information from the TTCN-3 code to create, for example, a HTML-based reference documentation.

Comment tags which cover one or more lines should be specified using block comments, as illustrated:

```
/* -----
 * @desc This line of text is now identified as a description
 *       which covers multiple lines
 * -----*/
```

Comments tags specified within a single line may be specified using line comments, as illustrated:

```
// @author John Doe
```

or:

```
/* @author John Doe */
```

Table 5 lists the tags that can be used in ETSI TTCN-3 test specifications with a short description of the intended use of each tag.

NOTE: Tools may also extract other information from the TTCN-3 code based, for example, on TTCN-3 keywords. The definition of that extraction is beyond the scope of the present document.

Table 5: TTCN-3 comment tags

Tag	Description
@author	This tag should be used to specify the names of the authors or an authoring organization which either has created or is maintaining a particular piece of TTCN-3 code.
@desc	This is probably the most import of all the tags. It should be used to describe the purpose of a particular piece of TTCN-3 code. The description should be concise yet informative and describe the function and use of the construct.
@remark	This tag may be used to add additional information, such as highlighting a particular feature or aspect not covered in the description.
@img	This tag may be used to associate images with a particular piece of TTCN-3 code.
@see	This tag may be used to refer to other TTCN-3 definitions in the same or another module.
@url	This tag should be used to associate references to external files or web pages with a particular piece of TTCN-3 code, e.g. a protocol specification or standard.
@return	This tag should only be used with functions. It is used to provide additional information on the value returned by the given function.
@param	This tag is used to document the parameters of parameterized TTCN-3 definitions.
@version	This tag is used to state the version of a particular piece of TTCN-3 code.
@verdict	This tag is used to state when a TTCN-3 module passes a conformance test.
@purpose	This tag is used to state the purpose of a particular piece of TTCN-3 code.

The following provides some basic guidelines on the usage of tags for specific TTCN-3 definitions:

- Each TTCN-3 module should use the *@author*, *@version* and *@desc* tags.
- The *@desc* tag should be used with all TTCN-3 definitions. However, this should not be taken to the extreme. For example, it is probably not useful to tag literally every single constant or template declaration. It is left to the discretion of the writer to find the right level of use. At least all major constructs such as test cases and functions should have a comprehensive description:
 - when a TTCN-3 definition uses module parameters, it is also recommended to mention this explicitly in the description;
 - descriptions for behavioural constructs should mention if they set the test component verdict and also all known limitations of the construct;
 - descriptions for type definitions, e.g. component types, should mention if the type has been designed to be type compatible to another type or vice versa to be used as a basis for other type definitions.

- The `@see` tag should be used to make dependencies between TTCN-3 definitions which are described by a `@desc` tag more explicit in the documentation, e.g. if some TTCN-3 definition uses a module parameter then its TTCN-3 definition should be referenced to using a `@see` tag.
- Where applicable, parameterized constructions such as functions, altsteps and templates should use the `@param` and `@return` tags. The `@param` tags should first list the parameter name and then a brief description of how this parameter is used by the construct.
- The `@url` tag should be used to refer to the specification from which the TTCN-3 definition was derived from, e.g. a type definition could refer to a particular RFC/IEE page. In some cases it may be necessary to use the `@desc` tag instead for this purpose as documents often are hard to access internally, i.e. it may only be possible to specify a reference to a complete document but impossible to point to a very specific clause in the present document.
- The `@url` and `@img` tag may be used to link to relevant documentation such as Test Purposes or original requirements or even drawings of test configurations. Generally, the corresponding Test Purpose (in the TSS&TP) and to the corresponding Requirement (in the Requirements Catalogue) should be linked from the relevant TTCN-3 test case definition.
- The `@remark` tag may be used with any TTCN-3 definition. It should be used sparingly, e.g. possibly to indicate how a TTCN-3 definition should not be used.
- The `@verdict` tag is of special importance for the present document and the ATS of annex A. Each module contains a `@verdict` tag (on module level) that describes when a TTCN-3 module or a set of TTCN-3 modules that comprise a TTCN-3 tool conformance test pass the conformance test. For that purpose, information about the expected tool output is encoded into the verdict tag. The overall format for the `@verdict` document tag is as follows:
 - `@verdict pass accept/reject [expectedoutput]`
- The first parameter of the `@verdict` document tag describes that the following information describes the criteria for a "pass" conformance verdict. The second parameter shall either be "accept" or "reject". "Accept" implies that an ETS shall be produced which may be executed. "Reject" implies that either no ETS is produced or that the TTCN-3 modules are rejected during runtime. If the second parameter is "accept", the optional third comma separated "expectedoutput" parameter is mandatory. The third parameter "expectedoutput" can adopt the following values: "noexecution" implies that an ETS has to be produced for a "pass" verdict. An execution shall not take place. Further possible values for the third parameter are "ttn3verdict:none", "ttn3verdict:pass", "ttn3verdict:inconc", "ttn3verdict:fail", and "ttn3verdict:error". In these cases, a TTCN-3 conformance test passes if the TTCN-3 modules as tool input produce one of the specified TTCN-3 verdicts. A special value for "expectedoutput" parameter is "manual". This value marks that this test has to be validated manually since it cannot be detected automatically. The value "manual" should be used with caution since it can easily increase the validation time of the results.

EXAMPLE 1:

- `verdict pass reject`
- `@verdict pass accept, ttn3verdict:pass`
- overall, the only allowed parameter combinations are the following:
 - `reject`
 - `accept, noexecution`
 - `accept, ttn3verdict:none`
 - `accept, ttn3verdict:pass`
 - `accept, ttn3verdict:inconc`
 - `accept, ttn3verdict:fail`
 - `accept, ttn3verdict:error`

- accept, manual: "Text gives user instructions to decide when the testcase should pass."
- In the usual case, each TTCN-3 module contains only one test case. In these cases, the verdict determination is clear. If the TTCN-3 file contains more than one test case, the overall conformance verdict is determined according to the TTCN-3 verdict overwrite rules applied to the results of each test case. For example, given two test cases, the first test case ends with the verdict "fail" and the second one ends with the verdict "pass". Then the overall verdict is "fail".
- The *@purpose* tag should be used with test case or module definitions depending on which definition level is more suitable to describe the corresponding conformance test purpose. The required encoding in the attached ATS of annex A has a special requirement regarding its format which is as follows:
 - *@purpose* documentreference, description
- The "documentreference" parameter refers to a reference to the TTCN-3 standards according to the following format:
 - part: clause
- The part refers to the part number of the respective TTCN-3 standard. The clause refers to the dot-separated clause number of the respective TTCN-3 standard.

EXAMPLE 2:

- *@purpose*1:5, Ensure that when the IUT loads a module containing some definitions before the module declaration then the module is rejected.
- In the example, the purpose refers to clause 5 of ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] and is followed by a test purpose description after the comma.

5.4 ATS archive

Annex A contains the ATS archive (zip file expanding to text files with TTCN-3 code).

6 PIXIT conformance

A test realizer, producing an executable test suite for the Abstract Test Suite (ATS) specification, is required, as specified in ISO/IEC 9646-4 [5], to produce an augmented partial PIXIT pro forma conformant with this partial PIXIT pro forma specification.

An augmented partial PIXIT pro forma which conforms to this partial PIXIT pro forma specification shall, as a minimum, have contents which are technically equivalent to annex B. The augmented partial PIXIT pro forma may contain additional questions that need to be answered in order to prepare the Means Of Testing (MOT) for a particular Implementation Under Test (IUT).

A test laboratory, offering testing for the ATS specification contained in annex A, is required, as specified in ISO/IEC 9646-5 [6], to further augment the augmented partial PIXIT pro forma to produce a PIXIT pro forma conformant with this partial PIXIT pro forma specification.

A PIXIT pro forma which conforms to this partial PIXIT pro forma specification shall, as a minimum, have contents which are technically equivalent to annex B. The PIXIT pro forma may contain additional questions that need to be answered in order to prepare the test laboratory for a particular IUT.

7 ATS conformance

The test realizer, producing a Means Of Testing (MOT) and Executable Test Suite (ETS) for the present document, shall comply with the requirements of ISO/IEC 9646-4 [5]. In particular, these concern the realization of an Executable Test Suite (ETS) based on each ATS. The test realizer shall provide a statement of conformance of the MOT to the present document.

An ETS which conforms to the present document shall contain test groups and test cases which are technically equivalent to those contained in the ATS in annex A. All sequences of test events comprising an abstract test case shall be capable of being realized in the executable test case. Any further checking which the test system might be capable of performing is outside the scope of the present document and shall not contribute to the verdict assignment for each test case.

Test laboratories running conformance test services using this ATS shall comply with ISO/IEC 9646-5 [6].

A test laboratory which claims to conform to this ATS specification shall use an MOT which conforms to this ATS.

Annex A (normative): Abstract Test Suite (ATS)

A.1 The ATS in TTCN-3 core (text) format

The TTCN-3 modules have been produced using the Testing and Test Control Notation (TTCN-3) according to ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1].

The TTCN-3 core (text) representation corresponding to this ATS is contained in several ASCII files contained in archive ts_10295003v011201p0.zip which accompanies the present document.

The ATS is separated into two folders: the Validated folder contains the conformance tests according to ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1], while the Unvalidated folder contains the conformance tests for the latest stable draft version of the ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] standard and is meant to support TTCN-3 tool implementers.

Annex B (normative): Partial IXIT pro forma

B.0 The right to copy

Notwithstanding the provisions of the copyright clause related to the text of the present document, ETSI grants that users of the present document may freely reproduce the partial IXIT pro forma in this annex so that it can be used for its intended purposes and may further publish the completed partial IXIT.

B.1 Introduction

This partial IXIT pro forma contained in the Abstract Test Suite is provided for completion, when the related Abstract Test Suite is to be used against the Implementation Under Test (IUT).

The completed partial IXIT will normally be used in conjunction with the completed ICS, as it adds precision to the information provided by the ICS.

As all features of the TTCN-3 core standard specification to ETSI ES 201 873-1 [1] are mandatory, there is no test suite parameterization and hence there are also no IXIT tables.

History

Document history		
V1.1.1	April 2011	Publication
V1.2.1	April 2012	Publication
V1.3.1	October 2013	Publication
V1.4.1	August 2014	Publication
V1.5.1	February 2016	Publication
V1.6.1	August 2017	Publication
V1.7.1	November 2018	Publication
V1.8.1	February 2020	Publication
V1.9.1	May 2021	Publication
V1.10.1	June 2022	Publication
V1.11.1	May 2023	Publication
V1.12.1	August 2024	Publication