ANSI C12.18-2006

American National Standard

Protocol Specification for ANSI
Type 2 Optical Port

ANSI C12.18-2006
Revision of
ANSI C12.18-1996

American National Standard

Protocol Specification for ANSI Type 2 Optical Port

Secretariat:

National Electrical Manufacturers Association

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Foreword (This Foreword is not part of American National Standard C12.18-2006.)

This American National Standard provides an open-platform communications protocol for two-way communication with a metering device through an ANSI Type 2 Optical Port. The protocol is written to conform to the OSI seven-layer stack.

Long-time readers of ANSI C12.18 will discover many editing changes to this version of the Standard. The Working Group chose to improve the clarity of the text as an aid to the reader while retaining the Normative elements in the manner of previous publications.

The 2006 revision of this Standard was considered in the context of the so-called "protocol suite" of ANSI standards: C12.18, C12.19, C12.21 and C12.22 (draft). Changes made were included only after assuring that existing devices implementing C12.18 would continue to remain compatible with the 2005 revision.

This revision has corrected an error in the original standard: the impossibility of using index-count for table access. Other concepts addressed include compliance, backward and forward compatibility, the use of reserved fields, the Identification Service, packet size and the toggle bit. Finally, some alignment with the draft C12.22 standard was performed to meet the goal of producing a coherent suite of protocol standards.

Suggestions for improvement to this Standard are welcome. They should be sent to:

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