



***Society of Cable  
Telecommunications  
Engineers***

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**ENGINEERING COMMITTEE  
Digital Video Subcommittee**

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**AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**

**ANSI/SCTE 35 2017**

**Digital Program Insertion Cueing Message for Cable**

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# Table of Contents

Title	Page Number
NOTICE	2
Table of Contents	3
1. Introduction	7
1.1. Executive Summary	7
1.2. Scope	7
1.3. Benefits	8
1.4. Intended Audience	8
1.5. Areas for Further Investigation or to be Added in Future Versions	8
2. Normative References	8
2.1. SCTE References	8
2.2. Standards from Other Organizations	8
2.3. Published Materials	9
3. Informative References	9
3.1. SCTE References	9
3.2. Standards from Other Organizations	9
3.3. Published Materials	10
4. Compliance Notation	11
5. Abbreviations and Definitions	11
5.1. Abbreviations	11
5.2. Definitions	12
6. Introduction	14
6.1. Splice points (Informative)	14
6.2. Program splice points (Informative)	14
6.3. Splice events (Informative)	15
6.4. Content storage considerations (Informative)	15
6.5. PID selection	16
6.5.1. PID selection (Normative)	16
6.5.2. PID selection (Informative)	16
6.6. Message flow (Informative)	17
7. Notational Conventions	17
7.1. Normative XML schema	17
7.2. Unknown/Unrecognized/Unsupported XML elements and attributes	18
7.3. Element order	18
7.4. Binary representation in XML	18
8. PMT Descriptors	19
8.1. Registration descriptor	19
8.1.1. Semantic definition of fields in Registration Descriptor	19
8.2. Cue Identifier Descriptor	19
8.2.1. Semantic definition of fields in Cue Identifier Descriptor	20
8.2.2. Description of cue_stream_type usage	20
8.3. Stream Identifier Descriptor	21
8.3.1. Semantic definition of fields in Stream Identifier Descriptor	21
9. Splice information table	21
9.1. Overview	21
9.1.1. Time base discontinuities	23
9.2. Splice info section	23
9.2.1. Semantic definition of fields in splice_info_section()	25
9.3. Splice commands	28
9.3.1. splice_null()	28
9.3.2. splice_schedule()	29
9.3.3. splice_insert()	33

9.3.4.	time_signal()	37
9.3.5.	bandwidth_reservation()	38
9.3.6.	private_command()	39
9.4.	Time	40
9.4.1.	splice_time()	40
9.4.2.	break_duration()	41
9.5.	Constraints	42
9.5.1.	Constraints on splice_info_section()	42
9.5.2.	Constraints on the interpretation of time	42
10.	Splice Descriptors	44
10.1.	Overview	44
10.2.	Splice descriptor	44
10.2.1.	Semantic definition of fields in splice_descriptor()	45
10.3.	Specific splice descriptors	46
10.3.1.	avail_descriptor()	46
10.3.2.	DTMF_descriptor()	47
10.3.3.	Segmentation_descriptor()	48
10.3.4.	time_descriptor()	66
11.	Encryption	68
11.1.	Overview	68
11.2.	Fixed key encryption	69
11.3.	Encryption algorithms	69
11.3.1.	DES – ECB mode	69
11.3.2.	DES – CBC mode	69
11.3.3.	Triple DES EDE3 – ECB mode	69
11.3.4.	User private algorithms	70
11.4.	Segmentation Upid Element	70
12.	SCTE 35 Usage	71
12.1.	SCTE 35 Usage in DASH	71
12.2.	SCTE 35 Usage in HLS	71
12.2.1.	HLS cue tags	71
12.2.2.	HLS playlist example	73
13.	SCTE 35 XML elements and types	74
13.1.	Ext element	74
13.2.	PTSType	75

## List of Figures

<b>Title</b>	<b>Page Number</b>
Figure 1 - SignalGroup	18
Figure 2 - SpliceInfoSection	25
Figure 3 - SpliceNull	29
Figure 4 - SpliceSchedule	31
Figure 5 - SpliceInsert	35
Figure 6 - TimeSignal	38
Figure 7 – BandwidthReservation	38
Figure 8 - PrivateCommand	39
Figure 9 - SpliceTime	40
Figure 10 - BreakDuration	41

Figure 11 - SpliceDescriptorType	45
Figure 12 - AvailDescriptor	46
Figure 13 - DTMFDescriptor	47
Figure 14 - SegmentationDescriptorType	50
Figure 15 - TimeDescriptor	67
Figure 16 - SegmentationUpid	70
Figure 17 - Ext Element	75

## List of Tables

<b>Title</b>	<b>Page Number</b>
Table 1 - registration_descriptor()	19
Table 2 - cue_identifier_descriptor()	20
Table 3 - cue_stream_type values	20
Table 4 - stream_identifier_descriptor()	21
Table 5 - splice_info_section()	23
Table 6 - splice_command_type Values	27
Table 7 - splice_null()	29
Table 8 - splice_schedule()	30
Table 9 - splice_insert()	34
Table 10 - time_signal()	37
Table 11 - bandwidth_reservation()	38
Table 12 - private_command()	39
Table 13 - splice_time()	40
Table 14 - break_duration()	41
Table 15 - Splice Descriptor Tags	44
Table 16 - splice_descriptor()	45
Table 17 - avail_descriptor()	46
Table 18 - DTMF_descriptor()	47
Table 19 - segmentation_descriptor()	49
Table 20 - device_restrictions	52
Table 21 - segmentation_upid_type	54
Table 22 - segmentation_type_id	56
Table 23 – MOU( )	58
Table 24 – MID( )	58
Table 25 - time_descriptor()	67
Table 26 - Encryption algorithm	69

Table 27 - Tag #EXT-X-SCTE35

71

Table 28 - Tag attributes

72

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Executive Summary

SCTE 35, Digital Program Insertion Cueing Message for Cable, is the core signaling standard for advertising and distribution control (ex. blackouts) of content for content providers and content distributors. SCTE 35 is being applied to QAM/IP, Title VI/TVE (TV Everywhere), and live/time shifted (DVR, VOD, etc.) delivery. SCTE 35 signals can be used to identify advertising breaks, advertising content, and programming content (ex. specific Programs and Chapters within a Program).

SCTE 35 complements other Standards to complete the eco-systems. [SCTE 30] is used to support splicing of advertising into live QAM MPEG-2 transport streams. [SCTE 130-3] is used to support alternate content decisions (advertising, blackouts, stream switching) for live and time shifted delivery. [SCTE 214-1] defines how SCTE 35 is carried in MPEG-DASH. [SCTE 224] (ESNI) is used to pass event and policy information from provider or other systems to communicate distribution control instructions. [SCTE 172] defines additional video coding and transport constraints on ANSI/SCTE 128 (which constrains ITU-T H.264/ ISO/IEC 14496-10 (“AVC”) video compression) for Digital Program Insertion applications using SCTE 35 messaging.

The recommended practices for SCTE 35 are contained in [SCTE 67] “Recommended Practice for SCTE 35 Digital Program Insertion Cueing Message for Cable”.

### 1.2. Scope

This standard supports delivery of events, frame accurate or non-frame accurate, and associated descriptive data in MPEG-2 transport streams, MPEG-DASH and HLS. This standard supports the splicing of content (MPEG-2 transport streams, MPEG-DASH, etc.) for the purpose of Digital Program Insertion, which includes advertisement insertion and insertion of other content types. An in-stream messaging mechanism is defined to signal splicing and insertion opportunities and it is not intended to ensure seamless insertion (splicing, playlist, etc.). As such, this standard does not specify the insertion method used or constraints applied to the content being inserted, nor does it address constraints placed on insertion devices.

Fully compliant MPEG-2 transport stream (either Multi Program Transport Stream or Single Program Transport Stream), MPEG-DASH content, etc. is assumed. No further constraints beyond the inclusion of the defined cueing messages are placed upon the stream.

This standard specifies a technique for carrying notification of upcoming points and other timing information in the transport stream. A splice information table is defined for notifying downstream devices of splice events, such as a network break or return from a network break. For MPEG-2 transport streams, the splice information table, which pertains to a given program, is carried in one or more MPEG Sections carried in PID(s) referred to by that program’s Program Map Table (PMT). In this way, splice event notification can pass through most transport stream remultiplexers without need for special processing. For MPEG-DASH, the splice information table is carried in the DASH MPD (See [SCTE 214-1]) or in media segments (see [SCTE 214-2] and [SCTE 214-3]). Section 12.2 details how SCTE 35 messages are carried in HLS manifests.

### 1.3. Benefits

SCTE 35 is a key part of the eco-system to enable advertising and content distribution business. A common/well-formed signaling model enables downstream system to be implemented in a cost effective, consistent and non-ambiguous fashion to achieve business objectives.

### 1.4. Intended Audience

The intended audience is Content Providers, Multi-Channel Video Program Distributors, TV Everywhere Providers/Distributors and vendors/developers who build solutions.

### 1.5. Areas for Further Investigation or to be Added in Future Versions

Address any follow-up work related to UHD and HDR.

## 2. Normative References

The following documents contain provisions, which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this document. At the time of Subcommittee approval, the editions indicated were valid. All documents are subject to revision; and while parties to any agreement based on this document are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the documents listed below, they are reminded that newer editions of those documents might not be compatible with the referenced version.

### 2.1. SCTE References

- No normative references are applicable.

### 2.2. Standards from Other Organizations

[ATSC A/57B]	ATSC A/57B - ATSC Standard: Content Identification and Labeling for ATSC Transport Document A/57B, 26 May 2008
[CLADI1-1]	MD-SP-VOD-CONTENTv1.1- C01-120803 – CableLabs Video-on-Demand Content Specification 1.1
[EIDR ID FORMAT]	EIDR ID Format – “EIDR: ID FORMAT Ver. 1.3 21 July 2015”, <a href="http://eidr.org/documents/EIDR_ID_Format_v1.3.pdf">http://eidr.org/documents/EIDR_ID_Format_v1.3.pdf</a>
[FIPS PUB 46-3]	FIPS PUB 46-3, 1999 October 25, Data Encryption Standard
[FIPS PUB 81]	FIPS PUB 81, 1980 December 2, DES Modes of Operation
[ISO 15706-2]	ISO 15706-2:2007 – Information and Documentation - International Standard Audiovisual Number (V-ISAN) – Part 2: Version Identifier
[MPEG Systems]	ITU-T Recommendation H.222.0 / ISO/IEC 13818-1 (2013), Information Technology ---- Generic Coding of Moving Pictures and Associated Audio Information: Systems
[RFC 3986]	RFC 3986, “Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax”, January 2005, <a href="http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3986.txt">www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3986.txt</a>
[RFC 4648]	RFC 4648 -“The Base16, Base32, and Base64 Data Encodings”, <a href="https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc4648">https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc4648</a>
[SMPTE 330M]	SMPTE 330M-2004 – SMPTE Standard for Television - Unique Material Identifier
[XML]	W3C Recommendation, “Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (Fourth Edition)”, Tim Bray, et al, 16 August 2006, <a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/2006/REC-xml-20060816/">http://www.w3.org/TR/2006/REC-xml-20060816/</a>

[XML Namespaces]	W3C Recommendation, “Namespaces In XML (Second Edition)”, Tim Bray, et al, 16 August 2006, <a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/2006/REC-xml-names-20060816/">http://www.w3.org/TR/2006/REC-xml-names-20060816/</a>
[XML InfoSet]	W3C Recommendation, “XML InfoSet (Second Edition)”, John Cowan, Richard Tobin, 4 February 2004, <a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xml-infoset-20040204/">http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xml-infoset-20040204/</a>
[XML SchemaP1]	W3C Recommendation, “XML Schema Part 1: Structures (Second Edition)”, H. Thompson, et al, 28 October 2004, <a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/">http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/</a>
[XML SchemaP2]	W3C Recommendation, “XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes (Second Edition)”, P. Biron, et al, 28 October 2004, <a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/">http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/</a>

### 2.3. Published Materials

- No normative references are applicable.

## 3. Informative References

The following documents might provide valuable information to the reader but are not required when complying with this document.

### 3.1. SCTE References

[SCTE 30]	SCTE 30 2009 – Digital Program Insertion Splicing API
[SCTE 67]	SCTE 67 2010 – Digital Program Insertion Cueing Message for Cable – Interpretation for SCTE 35
[SCTE 118-2]	SCTE 118-2 2012 – Program-Specific Ad Insertion – Content Provider to Traffic Communication Applications Data Model
[SCTE 130-3]	SCTE 130-3 2011 - Digital Program Insertion-Advertising Systems Interfaces - Part 3 - Ad Management Service (ADM) Interface
[SCTE 172]	SCTE 172 2011 – Constraints on AVC Video Coding for Digital Program Insertion
[SCTE 214-1]	SCTE 214-1 2015 - MPEG DASH for IP-Based Cable Services Part 1: MPD Constraints and Extensions
[SCTE 214-2]	SCTE 214-2 2015 - MPEG DASH for IP-Based Cable Services Part 2: DASH/TS Profile
[SCTE 214-3]	SCTE 214-3 2015 MPEG DASH for IP-Based Cable Services Part 3: DASH/FF Profile
[SCTE 224]	SCTE 224 2015 - Event Scheduling and Notification Interface

### 3.2. Standards from Other Organizations

[Ad Id]	Advertising Digital Identification, LLC - <a href="http://www.ad-id.org/">http://www.ad-id.org/</a>
[CL CONTENT]	MD-SP-CONTENTv3.0-I01-100812 – Metadata Specifications CableLabs Content 3.0 Specification
[DOI]	Digital Object Identifier website – <a href="http://www.doi.org">http://www.doi.org</a>

[EIDR]	Entertainment ID Registry Association (EIDR) <a href="http://eidr.org">http://eidr.org</a>
[HLS]	“HTTP Live Streaming”, <a href="https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-pantos-http-live-streaming-20">https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-pantos-http-live-streaming-20</a>
[ISAN]	ISAN (International Standard Audiovisual Number) website – <a href="http://www.isan.org">http://www.isan.org</a>
[ISO 13818–4]	ISO/IEC 13818–4: 2004 – Information Technology – Generic coding of moving pictures and associated audio information – Part 4: Conformance testing
[ISO 15706-1]	ISO 15706-1:2002 – Information and Documentation - International Standard Audiovisual Number (ISAN)
[ISO 15706-1 Amd 1]	ISO 15706-1:2002/Amd 1:2008 – Alternate Encodings and editorial changes
[ITU H.262]	ITU-T Recommendation H.262 / ISO/IEC 13818-2 (2000), Information Technology ---- Generic Coding of Moving Pictures and Associated Audio Information: video
[PTP]	IEEE 1588-2008, IEEE, 24 July 2008, doi:10.1109/IEEESTD.2008.4579760
[RFC5905]	“Network Time Protocol Version 4: Protocol and Algorithms Specification”, <a href="http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5905">http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5905</a>
[SMPTE 312]	SMPTE ST 312 – 2001 - SMPTE STANDARD for Television - Splice Points for MPEG-2 Transport Streams
[SMPTE 2092-1]	SMPTE RP 2092-1:2015 “SMPTE Recommended Practice, Advertising Digital Identifier (Ad-ID(R)) Representations”
[SMPTE 2079]	SMPTE RP 2079:2013 “Digital Object Identifier (DOI) Name and Entertainment ID Registry (EIDR) Identifier Representations”
[SMPTE RA]	SMPTE Registration Authority, LLC – <a href="http://www.smp-te-ra.org/">http://www.smp-te-ra.org/</a>

### 3.3. Published Materials

- No informative references are applicable.

## 4. Compliance Notation

<i>shall</i>	This word or the adjective “ <i>required</i> ” means that the item is an absolute requirement of this document.
<i>shall not</i>	This phrase means that the item is an absolute prohibition of this document.
<i>forbidden</i>	This word means the value specified shall never be used.
<i>should</i>	This word or the adjective “ <i>recommended</i> ” means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore this item, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighted before choosing a different course.
<i>should not</i>	This phrase means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the listed behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.
<i>may</i>	This word or the adjective “ <i>optional</i> ” means that this item is truly optional. One vendor may choose to include the item because a particular marketplace requires it or because it enhances the product, for example; another vendor may omit the same item.
<i>deprecated</i>	Use is permissible for legacy purposes only. Deprecated features may be removed from future versions of this document. Implementations should avoid use of deprecated features.

## 5. Abbreviations and Definitions

### 5.1. Abbreviations

ADI	Asset Distribution Interface
Ad-ID	Advertisement Identifier
ATSC	Advanced Television Systems Committee.
bslbf	Bit string, left bit first, where left is the order in which bit strings are written.
DVB	Digital Video Broadcast
FIPS	Federal Information Processing Standard
ISAN	International Standard Audiovisual Number (see [ISO 15706-1] and [ISO 15706-1 Amd 1])
ISCI	Industry Standard Commercial Identifier
MPTS	a Multi Program Transport Stream.
PMT	Program Map Table (see [MPEG Systems] ).
PTS	Presentation Time Stamp (see [MPEG Systems] ).
rpchof	Remainder polynomial coefficients, highest order first.
SPTS	a Single Program Transport Stream.
STC	System Time Clock
TI	Turner Identifier
TID	Tribune Identifier
uimsbf	Unsigned integer, most significant bit first.
UMID	Unique Material Identifier
V-ISAN	Version-ISAN (core ISAN number plus a version number) (see [ISO 15706-2] ).

## 5.2. Definitions

Access Unit	A coded representation of a presentation unit (see [ITU H.262]).
Advertisement (also called “ad”)	An inducement to buy or patronize. As used in the cable industry, usually with a duration under 2 minutes (sometimes called “short-form” content).
Analog Cue Tone	In an analog system, a signal that is usually either a sequence of DTMF tones or a contact closure that denotes to ad insertion equipment that an advertisement avail is about to begin or end.
Avail	Time space provided to cable operators by cable programming services during a program for use by the CATV operator; the time is usually sold to local advertisers or used for channel self promotion.
Bit Stream Format	An encoding of information resulting in a compliant MPEG-2 transport stream. See [MPEG Systems] .
Break	Avail or an actual insertion in progress.
Chapter	A short section of a longer program, usually situated to permit a viewer to easily locate a scene or section of the program.
Component Splice Mode	A mode of the cueing message whereby the program_splice_flag is set to ‘0’ and indicates that each PID/component that is intended to be spliced will be listed separately by the syntax that follows. Components not listed in the message are not to be spliced.
Content	Generic term for television material, either advertisements or programs.
Cueing Message	See message.
Deprecated	Use is permissible for legacy purposes only. <i>Deprecated</i> features <i>may</i> be removed from future versions of the standard. Implementations <i>should</i> avoid use of <i>deprecated</i> features.
Event	A splice event or a viewing event.
In Point	A point in the stream, suitable for entry, that lies on an elementary presentation unit boundary. An In Point is actually between two presentation units rather than being a presentation unit itself.
In Stream Device	A device that receives the transport stream directly and is able to derive timing information directly from the transport stream.
Message	in the context of this document a message is the contents of any splice_info_section.
Multi Program Transport Stream	A transport stream with multiple programs.
NTP	Network Time Protocol as defined in IETF [RFC5905].
Out of Stream Device	A device that receives the cue message from an in stream device over a separate connection from the transport stream. An out of stream device does not receive or pass the transport stream directly.
Out Point	A point in the stream, suitable for exit, that lies on an elementary presentation unit boundary. An Out Point is actually between two presentation units rather than being a presentation unit itself.
payload_unit_start_indicator	A bit in the transport packet header that signals, among other things, that a section begins in the payload that follows (see [MPEG Systems] ).
PID	Packet identifier; a unique 13-bit value used to identify the type of data stored in the packet payload (see [MPEG Systems] ).
PID stream	All the packets with the same PID within a transport stream.

pointer_field	The first byte of a transport packet payload, required when a section begins in that packet (see [MPEG Systems] ).
Presentation Time	The time that a presentation unit is presented in the system target decoder (see [MPEG Systems] )
Presentation Unit	A decoded Audio Access Unit or a decoded picture (see [ITU H.262]).
Program	A collection of video, audio, and data PID streams that share a common program number within an MPTS (see [MPEG Systems] ). As used in the context of the segmentation descriptor, a performance or informative presentation broadcast on television, typically with a duration over 5 minutes (sometimes called “long-form” content).
Program In Point	A group of PID stream In Points that correspond in presentation time.
Program Out Point	Aa group of PID stream Out Points that correspond in presentation time.
Program Splice Mode	A mode of the cueing message whereby the program_splice_flag is set to ‘1’ and indicates that the message refers to a Program Splice Point and that all PIDs/components of the program are to be spliced.
Program Splice Point	A Program In Point or a Program Out Point.
PTP	Precision Time Protocol as defined in IEEE Std 1588-2008 PTP.
Receiving Device	A device that receives or interprets sections conforming to this standard. Examples of these devices include splicers, ad servers, segmenters and satellite receivers.
Registration Descriptor	Carried in the PMT of a program to indicate that, when signaling splice events, splice_info_sections shall be carried in a PID stream within this program. The presence of the Registration Descriptor signifies a program’s compliance with this standard.
reserved	The term “reserved”, when used in the clauses defining the coded bit stream, indicates that the value <i>may</i> be used in the future for extensions to the standard. Unless otherwise specified, all reserved bits shall be set to ‘1’ and this field shall be ignored by receiving equipment.
Segment	Either a <i>Program</i> , a <i>Chapter</i> , a <i>Provider Advertisement</i> , a <i>Distributor Advertisement</i> , or an <i>Unscheduled Event</i> as listed in Table 22, segmentation_type_id.
Single Program Transport Stream	A transport stream containing a single MPEG program.
Splice Event	An opportunity to splice one or more PID streams.
Splice Immediate Mode	A mode of the cueing message whereby the splicing device shall choose the nearest opportunity in the stream, relative to the splice_info_table, to splice. When not in this mode, the message gives a “pts_time” that, when modified by pts_adjustment, gives a presentation time for the intended splicing moment.
Splice Point	A point in a PID stream that is either an Out Point or an In Point.
TAI	International Atomic Time (TAI, from the French name Temps Atomique International) This time reference scale was established by the BIPM (Bureau International des Poids et Mesures) on the basis of atomic clock readings from various laboratories around the world.
UPID	Identifier for the content or content segment that programmers’ systems utilize.
URI	Uniform Resource Identifier—See [RFC 3986].

UTC	Coordinated Universal Time. This is the primary time standard by which the world regulates clocks and time.
Viewing Event	A television program or a span of compressed material within a service; as opposed to a splice event, which is a point in time.
XML	Extensible Markup Language —See [ W3C Recommendation, “Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0]”

## 6. Introduction

### 6.1. Splice points (Informative)

To enable the splicing of compressed bit streams, this standard defines Splice Points. Splice Points in an MPEG-2 transport stream provide opportunities to switch elementary streams from one source to another. They indicate a place to switch or a place in the bit stream where a switch can be made. Splicing at such splice points *may* or *may not* result in good visual and audio quality. That is determined by the performance of the splicing device.

Transport streams are created by multiplexing PID streams. In this standard, two types of Splice Points for PID streams are defined: Out Points and In Points. In Points are places in the bit streams where it is acceptable to enter, from a splicing standpoint. Out Points are places where it is acceptable to exit the bit stream. The grouping of In Points of individual PID streams into Program In Points in order to enable the switching of entire programs (video with audio) is defined. Program Out Points for exiting a program are also defined.

Out Points and In Points are imaginary points in the bit stream located between two elementary stream presentation units. Out Points and In Points are not necessarily transport packet aligned and are not necessarily PES packet aligned. An Out Point and an In Point *may* be co-located; that is, a single presentation unit boundary *may* serve as both a safe place to leave a bit stream and a safe place to enter it.

The output of a simple switching operation will contain access unit data from one stream up until its Out Point followed by data from another stream starting with the first access unit following an In Point. More complex splicing operations *may* exist whereby data prior to an Out Point or data after an In Point are modified by a splicing device. Splicing devices *may* also insert data between one stream’s Out Point and the other stream’s In Point. The behavior of splicing devices will not be specified or constrained in any way by this standard.

### 6.2. Program splice points (Informative)

Program In Points and Program Out Points are sets of PID stream In Points or Out Points that correspond in presentation time.

Although Splice Points in a Program Splice Point correspond in presentation time, they do not usually appear near each other in the transport stream. Because compressed video takes much longer to decode than audio, the audio Splice Points *may* lag the video Splice Points by as much as hundreds of milliseconds and by an amount that can vary during a program.

This standard defines two ways of signaling which splice points within a program are to be spliced. A `program_splice_flag`, when true, denotes that the Program Splice Mode is active and that all PIDs of a program *may* be spliced (the splice information table PID is an exception; splicing or passage of these messages is beyond the scope of this standard). A `program_splice_flag`, when false, indicates that the

Component Splice Mode is active and that the message will specify unambiguously which PIDs are to be spliced and *may* give a unique splice time for each. This is required to direct the splicing device to splice or not to splice various unspecified data types as well as video and audio.

While this standard allows for a unique splice time to be given for each component of a program, it is expected that most Component Splice Mode messages will utilize one splice time (a default splice time) for all components as described in section 9. The facility for optionally specifying a separate splice time for each component is intended to be used when one or more components differ significantly in their start or stop time relative to other components within the same message. An example would be a downloaded applet that must arrive at a set-top box several seconds prior to an advertisement.

### 6.3. Splice events (Informative)

This standard provides a method for in-band signaling of splice events using splice commands to downstream splicing equipment. Signaling a splice event identifies which Splice Point within a stream to use for a splice. A splicing device *may* choose to act or not act upon a signaled event (a signaled event *should* be interpreted as an opportunity to splice; not a command). A splice information table carries the notice of splice event opportunities. Each signaled splice event is analogous to an analog cue tone. The splice information table incorporates the functionality of cue tones and extends it to enable the scheduling of splice events in advance.

This standard establishes that the splice information table is carried on a per-program basis in one or more PID stream(s) with a designated stream\_type. The program's splice information PID(s) are designated in the program's program map table (PMT). In this way, the splice information table is switched with the program as it goes through remultiplexing operations. A common stream\_type identifies all PID streams that carry splice information tables. Remultiplexers or splicers *may* use this stream\_type field to drop splice information prior to sending the transport stream to the end-user device.

The cue injection equipment *may* send messages at intervals that do not indicate a splice point to be used as heartbeat messages which help insure the proper operation of the system. This could be performed by periodically issuing splice\_null() messages or by sending encrypted splice\_insert messages generated with a key that is not distributed. Since cues are currently sent twice per hour on a typical network, an average interval of 5 minutes would be a reasonable interval. If a message was not received in a 10 minute interval, a receiving device could alarm an operator to a possible system malfunction (such behavior would be implementer dependent).

### 6.4. Content storage considerations (Informative)

The requirements for identifier uniqueness are written expecting the content to be playing in real time. If the content is stored, then the playback of the content does not place requirements upon the playback equipment to alter any of these identifiers (such as splice\_event\_id or segmentation\_event\_id). Downstream equipment parsing the identifiers *should* keep this in mind and, if applicable, rely upon other confirming information before reacting adversely to a seeming violation of the identifier uniqueness requirements of this standard.

This standard provides optional tools to assist with segmenting content into shorter sections which *may* be either chapters or advertisements. See section 10.3.3.

## 6.5. PID selection

### 6.5.1. PID selection (Normative)

Splice Information can be carried in multiple PIDs. The maximum number of PIDs that can carry splice information *shall not* exceed 8. These PIDs can be either in the clear (where the transport scrambling\_control bits are set to '00') or scrambled by a CA system. Each cue message PID *may* include the cue\_identifier\_descriptor defined in section 8.2 to describe the splice commands included in the PID. When multiple PIDs are used to carry splice information, the first cue message PID in the Program Map Table *shall* only contain the splice command types 0x00 (splice\_null), 0x04 (splice\_schedule) and 0x05 (splice\_insert). In addition, the splice\_event\_id *shall* be unique in all splice information PIDs within the program.

### 6.5.2. PID selection (Informative)

While the use of multiple cue message PIDs is an allowed practice, it *should* be noted that not all equipment *may* respond in the same manner to a stream that contains multiple cue message PIDs. Some equipment *may* limit the number of PIDs that the equipment can pass or receive. If a system utilizes multiple PIDs through various devices with the intention of reaching the set-top, it is suggested that thorough end-end testing be performed.

In many systems, the delivery of PIDs that carry splice information beyond the ad insertion equipment in the head-end is not desired. In these systems, the splicing or multiplexing device will drop any or all of these messages (PIDs) so they will not be delivered to the set-top. In other systems it *may* selectively pass certain PIDs to the set top to enable set-top functionality. A third possibility is that the splicing or multiplexing device will aggregate the multiple PIDs that carry splice information into a single PID to handle downstream, set-top, issues with multiple PIDs. The action of ignoring or passing the message is recommended to be a user provisioned item, with a suitable default behavior chosen by the implementer.

The default operation if a splicing or multiplexing device receives a PID based on this specification with the scrambling bits set in the header *should* be to drop that PID and not pass it through to the output. This ideally *should* be a user provisioned operation, as in some instances this PID *may* be descrambled by a downstream device.

The delivery of messages outside of the receive location to the customer *may* be based on business agreements. An example would be that one programmer wants the cue messages passed to set-tops to enable a targeted advertising method while a different programmer insists that the messages be dropped to insure that a commercial killer *may* not utilize the messages.

When multiple splicing PIDs are identified in the PMT, the splicing device *should* process all of these PIDs. If the cue\_identifier\_descriptor is utilized, the splicing or multiplexing device *may* use that information to be more selective of the PIDs on which it will act.

Some possible reasons for utilizing multiple PIDs for this message include selective delivery of cue messages for different tiers of advertising or for separating cue messages from segmentation messages. While one possible method of handling these issues is to use the encryption methods built in to this standard, many delivery mechanisms can support conditional delivery by PID in a secure fashion. The delivery equipment (Satellite transmitter/receiver, remultiplexer) *may* PID filter the stream to only allow one or a small number of the PIDs to be passed in-stream. This method *may* be used to create multiple programs in the feed based on entitlement. The decision to use one or more PIDs will be based on the security required and the CA hardware available on the system.

## 6.6. Message flow (Informative)

The messages described in this document can originate from multiple sources. They are designed to be sent in-stream to downstream devices. The downstream devices *may* act on the messages or send them to a device that is not in-stream to act upon them. An example would be a splicer communicating via SCTE 30 protocol to an ad server (See [SCTE 30]). The in-stream devices could pass the messages to the next device in the transmission chain, or they could, optionally, drop the messages. Implementers are urged to make these decisions user provisioned, rather than arbitrarily hard-coded.

Any device that re-stamps pcr/pts/dts and that passes these cue messages to a downstream device *should* modify the pts\_time field or the pts\_adjustment field in the message in all PIDs conforming to this standard. Modifying the pts\_adjustment field is preferred because the restamping device will not have to be knowledgeable of the pts\_time field that *may* occur in multiple commands (and possibly in future commands).

The bandwidth\_reservation() message is intended as a message used on a closed path from a satellite origination system (encoder) to a receiver. It is also intended that this message will be dropped (replaced by a NULL packet) by the receiver, but this is not required. *Should* this message reach an in-stream device (e.g., a splicer) the message *should not* be forwarded to an out-of-stream device (e.g. Ad Server) and can either be ignored or passed by an in-stream device. The action of ignoring or passing the message is recommended to be a user provisioned item, with a suitable default behavior chosen by the implementer.

## 7. Notational Conventions

### 7.1. Normative XML schema

Descriptions of elements and attributes are normative and, when combined with the normative XML schema document (provided separately), comprise the full normative schema specification. Unless otherwise specified, the normative text and values assigned to elements or attributes in this specification *shall* be constrained by the bit stream equivalent field.

Non-normative schema illustrations and instance examples are included herein for informational purposes only. Any real or implied usage, semantics, or structure indicated by the schema illustrations and examples *shall not* be considered part of the specification.

No XML documents representing the structures defined in the schema are considered conformant unless they are valid according to the schema document. Additionally, other SCTE 35 standard normative parts *may* impose additional rules or restrictions that *shall* be adhered to in order for XML documents to be considered conformant to those parts.

In the case where this document and the normative schema document (i.e., the separately provided XML ‘xsd’ file) conflict, this document *shall* take precedence over the XML schema document.

The inclusion of a normative XML schema document does not require or imply the specific use of the schema nor a requirement that an XML document be validated.

If the SCTE 35 schema is used in combination with other schemas, it is recommended to utilize the namespace prefix of “SCTE35”. For example, SCTE35:SpliceInsertType to reference an SCTE 35 SpliceInsert Type.

## 7.2. Unknown/Unrecognized/Unsupported XML elements and attributes

Generally, unknown, unrecognized or unsupported XML elements and attributes contained within SCTE 35 elements *should* be ignored during XML document processing. Specifically, these are elements or attributes which the implementation does not understand or expect. XML parsers that encounter elements or attributes which are prohibited by a namespace *should* include exception handling.

## 7.3. Element order

Element order is constrained by the schemas and *shall* be preserved throughout processing of the XML document. In particular, the order of elements affects the end result of the processing. Consequently, an implementation failing to preserve the order *may* cause incorrect processing results. Subsequently, the process of producing an abstract XML Information Set (InfoSet) from a concrete XML document, e.g., by parsing it, *shall* always result in the same abstract InfoSet, with the same element order per XML InfoSet. (See [XML InfoSet]) for additional information. Any intermediary processing *may* enhance the XML document but it *shall not* alter the abstract InfoSet element order (i.e., the XML elements comprising the document *shall* stay in document order).

## 7.4. Binary representation in XML

The content of a SpliceInfoSection (See 9.2) *may* be represented in XML as either a fully parsed structure or as a binary representation. This choice is provided in the XML Schema as a Signal group (Figure 1). The binary representation *shall* be Base 64 encoded per [RFC 4648]. The Binary element *should* be assumed to contain a SpliceInfoSection unless explicitly indicated by the signalType attribute as something else. The signalType attribute is provided to allow some flexibility in how the XML Schema is used for binary representations. Whenever the value of signalType is not “SpliceInfoSection” it *shall* be prefixed with the text “private:”

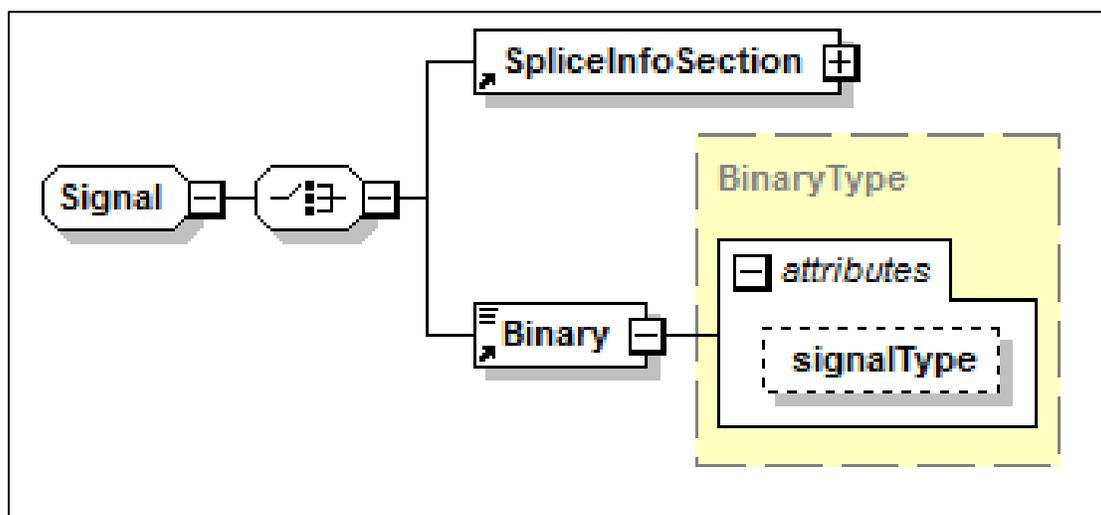


Figure 1 - SignalGroup

## 8. PMT Descriptors

### 8.1. Registration descriptor

The registration descriptor (see [MPEG Systems] , table 2-46 -- Registration Descriptor, clause 2.6.8) is defined to identify unambiguously the programs that comply with this standard. The registration descriptor *shall* be carried in the program\_info loop of the PMT for each program that complies with this standard. It *shall* reside in all PMTs of all complying programs within a multiplex. The presence of the registration descriptor also indicates that, when signaling splice events, splice\_info\_sections *shall* be carried in one or more PID stream(s) within this program.

Presence of this registration descriptor in the PMT signals the following:

1. The program elements do not include the splice information table defined by [SMPTE 312].
2. The only descriptors that can be present in the ES\_descriptor\_loop of the PMT for the PID(s) that carry the splice\_information\_table are those that are defined in this specification or user private descriptors.

Note that this descriptor applies to the indicated program and not to the entire multiplex. The content of the registration descriptor is specified in Table 1 and below:

**Table 1 - registration\_descriptor()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
registration_descriptor() {		
descriptor_tag	8	uimsbf
descriptor_length	8	uimsbf
SCTE_splice_format_identifier	32	uimsbf
}		

#### 8.1.1. Semantic definition of fields in Registration Descriptor

**descriptor\_tag** – The descriptor\_tag is an 8-bit field that identifies each descriptor. For registration purposes, this field *shall* be set to 0x05.

**descriptor\_length** – The descriptor\_length is an 8-bit field specifying the number of bytes of the descriptor immediately following descriptor\_length field. For this registration descriptor, descriptor\_length *shall* be set to 0x04.

**SCTE\_splice\_format\_identifier** – SCTE has assigned a value of 0x43554549 (ASCII “CUEI”) to this 4-byte field to identify the program (within a multiplex) in which it is carried as complying with this standard.

### 8.2. Cue Identifier Descriptor

The cue\_identifier\_descriptor *may* be used in the PMT to label PIDs that carry splice commands so that they can be differentiated as to the type or level of splice commands they carry. The cue\_identifier\_descriptor, when present, *shall* be located in the elementary descriptor loop. If the cue\_identifier\_descriptor is not utilized, the stream *may* carry any valid command in this specification.

**Table 2 - cue\_identifier\_descriptor()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
cue identifier descriptor() {		
descriptor tag	8	uimsbf
descriptor length	8	uimsbf
cue stream type	8	uimsbf
}		

### 8.2.1. Semantic definition of fields in Cue Identifier Descriptor

**descriptor\_tag** - The descriptor\_tag is an 8-bit field that identifies each descriptor. For cue\_identifier\_descriptor, this field *shall* be set to 0x8A.

**descriptor\_length** - The descriptor\_length in an 8-bit field specifying the number of bytes of the descriptor immediately following descriptor\_length field. For this descriptor, descriptor\_length *shall* be set to 0x01.

cue\_stream\_type - This 8-bit field is defined in Table 3.

**Table 3 - cue\_stream\_type values**

cue_stream_type	PID usage
0x00	splice_insert, splice_null, splice_schedule
0x01	All Commands
0x02	Segmentation
0x03	Tiered Splicing
0x04	Tiered Segmentation
0x05-0x7f	Reserved
0x80 - 0xff	User Defined

### 8.2.2. Description of cue\_stream\_type usage

**0x00 – splice\_insert, splice\_null, splice\_schedule** – Only these cue messages are allowed in this PID stream. There *shall* be a maximum of one PID identified with this cue\_stream\_type. If this PID exists, it *shall* be the first stream complying with this standard in the PMT elementary stream loop.

**0x01 – All Commands** – Default if this descriptor is not present. All messages can be used in this PID.

**0x02 – Segmentation** – This PID carries the time\_signal command and the segmentation descriptor. It *may* also carry all other commands if needed for the application, but the primary purpose is to transmit content segmentation information.

**0x03 – Tiered Splicing** – Tiered Splicing refers to an insertion system where the operator provides different inserted program possibilities in a given avail for different customers. The physical and logical implementation *may* be done in several different manners, some of them outside the scope of this standard.

**0x04 – Tiered Segmentation** – Tiered Segmentation refers to a system where the operator provides different program segmentation possibilities for different customers. The physical and logical implementation *may* be done in several different manners, some of them outside the scope of this standard.

**0x05-0x7F** – Reserved for future extensions to this standard.

**0x80-0xFF** – User defined range.

### 8.3. Stream Identifier Descriptor

The stream identifier descriptor *may* be used in the PMT to label component streams of a service so that they can be differentiated. The stream identifier descriptor *shall* be located in the elementary descriptor loop following the relevant ES\_info\_length field. The stream identifier descriptor *shall* be used if either the program\_splice\_flag or the program\_segmentation\_flag is zero. If stream identifier descriptors are used, a stream identifier descriptor *shall* be present in each occurrence of the elementary stream loop within the PMT and *shall* have a unique component tag within the given program.

**Table 4 - stream\_identifier\_descriptor()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
stream_identifier_descriptor() {		
<b>descriptor tag</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>descriptor length</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>component tag</b>	8	uimsbf
}		

#### 8.3.1. Semantic definition of fields in Stream Identifier Descriptor

**descriptor\_tag** - The descriptor\_tag is an 8-bit field that identifies each descriptor. For stream\_identifier\_descriptor, this field *shall* be set to 0x52.

**descriptor\_length** - The descriptor\_length in an 8-bit field specifying the number of bytes of the descriptor immediately following descriptor\_length field. For this descriptor, descriptor\_length *shall* be set to 0x01.

**component\_tag** - This 8-bit field identifies the component stream for associating it with a description given in a component descriptor. Within a program map section each stream identifier descriptor *shall* have a different value for this field.

## 9. Splice information table

### 9.1. Overview

The splice information table provides command and control information to the splicer. It notifies the splicer of splice events in advance of those events. It is designed to accommodate ad insertion in network feeds. In this environment, examples of splice events would include 1) a splice out of a network feed into an ad, or 2) the splice out of an ad to return to the network feed. The splice information table *may* be sent multiple times and splice events *may* be cancelled. Syntax for a splice\_info\_section is defined to convey the splice information table. The splice\_info\_section is carried on one or more PID stream(s) with the PID(s) declared in that program's PMT.

A splice event indicates the opportunity to splice one or more elementary streams within a program. Each splice event is uniquely identified with a splice\_event\_id. Splice events *may* be communicated in three ways: they *may* be scheduled ahead of time, a preroll warning *may* be given, or a command *may* be given to execute the splice event at specified Splice Points. These three types of messages are sent via the

`splice_info_section`. The `splice_command_type` field specifies the message being sent. Depending on the value of this field, different constraints apply to the remaining syntax.

The following command types are specified: `splice_null()`, `splice_schedule()`, `splice_insert()`, `time_signal()` and `bandwidth_reservation()`. If the Receiving Device does not support a command it can ignore the entire `splice_info_section`.

The `splice_null()` command is provided for extensibility. It can be used as a means of providing a heartbeat message to downstream splicing equipment.

The `splice_schedule()` command is a command that allows a schedule of splice events to be conveyed in advance.

The `splice_insert()` command *shall* be sent at least once before each splice point. Packets containing the entirety of the `splice_info_table` *shall* always precede the packet that contains the related splice point (i.e., the first packet that contains the first byte of an access unit whose presentation time most closely matches the signaled time in the `splice_info_section`).

In order to give advance warning of the impending splice (a pre-roll function), the `splice_insert()` command could be sent multiple times before the splice point. For example, the `splice_insert()` command could be sent at 8, 5, 4 and 2 seconds prior to the packet containing the related splice point. In order to meet other splicing deadlines in the system, any message received with less than 4 seconds of advance notice *may* not create the desired result. The `splice_insert()` message *shall* be sent at least once a minimum of 4 seconds in advance of the desired splice time for a network Out Point condition. It is recommended that, if a return-to-network (an In Point) message is sent, the same minimum 4 second pre-roll be provided.

The `splice_insert()` command provides for an optional `break_duration()` structure to identify the length of the commercial break. It is recommended that `splice_insert()` messages with the `out_of_network_indicator` set to 1 (a network Out Point) include a `break_duration()` structure to provide the splicer with an indication of when the network In Point will occur. The `break_duration()` structure provides for an optional `auto_return` flag that, when set to 1, indicates that the splicer is to return to the network at the end of the break (defined as Auto Return Mode, refer to section 9.5.2.2). It is recommended that this Auto Return Mode be used to support dynamic avail durations.

The `time_signal()` command is provided for extensibility while preserving the precise timing allowed in the `splice_insert()` command. This is to allow for new features not directly related to splicing utilizing the timing capabilities of this specification while causing minimal impact to the splicing devices that conform to this specification. This allows the device that will be inserting the time into the cue message to have a defined location.

The `bandwidth_reservation()` command is provided to allow command insertion devices to utilize a consistent amount of transport stream bandwidth. Descriptors *may* be used in this command, but they cannot be expected to be processed and sent downstream to provide signaling information.

There are two methods for changing the parameters of a command once it has been issued. One method is to cancel the issued command by sending a `splice_info_section` with the `splice_event_cancel_indicator` set and then to send a new `splice_info_section` with the correct/new parameters. The other method is to simply send a subsequent message with the new data (without canceling the old message via a cue message that has the `splice_event_cancel_indicator` bit set).

### 9.1.1. Time base discontinuities

In the case where a system time base discontinuity is present, packets containing a splice\_insert() or time\_signal() command with time expressed in the new time base *shall not* arrive prior to the occurrence of the time base discontinuity. Packets containing a splice\_insert() or time\_signal() command with time expressed in the previous time base *shall not* arrive after the occurrence of the time base discontinuity. See [ISO 13818-4].

The complete syntax is presented below, followed by definition of terms, followed by constraints.

### 9.2. Splice info section

The splice\_info\_section *shall* be carried in transport packets whereby only one section or partial section *may* be in any transport packet. Splice\_info\_sections *shall* always start at the beginning of a transport packet payload. When a section begins in a transport packet and this is the first packet of the splice\_info\_section, the pointer\_field *shall* be present and equal to 0x00 and the payload\_unit\_start\_indicator bit *shall* be equal to one (per the requirements of section syntax usage per [MPEG Systems] ).

**Table 5 - splice\_info\_section()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic	Encrypted
splice_info_section() {			
<b>table_id</b>	8	uimsbf	
<b>section_syntax_indicator</b>	1	bslbf	
<b>private_indicator</b>	1	bslbf	
<b>reserved</b>	2	bslbf	
<b>section_length</b>	12	uimsbf	
<b>protocol_version</b>	8	uimsbf	
<b>encrypted_packet</b>	1	bslbf	
<b>encryption_algorithm</b>	6	uimsbf	
<b>pts_adjustment</b>	33	uimsbf	
<b>cw_index</b>	8	uimsbf	
<b>tier</b>	12	bslbf	
<b>splice_command_length</b>	12	uimsbf	
<b>splice_command_type</b>	8	uimsbf	E
if(splice_command_type == 0x00)			
splice_null()			E
if(splice_command_type == 0x04)			
splice_schedule()			E
if(splice_command_type == 0x05)			
splice_insert()			E
if(splice_command_type == 0x06)			
time_signal()			E
if(splice_command_type == 0x07)			
bandwidth_reservation()			E
if(splice_command_type == 0xff)			
private_command()			E
<b>descriptor_loop_length</b>	16	uimsbf	E
for(i=0; i<N1; i++)			
splice_descriptor()			E

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic	Encrypted
for(i=0; i<N2; i++) <b>alignment_stuffing</b>	8	bslbf	E
if(encrypted_packet) <b>E_CRC_32</b>	32	rpchof	E
<b>CRC_32</b>	32	rpchof	
}			

The XML schema for splice\_info\_section is shown in Figure 2.

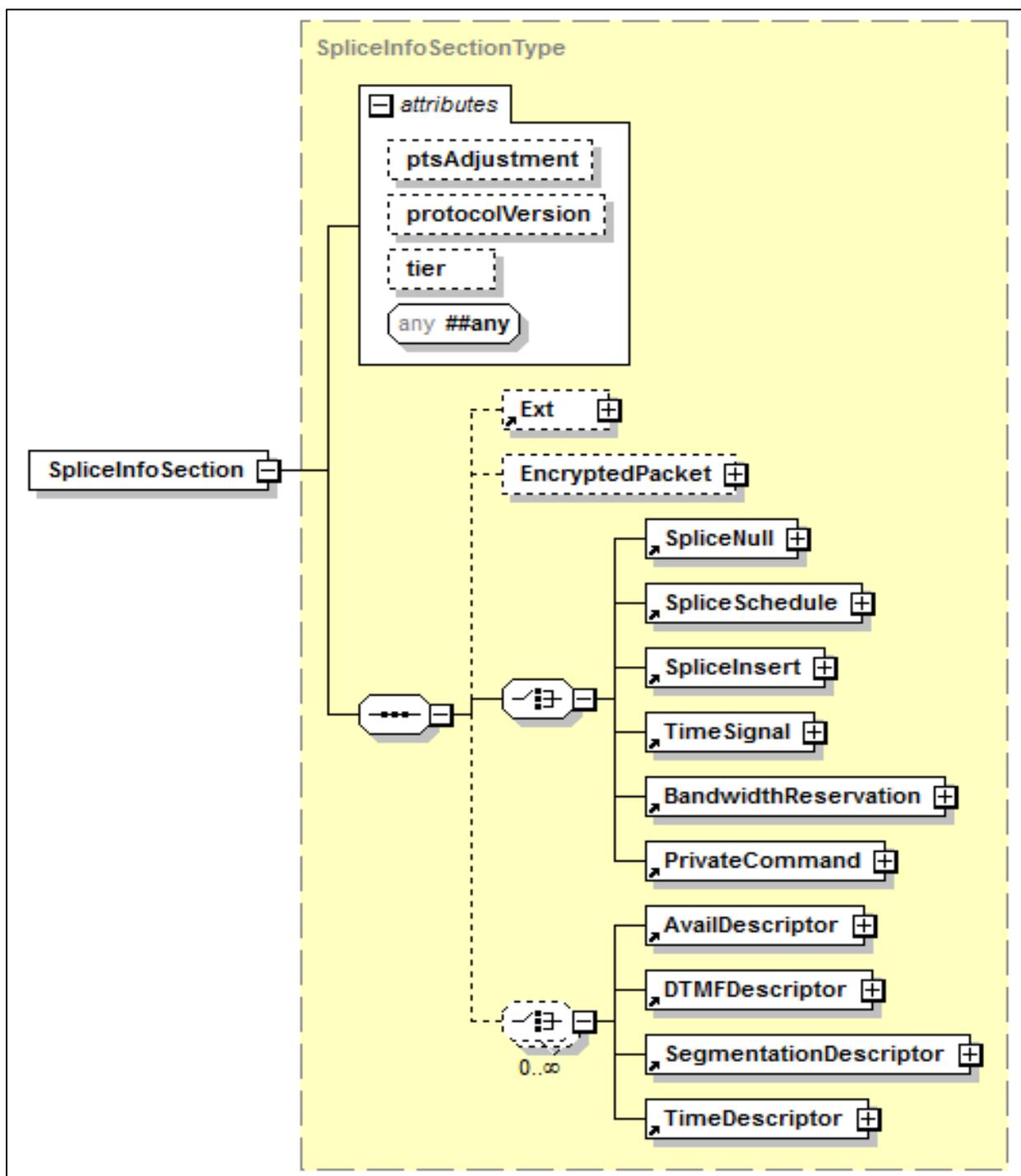


Figure 2 - SpliceInfoSection

9.2.1. Semantic definition of fields in splice\_info\_section()

**table\_id** – This is an 8-bit field. Its value *shall* be 0xFC.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `table_id`. The value is implicit when transforming to or from an XML representation of the `splice_info_section`.

**section\_syntax\_indicator** – The `section_syntax_indicator` is a 1-bit field that *should* always be set to ‘0’ indicating that MPEG short sections are to be used.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `section_syntax_indicator`. The value is a constant when converting an XML representation of the `splice_info_section` to Bit Stream Format.

**private\_indicator** – This is a 1-bit flag that *shall* be set to 0.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `private_indicator`. The value is a constant when converting an XML representation of the `splice_info_section` to Bit Stream Format.

**section\_length** – This is a 12-bit field specifying the number of remaining bytes in the `splice_info_section` immediately following the `section_length` field up to the end of the `splice_info_section`. The value in this field *shall not* exceed 4093.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `section_length`. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the `splice_info_section` to Bit Stream Format.

**protocol\_version** – An 8-bit unsigned integer field whose function is to allow, in the future, this table type to carry parameters that *may* be structured differently than those defined in the current protocol. At present, the only valid value for `protocol_version` is zero. Non-zero values of `protocol_version` *may* be used by a future version of this standard to indicate structurally different tables.

@protocolVersion [Optional; xsd:unsignedByte] If present, this attribute *shall* be set to 0.

**encrypted\_packet** – When this bit is set to ‘1’, it indicates that portions of the `splice_info_section`, starting with `splice_command_type` and ending with and including `E_CRC_32`, are encrypted. When this bit is set to ‘0’, no part of this message is encrypted. The potentially encrypted portions of the `splice_info_table` are indicated by an E in the Encrypted column of Table 5.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `encrypted_packet`. When converting an XML representation of the `splice_info_section` to Bit Stream Format this value *shall* be set to 1 if the EncryptedPacket Element is present; otherwise, the value *shall* be set to 0. When creating the SpliceInfoSection Element, the EncryptedPacket Element *shall* be populated if encryption is desired. The encrypted attributes *shall* only apply to the generation of the Bit Stream Format of the `splice_info_section`. The encrypted attributes may be populated when converting a `splice_info_section` to XML but the actual data in the XML *shall not* be encrypted.

**encryption\_algorithm** – This 6 bit unsigned integer specifies which encryption algorithm was used to encrypt the current message. When the `encrypted_packet` bit is zero, this field is present but undefined. Refer to section 11, and specifically Table 26 - Encryption algorithm for details on the use of this field.

@encryptionAlgorithm [Conditional Mandatory, xsd:unsignedByte] If the EncryptedPacket Element is present this value *shall* be provided.

**pts\_adjustment** – A 33 bit unsigned integer that appears in the clear and that *shall* be used by a splicing device as an offset to be added to the (sometimes) encrypted `pts_time` field(s) throughout this message to obtain the intended splice time(s). When this field has a zero value, then the `pts_time` field(s) *shall* be used without an offset. Normally, the creator of a cueing message will place a zero value into this field.

This adjustment value is the means by which an upstream device, which restamps pcr/pts/dts, *may* convey to the splicing device the means by which to convert the pts\_time field of the message to a newly imposed time domain.

It is intended that the first device that restamps pcr/pts/dts and that passes the cueing message will insert a value into the pts\_adjustment field, which is the delta time between this device's input time domain and its output time domain. All subsequent devices, which also restamp pcr/pts/dts, *may* further alter the pts\_adjustment field by adding their delta time to the field's existing delta time and placing the result back in the pts\_adjustment field. Upon each alteration of the pts\_adjustment field, the altering device **shall** recalculate and update the CRC\_32 field.

The pts\_adjustment **shall**, at all times, be the proper value to use for conversion of the pts\_time field to the current time-base. The conversion is done by adding the two fields. In the presence of a wrap or overflow condition the carry **shall** be ignored.

@ptsAdjustment [Optional, PTSType] See section 13.2.

**cw\_index** – An 8 bit unsigned integer that conveys which control word (key) is to be used to decrypt the message. The splicing device *may* store up to 256 keys previously provided for this purpose. When the encrypted\_packet bit is zero, this field is present but undefined.

@cwIndex [Conditional Mandatory, xsd:unsignedByte] If the EncryptedPacket Element is present this value **shall** be provided.

**tier** – A 12-bit value used by the SCTE 35 message provider to assign messages to authorization tiers. This field *may* take any value between 0x000 and 0xFFF. The value of 0xFFF provides backwards compatibility and **shall** be ignored by downstream equipment. When using tier, the message provider *should* keep the entire message in a single transport stream packet.

@tier [Optional, xsd:unsignedShort]

**splice\_command\_length** – a 12 bit length of the splice command. The length **shall** represent the number of bytes following the *splice\_command\_type* up to but not including the *descriptor\_loop\_length*. Devices that are compliant with this version of the standard **shall** populate this field with the actual length. The value of 0xFFF provides backwards compatibility and **shall** be ignored by downstream equipment.

There is no entry in the XML schema for splice\_command\_length. The value **shall** be derived when converting an XML representation of the splice\_info\_section to Bit Stream Format.

**splice\_command\_type** – An 8-bit unsigned integer which **shall** be assigned one of the values shown in column labeled splice\_command\_type value in Table 6.

There is no entry in the XML schema for splice\_command\_type. The value is implicit when transforming to or from an XML representation of the splice\_info\_section based on the specific command Element supplied. The Element names can be found in the XML Element column in Table 6.

**Table 6 - splice\_command\_type Values**

Command	splice_command_type value	XML Element
splice_null	0x00	SpliceNull
Reserved	0x01	
Reserved	0x02	

Command	splice_command_type value	XML Element
Reserved	0x03	
splice_schedule	0x04	SpliceSchedule
splice_insert	0x05	SpliceInsert
time_signal	0x06	TimeSignal
bandwidth_reservation	0x07	BandwidthReservation
Reserved	0x08 - 0xfe	
private_command	0xff	PrivateCommand

**descriptor\_loop\_length** – A 16-bit unsigned integer specifying the number of bytes used in the splice descriptor loop immediately following.

There is no entry in the XML schema for descriptor\_loop\_length. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the splice\_info\_section to Bit Stream Format.

**alignment\_stuffing** – When encryption is used this field is a function of the particular encryption algorithm chosen. Since some encryption algorithms require a specific length for the encrypted data, it is necessary to allow the insertion of stuffing bytes. For example, DES requires a multiple of 8 bytes be present in order to encrypt to the end of the packet. This allows standard DES to be used, as opposed to requiring a special version of the encryption algorithm.

When encryption is not used, this field *shall not* be used to carry valid data but may be present.

There is no entry in the XML schema for alignment\_stuffing. The required data *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the splice\_info\_section to Bit Stream Format.

**E\_CRC\_32** – This is a 32-bit field that contains the CRC value that gives a zero output of the registers in the decoder defined in [MPEG Systems] after processing the entire decrypted portion of the splice\_info\_section. This field is intended to give an indication that the decryption was performed successfully. Hence the zero output is obtained following decryption and by processing the fields splice\_command\_type through E\_CRC\_32.

There is no entry in the XML schema for E\_CRC\_32. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the splice\_info\_section to Bit Stream Format.

**CRC\_32** – This is a 32-bit field that contains the CRC value that gives a zero output of the registers in the decoder defined in [MPEG Systems] after processing the entire splice\_info\_section, which includes the table\_id field through the CRC\_32 field. The processing of CRC\_32 *shall* occur prior to decryption of the encrypted fields and *shall* utilize the encrypted fields in their encrypted state.

There is no entry in the XML schema for CRC\_32. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the splice\_info\_section to Bit Stream Format.

### 9.3. Splice commands

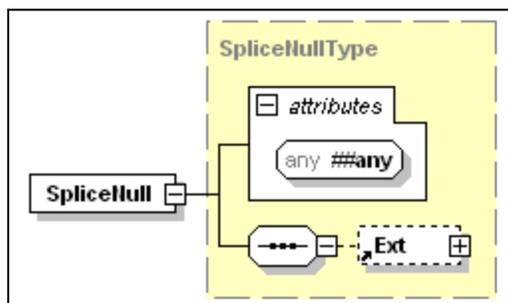
#### 9.3.1. splice\_null()

The splice\_null() command is provided for extensibility of the standard. The splice\_null() command allows a splice\_info\_table to be sent that can carry descriptors without having to send one of the other defined commands. This command *may* also be used as a “heartbeat message” for monitoring cue injection equipment integrity and link integrity.

**Table 7 - splice\_null()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
splice_null() { }		

The XML schema for splice\_null is shown in Figure 3.

**Figure 3 - SpliceNull**

### 9.3.2. splice\_schedule()

The `splice_schedule()` command is provided to allow a schedule of splice events to be conveyed in advance.

**Table 8 - splice\_schedule()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
splice_schedule() {		
<b>splice_count</b>	8	uimsbf
for (i=0; i<splice_count; i++) {		
<b>splice_event_id</b>	32	uimsbf
<b>splice_event_cancel_indicator</b>	1	bslbf
<b>reserved</b>	7	bslbf
if (splice_event_cancel_indicator == '0') {		
<b>out_of_network_indicator</b>	1	bslbf
<b>program_splice_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>duration_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>reserved</b>	5	bslbf
if (program_splice_flag == '1')		
<b>utc_splice_time</b>	32	uimsbf
if (program_splice_flag == '0') {		
<b>component_count</b>	8	uimsbf
for(j=0;j<component_count;j++) {		
<b>component_tag</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>utc_splice_time</b>	32	uimsbf
}		
}		
if (duration_flag)		
break_duration()		
<b>unique_program_id</b>	16	uimsbf
<b>avail_num</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>avails_expected</b>	8	uimsbf
}		
}		

The XML schema for splice\_schedule is shown in Figure 4.

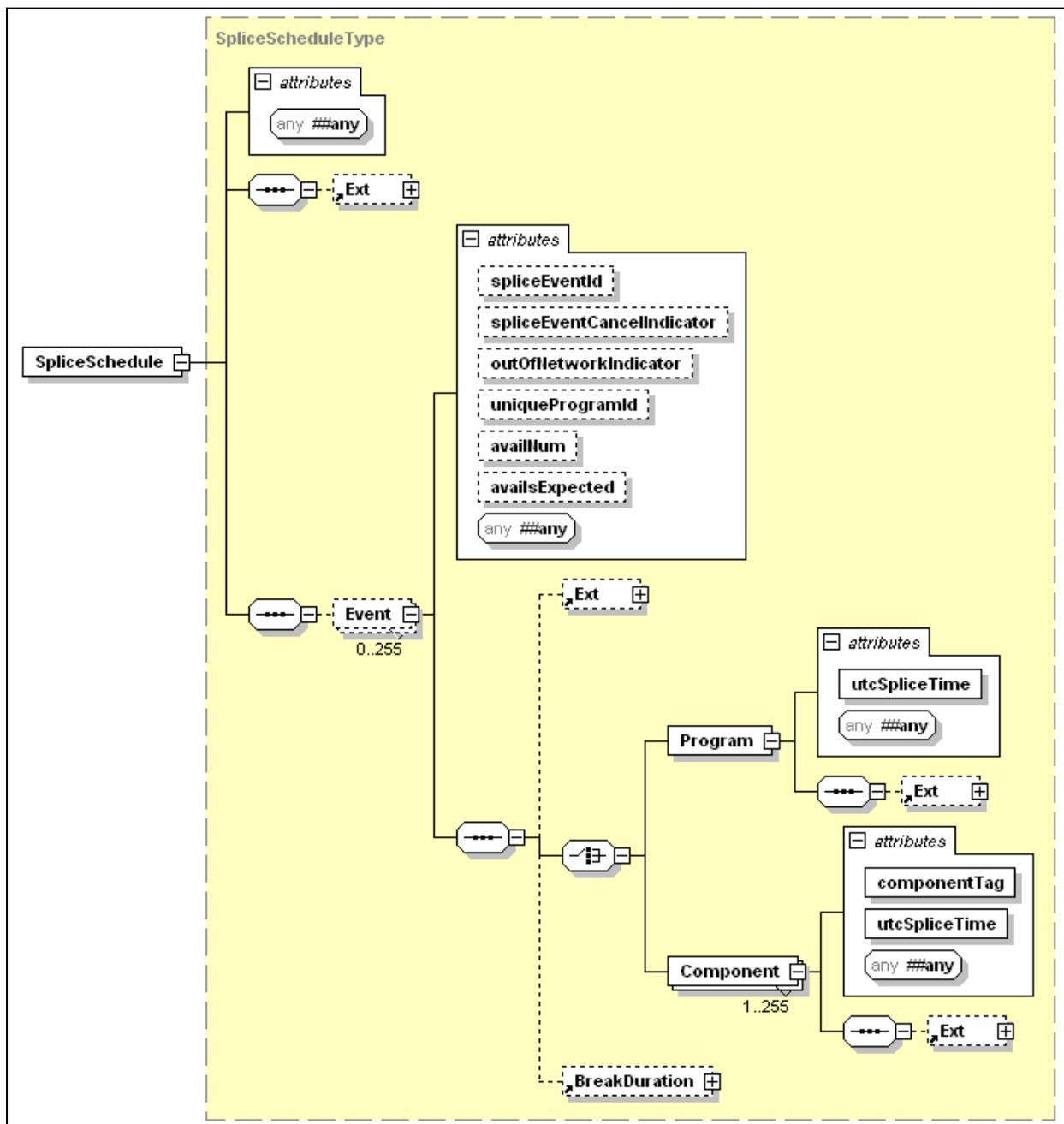


Figure 4 - SpliceSchedule

9.3.2.1. Semantic definition of fields in splice\_schedule()

**splice\_count** – An 8-bit unsigned integer that indicates the number of splice events specified in the loop that follows.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `splice_count`. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the `splice_schedule` to Bit Stream Format. `splice_count` *shall* be set to the count of Event Elements supplied in the XML document.

**splice\_event\_id** – A 32-bit unique splice event identifier.

@spliceEventId [Optional, xsd:unsignedInt]

**splice\_event\_cancel\_indicator** – A 1-bit flag that when set to ‘1’ indicates that a previously sent splice event, identified by `splice_event_id`, has been cancelled.

@spliceEventCancelIndicator [Optional; xsd:boolean] A value of TRUE *shall* be equivalent to a value of ‘1’ and FALSE *shall* be equivalent to a value of ‘0’. If omitted, set `splice_event_cancel_indicator` to 0 when generating an SCTE 35 `splice_schedule` message.

**out\_of\_network\_indicator** – A 1-bit flag. When set to ‘1’, indicates that the splice event is an opportunity to exit from the network feed and that the value of `utc_splice_time` *shall* refer to an intended Out Point or Program Out Point. When set to ‘0’, the flag indicates that the splice event is an opportunity to return to the network feed and that the value of `utc_splice_time` *shall* refer to an intended In Point or Program In Point.

@outOfNetworkIndicator [Optional, xsd:boolean] A value of TRUE *shall* be equivalent to a value of ‘1’ for `out_of_network_indicator` in Bit Stream Format.

**program\_splice\_flag** – A 1-bit flag that, when set to ‘1’, indicates that the message refers to a Program Splice Point and that the mode is the Program Splice Mode whereby all PIDs/components of the program are to be spliced. When set to ‘0’, this field indicates that the mode is the Component Splice Mode whereby each component that is intended to be spliced will be listed separately by the syntax that follows.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `program_splice_flag`. The value of `program_splice_flag` *shall* be set to ‘1’ when converting an XML representation of the `splice_schedule` to Bit Stream Format if the Program Element in the Event Element is specified; otherwise, the value of `program_splice_flag` *shall* be set to ‘0’.

**duration\_flag** – A 1-bit flag that indicates the presence of the `break_duration()` field.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `duration_flag`. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the `splice_schedule` to Bit Stream Format. `duration_flag` *shall* be set to ‘1’ if a BreakDuration Element is supplied within the Event Element; otherwise, `duration_flag` *shall* be set to ‘0’. See section 9.4.2 for a description of the BreakDuration Element.

**utc\_splice\_time** – A 32-bit unsigned integer quantity representing the time of the signaled splice event as the number of seconds since 00 hours UTC, January 6th, 1980, with the count of intervening leap seconds included. The `utc_splice_time` *may* be converted to UTC without the use of the `GPS.UTC_offset` value provided by the System Time table. The `utc_splice_time` field is used only in the `splice_schedule()` command.

@utcSpliceTime [Required, xsd:dateTime] `utcSplice` time applies to both Program Splice Mode and Component Splice Mode.

**component\_count** – An 8-bit unsigned integer that specifies the number of instances of elementary PID stream data in the loop that follows. Components are equivalent to elementary PID streams. If `program_splice_flag == '0'` then the value of `component_count` *shall* be greater than or equal to 1.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `component_count`. For Component Splice Mode, the value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the `splice_schedule` to Bit Stream Format. `component_count` *shall* be set to the count of Component Elements supplied within the Event Element in the XML document.

**component\_tag** – An 8-bit value that identifies the elementary PID stream containing the Splice Point specified by the value of `splice_time()` that follows. The value *shall* be the same as the value used in the `stream_identification_descriptor()` to identify that elementary PID stream.

@componentTag [Required, xsd:unsignedByte]

**unique\_program\_id** – This value *should* provide a unique identification for a viewing event within the service. Note: See [SCTE 118-2] for guidance in setting values for this field.

@uniqueProgramId [Optional, xsd:unsignedShort]

**avail\_num** – (previously ‘avail’) This field provides an identification for a specific avail within one `unique_program_id`. This value is expected to increment with each new avail within a viewing event. This value is expected to reset to one for the first avail in a new viewing event. This field is expected to increment for each new avail. It *may* optionally carry a zero value to indicate its non-usage.

@availNum [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

**avails\_expected** – (previously ‘avail\_count’) This field provides a count of the expected number of individual avails within the current viewing event. When this field is zero, it indicates that the `avail_num` field has no meaning.

@availsExpected [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

### 9.3.3. *splice\_insert()*

The `splice_insert()` command *shall* be sent at least once for every splice event. Please reference section 6.3 for the use of this message.

Table 9 - splice\_insert()

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
splice_insert() {		
<b>splice_event_id</b>	32	uimsbf
<b>splice_event_cancel_indicator</b>	1	bslbf
<b>reserved</b>	7	bslbf
if(splice_event_cancel_indicator == '0') {		
<b>out_of_network_indicator</b>	1	bslbf
<b>program_splice_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>duration_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>splice_immediate_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>reserved</b>	4	bslbf
if((program_splice_flag == '1') && (splice_immediate_flag == '0'))		
splice_time()		
if(program_splice_flag == '0') {		
<b>component_count</b>	8	uimsbf
for(i=0;i<component_count;i++) {		
<b>component_tag</b>	8	uimsbf
if(splice_immediate_flag == '0')		
splice_time()		
}		
}		
if(duration_flag == '1')		
break_duration()		
<b>unique_program_id</b>	16	uimsbf
<b>avail_num</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>avails_expected</b>	8	uimsbf
}		
}		

The XML schema for splice\_insert is shown in Figure 5.

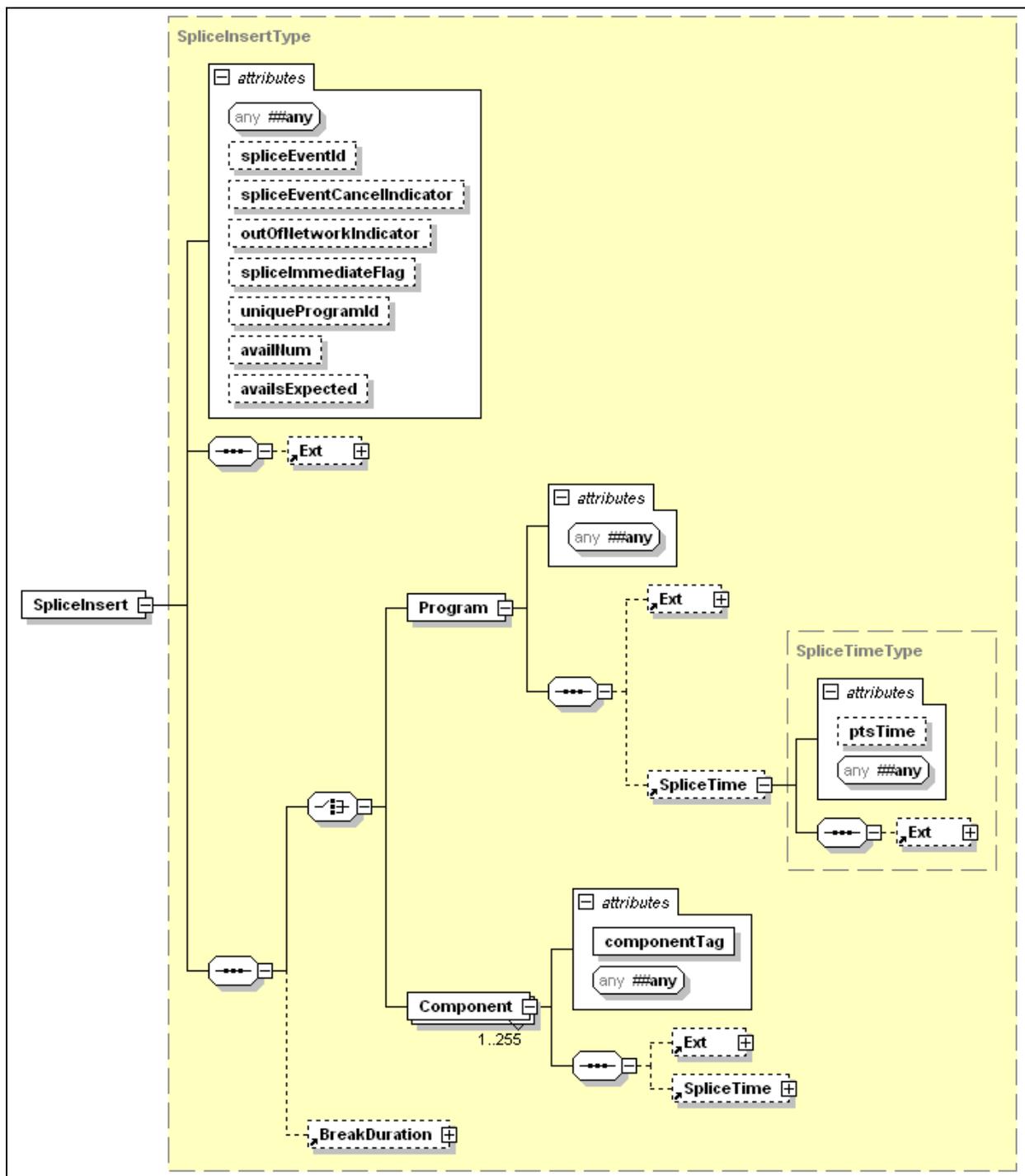


Figure 5 - SpliceInsert

9.3.3.1. Semantic definition of fields in splice\_insert()

**splice\_event\_id** – A 32-bit unique splice event identifier.

@spliceEventId [Optional; xsd:unsignedInt]

**splice\_event\_cancel\_indicator** – A 1-bit flag that when set to ‘1’ indicates that a previously sent splice event, identified by splice\_event\_id, has been cancelled.

@spliceEventCancelIndicator [Optional; xsd:boolean] A value of TRUE *shall* be equivalent to a value of ‘1’ and FALSE *shall* be equivalent to a value of ‘0’. If omitted, set splice\_event\_cancel\_indicator to 0 when generating an SCTE 35 splice\_insert message.

**out\_of\_network\_indicator** – A 1-bit flag. When set to ‘1’, indicates that the splice event is an opportunity to exit from the network feed and that the value of splice\_time(), as modified by pts\_adjustment, *shall* refer to an intended Out Point or Program Out Point. When set to ‘0’, the flag indicates that the splice event is an opportunity to return to the network feed and that the value of splice\_time(), as modified by pts\_adjustment, *shall* refer to an intended In Point or Program In Point.

@outOfNetworkIndicator [Optional; xsd:boolean]

**program\_splice\_flag** – A 1-bit flag that, when set to ‘1’, indicates that the message refers to a Program Splice Point and that the mode is the Program Splice Mode whereby all PIDs/components of the program are to be spliced. When set to ‘0’, this field indicates that the mode is the Component Splice Mode whereby each component that is intended to be spliced will be listed separately by the syntax that follows.

There is no entry in the XML schema for program\_splice\_flag. The value of program\_splice\_flag *shall* be set to ‘1’ when converting an XML representation of the splice\_insert to Bit Stream Format if the Program Element in the Event Element is specified; otherwise, the value of program\_splice\_flag *shall* be set to ‘0’.

**duration\_flag** – A 1-bit flag that, when set to ‘1’, indicates the presence of the break\_duration() field.

There is no entry in the XML schema for duration\_flag. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the splice\_insert to Bit Stream Format. duration\_flag *shall* be set to ‘1’ if a BreakDuration Element is supplied within the SpliceInsert Element; otherwise, duration\_flag *shall* be set to ‘0’. See section 9.4.2 for a description of the BreakDuration Element.

**splice\_immediate\_flag** – When this flag is ‘1’, it indicates the absence of the splice\_time() field and that the splice mode *shall* be the Splice Immediate Mode, whereby the splicing device *shall* choose the nearest opportunity in the stream, relative to the splice information packet, to splice. When this flag is ‘0’, it indicates the presence of the splice\_time() field in at least one location within the splice\_insert() command.

@spliceImmediateFlag [Optional; xsd:boolean]

**component\_count** – An 8-bit unsigned integer that specifies the number of instances of elementary PID stream data in the loop that follows. Components are equivalent to elementary PID streams. If program\_splice\_flag == ‘0’ then the value of component\_count *shall* be greater than or equal to 1.

There is no entry in the XML schema for component\_count. For Component Splice Mode, the value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the splice\_insert to Bit Stream Format. component\_count *shall* be set to the count of Component Elements supplied within the SpliceInsert Element in the XML document.

**component\_tag** – An 8-bit value that identifies the elementary PID stream containing the Splice Point specified by the value of splice\_time() that follows. The value *shall* be the same as the value used in the stream\_identification\_descriptor() to identify that elementary PID stream.

@componentTag [Required, xsd:unsignedByte]

**unique\_program\_id** – This value *should* provide a unique identification for a viewing event within the service. Note: See [SCTE 118-2] for guidance in setting values for this field.

@uniqueProgramId [Optional; xsd:unsignedShort]

**avail\_num** – (previously ‘avail’) This field provides an identification for a specific avail within one unique\_program\_id. This value is expected to increment with each new avail within a viewing event. This value is expected to reset to one for the first avail in a new viewing event. This field is expected to increment for each new avail. It *may* optionally carry a zero value to indicate its non-usage.

@availNum [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

**avails\_expected** – (previously ‘avail\_count’) This field provides a count of the expected number of individual avails within the current viewing event. When this field is zero, it indicates that the avail field has no meaning.

@availsExpected [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

### 9.3.4. time\_signal()

The time\_signal() provides a time synchronized data delivery mechanism. The syntax of the time\_signal() allows for the synchronization of the information carried in this message with the System Time Clock (STC). The unique payload of the message is carried in the descriptor, however the syntax and transport capabilities afforded to splice\_insert() messages are also afforded to the time\_signal(). The carriage however can be in a different PID than that carrying the other cue messages used for signaling splice points.

If the time\_specified\_flag is set to 0, indicating no pts\_time in the message, then the command *shall* be interpreted as an immediate command. It must be understood that using it in this manner will cause an unspecified amount of accuracy error.

Since the time\_signal() command utilizes descriptors for most of the specific information, this command could exceed one MPEG transport packet in length. It is strongly recommended to keep this command to one packet if possible. This *may* not always be possible in situations, for example, where the unique information is long or where another specification is used for the definition of this unique information.

**Table 10 - time\_signal()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
time_signal() { splice_time() }		

The XML schema for time\_signal is shown in Figure 6.

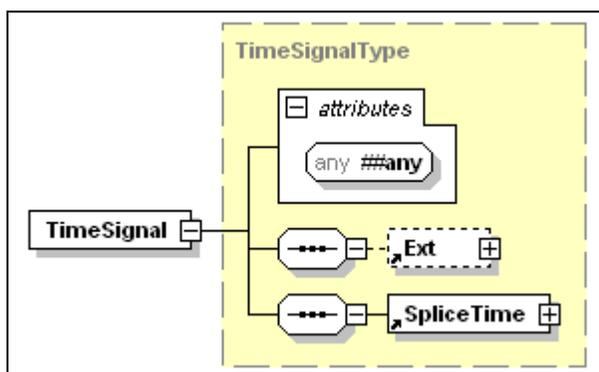


Figure 6 - TimeSignal

**9.3.4.1. Semantic definition of time\_signal()**

The time\_signal() provides a uniform method of associating a pts\_time sample with an arbitrary descriptor (or descriptors) as provided by the splice\_info\_section syntax (see Table 5). Please refer to section 10 for Splice Descriptors.

**9.3.5. bandwidth\_reservation()**

The bandwidth\_reservation() command is provided for reserving bandwidth in a multiplex. A typical usage would be in a satellite delivery system that requires packets of a certain PID to always be present at the intended repetition rate to guarantee a certain bandwidth for that PID. This message differs from a splice\_null() command so that it can easily be handled in a unique way by receiving equipment (i.e. removed from the multiplex by a satellite receiver). If a descriptor is sent with this command, it can not be expected that it will be carried through the entire transmission chain and it *should* be a private descriptor that is utilized only by the bandwidth reservation process.

Table 11 - bandwidth\_reservation()

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
bandwidth_reservation() { }		

The XML schema for bandwidth\_reservation is shown in Figure 7.

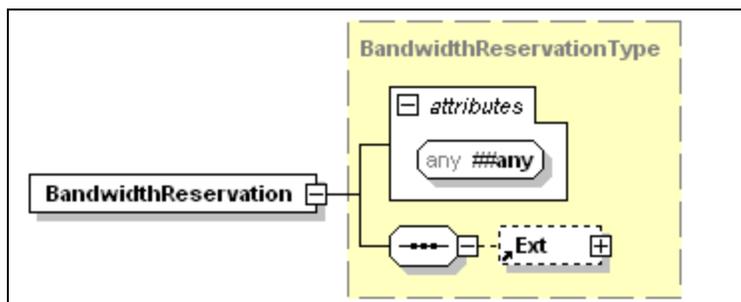


Figure 7 – BandwidthReservation

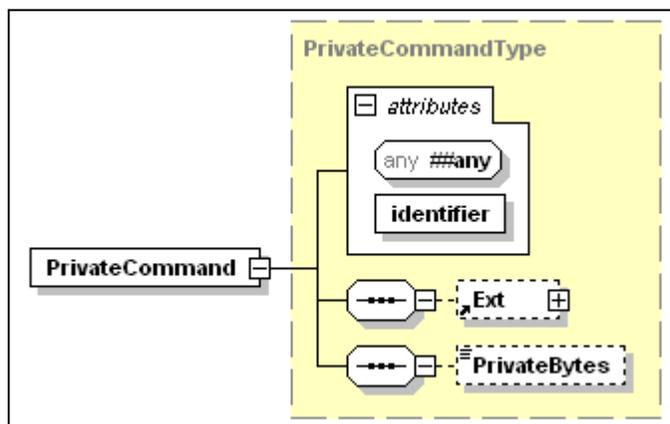
### 9.3.6. *private\_command()*

The *private\_command()* structure provides a means to distribute user-defined commands using the SCTE 35 protocol. The first bit field in each user-defined command is a 32-bit identifier, unique for each participating vendor. Receiving equipment *should* skip any *splice\_info\_section()* messages containing *private\_command()* structures with unknown identifiers.

**Table 12 - *private\_command()***

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
<code>private_command() {</code>		
<b>identifier</b>	32	uimsbf
for(i=0; i<N; i++) {		
<b>private_byte</b>	8	uimsbf
}		
}		

The XML schema for *private\_command* is shown in Figure 8.



**Figure 8 - PrivateCommand**

**identifier** - The identifier is a 32-bit field as defined in ISO/IEC 13818-1 [MPEG Systems] , section 2.6.8 and 2.6.9, for the *registration\_descriptor()* *format\_identifier*. Only identifier values registered and recognized by SMPTE Registration Authority, LLC *should* be used (See [SMPTE RA]). Its use in the *private\_command()* structure *shall* scope and identify only the private information contained within this command. This 32 bit number is used to identify the owner of the command.

@identifier [Optional; xsd:unsignedInt]

**private\_byte** - The remainder of the descriptor is dedicated to data fields as required by the descriptor being defined.

PrivateBytes [Optional; xsd:hexBinary] If present, the PrivateBytes *shall* contain the hex binary representation of the private data.

Private means for communicating detailed vendor-unique ancillary information *should* be the only use of such data, and it *shall not* provide the same result as a standardized command.

## 9.4. Time

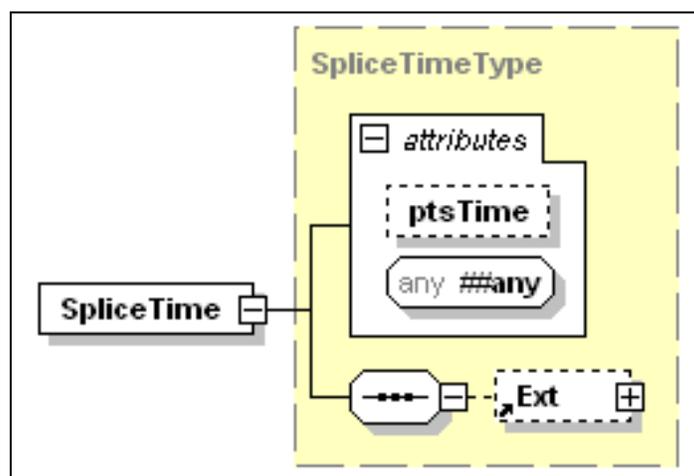
### 9.4.1. splice\_time()

The splice\_time() structure, when modified by pts\_adjustment, specifies the time of the splice event.

**Table 13 - splice\_time()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
splice_time() {		
<b>time_specified_flag</b>	1	bslbf
if(time_specified_flag == 1) {		
<b>reserved</b>	6	bslbf
<b>pts_time</b>	33	uimsbf
}		
else		
<b>reserved</b>	7	bslbf
}		

The XML schema for splice\_time() is shown in Figure 9.



**Figure 9 - SpliceTime**

#### 9.4.1.1. Semantic definition of fields in splice\_time()

**time\_specified\_flag** – A 1-bit flag that, when set to ‘1’, indicates the presence of the pts\_time field and associated reserved bits.

There is no entry in the XML schema for time\_specified\_flag. The value of time\_specified\_flag *shall* be set to ‘1’ when converting an XML representation of the splice\_insert to Bit Stream Format if the ptsTime attribute is present in the SpliceTime Element; otherwise, the value of time\_specified\_flag *shall* be set to ‘0’.

**pts\_time** – A 33-bit field that indicates time in terms of ticks of the program’s 90 kHz clock. This field, when modified by pts\_adjustment, represents the time of the intended splice point.

@ptsTime [Optional; PTSType] See section 13.2 for a description of PTSType.

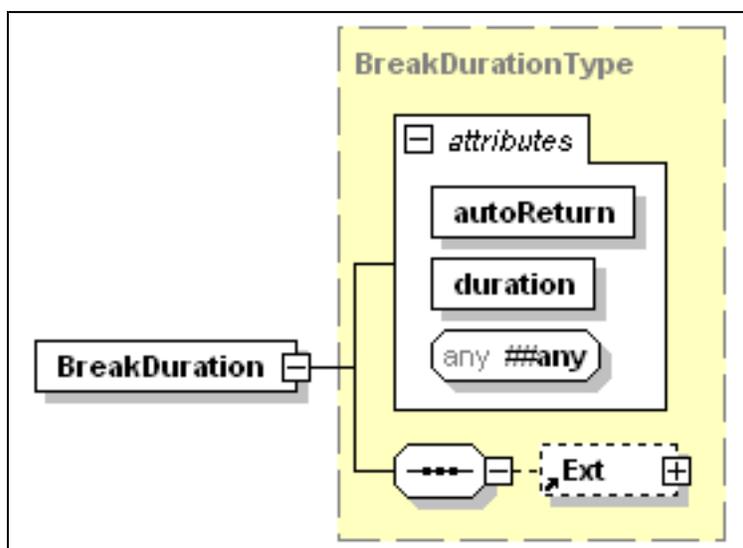
### 9.4.2. *break\_duration()*

The *break\_duration()* structure specifies the duration of the commercial break(s). It *may* be used to give the splicer an indication of when the break will be over and when the network In Point will occur.

**Table 14 - *break\_duration()***

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
<code>break_duration() {</code>		
<b>auto_return</b>	1	bslbf
<b>reserved</b>	6	bslbf
<b>duration</b>	33	uimsbf
<code>}</code>		

The XML schema for *break\_duration()* is shown in Figure 10



**Figure 10 - BreakDuration**

#### 9.4.2.1. *Semantic definition of fields in break\_duration()*

**auto\_return** – A 1-bit flag that, when set to ‘1’, denotes that the duration *shall* be used by the splicing device to know when the return to the network feed (end of break) is to take place. A splice\_insert() command with out\_of\_network\_indicator set to 0 is not intended to be sent to end this break. When this flag is ‘0’, the duration field, if present, is not required to end the break because a new splice\_insert() command will be sent to end the break. In this case, the presence of the break\_duration field acts as a safety mechanism in the event that a splice\_insert() command is lost at the end of a break.

@autoReturn [Required; xsd:boolean]

**duration** – A 33-bit field that indicates elapsed time in terms of ticks of the program’s 90 kHz clock.

@duration [Required; PTSType] See Section 13.2 for a description of PTSType.

## 9.5. Constraints

### 9.5.1. Constraints on splice\_info\_section()

The splice\_info\_section *shall* be carried in one or more PID stream(s) that are specific to a program and referred to in the PMT. The splice\_info\_section PID(s) *shall* be identified in the PMT by stream\_type equal to 0x86.

The splice\_info\_section carried in one or more PID stream(s) referenced in a program's PMT *shall* contain only information about splice events that occur in that program.

A splice event *shall* be defined by a single value of splice\_event\_id.

If the Component Splice Mode will be used, then each elementary PID stream *shall* be identified by a stream\_identifier\_descriptor carried in the PMT loop, one for each PID. The stream\_identifier\_descriptor *shall* carry a component\_tag, which uniquely corresponds to one PID stream among those contained within a program and listed in the PMT for that program.

Any splice\_event\_id that is sent in a splice\_info\_section using a splice\_schedule() command *shall* be sent again prior to the event using a splice\_insert() command. Hence, there *shall* be a correspondence between the splice\_event\_id values chosen for particular events signaled by the splice\_schedule() command (distant future) and splice\_event\_id values utilized in the splice\_insert() command (near future) to indicate the same events.

Splice\_event\_id values do not need to be sent in an incrementing order in subsequent messages nor must they increment chronologically. Splice\_event\_id values *may* be chosen at random. When utilizing the splice\_schedule() command, splice\_event\_id values *shall* be unique over the period of the splice\_schedule() command. A splice\_event\_id value *may* be re-used when its associated splice time has passed.

When the splice\_immediate\_flag is set to 1, the time to splice *shall* be interpreted as the current time. This is called the "Splice Immediate Mode". When this form is used with the splice\_insert() command, the splice *may* occur at the nearest (prior or subsequent) opportunity that is detected by the splicer. The "Splice Immediate Mode" *may* be used for both splicing entry and exit points, i.e. for both states of out\_of\_network\_indicator.

It *shall* be allowed that any avail *may* be ended with a Program Splice Mode message, a Component Splice Mode message or no message (whereby the break\_duration is reached) regardless of the nature of the message at the beginning of the avail.

### 9.5.2. Constraints on the interpretation of time

#### 9.5.2.1. Constraints on splice\_time() for splice\_insert()

For splice\_command\_type equal to 0x05 (splice\_insert()) the following constraints on splice\_time() *shall* apply:

At least one message for a network Out Point *shall* arrive at least 4 seconds in advance of the signaled splice time (pts\_time as modified by pts\_adjustment) if the time is specified. A Splice Immediate Mode message is allowed for a network Out Point, but the actual splice time is not defined and it is recommended that Splice Immediate Mode messages only be used for the early termination of breaks.

When non-Splice Immediate Mode cue messages are used for network In Points, the cue message *shall* arrive at the splicer before the arrival of the signaled In Point picture at the receiver.

An Out Point lies between two presentation units. The intended Out Point of a signaled splice event *shall* be the Out Point that is immediately prior to the presentation unit whose presentation time most closely matches the signaled pts\_time as modified by pts\_adjustment.

An In Point lies between two presentation units. The intended In Point of a signaled splice event *shall* be the In Point that is immediately prior to the presentation unit whose presentation time most closely matches the signaled pts\_time as modified by pts\_adjustment.

When the Component Splice Mode is in effect and the out\_of\_network\_indicator is '1' (the beginning of a break), each component listed in the splice\_insert() component loop *shall* be switched from the network component to the splicer supplied component at the time indicated. Components not listed in the component loop of the message will remain unchanged: if a splicer output component was the network component then it will remain the network component; if a splicer output component was the splicer supplied component then it will remain the splicer supplied component.

When the Component Splice Mode is in effect and the out\_of\_network\_indicator is '0' (the end of a break), each component listed in the splice\_insert() component loop *shall* be switched from the splicer supplied component to the network component at the time indicated. Components not listed in the component loop of the message will remain unchanged: if a splicer output component was the network component then it will remain the network component; if a splicer output component was the splicer supplied component then it will remain the splicer supplied component.

When the Component Splice Mode is in effect and the Splice Immediate Mode is not in effect, the first component listed in the component loop of the splice\_insert() command *shall* have a valid pts\_time in its associated splice\_time() and this pts\_time is referred to as the default pts\_time. Subsequent components listed in the component loop of the same message, which don't have an associated pts\_time, *shall* utilize this default pts\_time. It *shall* be allowed that any and all components following the first listed component of a splice\_insert() command *may* contain a unique pts\_time that is different from the default pts\_time.

In the Component Splice Mode, all pts\_time values given in the splice\_insert component loop *shall* be modified by the pts\_adjustment field to obtain each intended value for the signaled Out Point or In Point. The pts\_adjustment, provided by any device that generates or modifies a pts\_adjustment field value, *shall* apply to all pts\_time fields in the message.

#### **9.5.2.2. Constraints on break\_duration() for splice\_insert()**

For splice\_command\_type equal to 0x05 (insert) the following constraints on break\_duration() *shall* apply:

The value given in break\_duration() is interpreted as the intended duration of the commercial break. It is an optional field to be used when the out\_of\_network\_indicator equals 1. It *may* be used in the same splice\_insert() command that specifies the start time of the break, so that the splicer can calculate the time when the break will be over.

Breaks *may* be terminated by issuing a splice\_insert() command with out\_of\_network\_indicator set to 0. A splice\_time() *may* be given or the Splice Immediate Mode *may* be used. When a break\_duration was given at the start of the break (where the auto\_return was set to zero), the break\_duration value *may* be utilized as a backup mechanism for insuring that a return to the network actually happens in the event of a lost cueing packet.

Breaks *may* also be terminated by giving a break duration at the beginning of a break and relying on the splicing device to return to the network feed at the proper time. The auto\_return flag *shall* be 1. This will be referred to as the Auto Return Mode. Auto Return Mode breaks do not require and do not disallow cue messages at the end of the break with out\_of\_network\_indicator set to 0. Hence a receiving device *should not* expect a cue message at the end of a break in order to function properly. Auto Return Mode breaks *may* however be terminated early. To end the break prematurely a second splice\_insert() command *may* be given, where the out\_of\_network\_indicator equals 0. The new time of the back to network splice *may* be given by an updated splice\_time(), or the Splice Immediate Mode message *may* be used. A cue message with out\_of\_network\_indicator set to 0 *shall* always override the duration field of a previous cue message (with out\_of\_network\_indicator set to 1) if that break's signaled duration is still under way.

## 10. Splice Descriptors

### 10.1. Overview

The splice\_descriptor is a prototype for adding new fields to the splice\_info\_section. All descriptors included use the same syntax for the first six bytes. In order to allow private information to be added we have included the 'identifier' code. This removes the need for a registration descriptor in the descriptor loop.

Any receiving equipment *should* skip any descriptors with unknown identifiers or unknown descriptor tags. For descriptors with known identifiers, the receiving equipment *should* skip descriptors with an unknown splice\_descriptor\_tag.

Splice descriptors *may* exist in the splice\_info\_section for extensions specific to the various commands.

Table 15 lists the defined Splice Descriptor Tags. Both the tag values that *shall* be used for Bit Stream Format as well as the XML Element that *shall* be used to identify each specific Splice Descriptor are listed.

Implementers note: Multiple descriptors of the same or different types in a single command are allowed and *may* be common. One case of multiple segmentation\_descriptors is described in Section 10.3.3.2. The only limit on the number of descriptors is the section\_length in Table 5, although there *may* be other practical or implementation limits.

**Table 15 - Splice Descriptor Tags**

Tag	XML Element	Descriptors for Identifier "CUEF"
0x00	AvailDescriptor	avail_descriptor
0x01	DTMFDescriptor	DTMF_descriptor
0x02	SegmentationDescriptor	segmentation_descriptor
0x03	TimeDescriptor	time_descriptor
0x04 – 0xFF		Reserved for future SCTE splice_descriptors

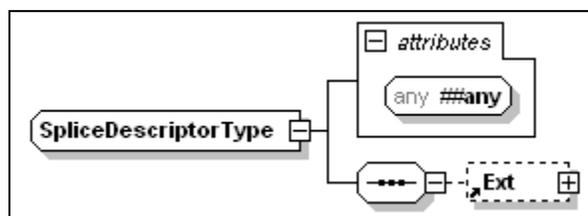
### 10.2. Splice descriptor

The Splice Descriptor syntax provided in this section is to be used as a template for specific implementations of a descriptor intended for the splice\_info\_section. It *should* be noted that splice descriptors are only used within a splice\_info\_section. They are not to be used within MPEG syntax, such as the PMT, or in the syntax of any other standard. This allows one to draw on the entire range of descriptor tags when defining new descriptors.

**Table 16 - splice\_descriptor()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
splice_descriptor() {		
<b>splice_descriptor_tag</b>	8	uimbsf
<b>descriptor_length</b>	8	uimbsf
<b>identifier</b>	32	uimbsf
for(i=0; i<N; i++) {		
<b>private_byte</b>	8	uimbsf
}		
}		

The XML schema base type for all Splice Descriptors is SpliceDescriptorType. The XML schema for the SpliceDescriptorType base type is shown in Figure 11. The optional extension element is the only element defined within the base type.

**Figure 11 - SpliceDescriptorType**

### 10.2.1. Semantic definition of fields in splice\_descriptor()

**splice\_descriptor\_tag** - This 8 bit number defines the syntax for the private bytes that make up the body of this descriptor. The descriptor tags are defined by the owner of the descriptor, as registered using the identifier.

There is no entry in the XML schema for splice\_descriptor\_tag. The value is implicit when transforming to or from an XML representation of the splice\_descriptor() based on the specific descriptor Element supplied. The Element names can be found in the XML Element in Table 15.

**descriptor\_length** - This 8 bit number gives the length, in bytes, of the descriptor following this field. Descriptors are limited to 256 bytes, so this value is limited to 254.

There is no entry in the XML schema for descriptor\_length. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the specific splice\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format.

**identifier** - The identifier is a 32-bit field as defined in ISO/IEC 13818-1 [MPEG Systems] , section 2.6.8 and 2.6.9, for the registration\_descriptor() format\_identifier. Only identifier values registered and recognized by SMPTE Registration Authority, LLC *should* be used (See [SMPTE RA]). Its use in this descriptor *shall* scope and identify only the private information contained within this descriptor. This 32 bit number is used to identify the owner of the descriptor. The code 0x43554549 (ASCII “CUEI”) for descriptors defined in this specification has been registered with SMPTE.

There is no entry in the XML schema for identifier.

**private\_byte** - The remainder of the descriptor is dedicated to data fields as required by the descriptor being defined.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `private_byte`.

### 10.3. Specific splice descriptors

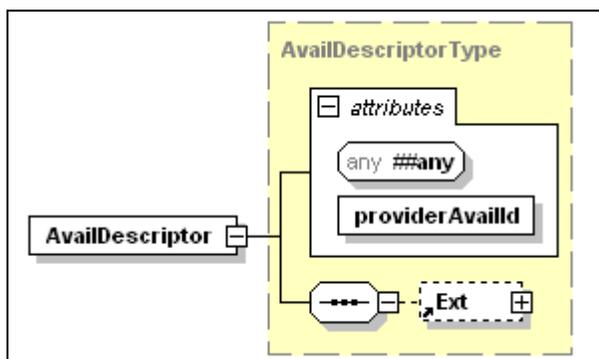
#### 10.3.1. `avail_descriptor()`

The `avail_descriptor` is an implementation of a `splice_descriptor`. It provides an optional extension to the `splice_insert()` command that allows an authorization identifier to be sent for an `avail`. Multiple copies of this descriptor *may* be included by using the loop mechanism provided. This identifier is intended to replicate the functionality of the cue tone system used in analog systems for ad insertion. This descriptor is intended only for use with a `splice_insert()` command, within a `splice_info_section`.

**Table 17 - `avail_descriptor()`**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
<code>avail_descriptor() {</code>		
<b><code>splice_descriptor_tag</code></b>	8	uimsbf
<b><code>descriptor_length</code></b>	8	uimsbf
<b><code>identifier</code></b>	32	uimsbf
<b><code>provider_avail_id</code></b>	32	uimsbf
<code>}</code>		

The XML schema for `avail_descriptor()` is shown in Figure 12.



**Figure 12 - AvailDescriptor**

##### 10.3.1.1. Semantic definition of fields in `avail_descriptor()`

**`splice_descriptor_tag`** - This 8-bit number defines the syntax for the private bytes that make up the body of this descriptor. The `splice_descriptor_tag` *shall* have a value of 0x00.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `splice_descriptor_tag`. The value is set to 0x00 when transforming from an XML representation of the `avail_descriptor()` to Bit Stream Format.

**`descriptor_length`** - This 8-bit number gives the length, in bytes, of the descriptor following this field. The `descriptor_length` field *shall* have a value of 0x08.

There is no entry in the XML schema for `descriptor_length`. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the `avail_descriptor()` to Bit Stream Format.

**identifier** - This 32-bit number is used to identify the owner of the descriptor. The identifier *shall* have a value of 0x43554549 (ASCII “CUEI”).

There is no entry in the XML schema for identifier.

**provider\_avail\_id** - This 32-bit number provides information that a receiving device *may* utilize to alter its behavior during or outside of an avail. It *may* be used in a manner similar to analog cue tones. An example would be a network directing an affiliate or a headend to black out a sporting event.

@providerAvailId [Required; xsd:unsignedInt]

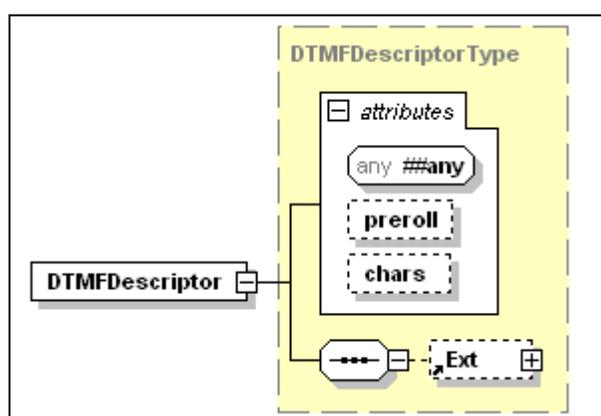
### 10.3.2. DTMF\_descriptor()

The DTMF\_descriptor() is an implementation of a splice\_descriptor. It provides an optional extension to the splice\_insert() command that allows a receiver device to generate a legacy analog DTMF sequence based on a splice\_info\_section being received.

**Table 18 - DTMF\_descriptor()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
DTMF_descriptor() {		
<b>splice_descriptor_tag</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>descriptor_length</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>identifier</b>	32	uimsbf
<b>preroll</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>dtmf_count</b>	3	uimsbf
<b>reserved</b>	5	bslbf
for(i=0; i<dtmf_count; i++) {		
<b>DTMF_char</b>	8	uimsbf
}		
}		

The XML schema for DTMF\_descriptor() is shown in Figure 13.



**Figure 13 - DTMFDescriptor**

### 10.3.2.1. Semantic definition of fields in DTMF\_descriptor()

**splice\_descriptor\_tag** - This 8-bit number defines the syntax for the private bytes that make up the body of this descriptor. The splice\_descriptor\_tag *shall* have a value of 0x01.

There is no entry in the XML schema for splice\_descriptor\_tag. The value is set to 0x01 when transforming from an XML representation of the DTMF\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format.

**descriptor\_length** - This 8-bit number gives the length, in bytes, of the descriptor following this field.

There is no entry in the XML schema for descriptor\_length. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the avail\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format.

**identifier** - This 32-bit number is used to identify the owner of the descriptor. The identifier *shall* have a value of 0x43554549 (ASCII “CUEI”).

There is no entry in the XML schema for identifier.

**preroll** - This 8-bit number is the time the DTMF is presented to the analog output of the device in tenths of seconds. This gives a preroll range of 0 to 25.5 seconds. The splice info section *shall* be sent at least two seconds earlier than this value. The minimum suggested preroll is 4.0 seconds.

@preroll [Optional; xsd:unsignedByte]

**dtmf\_count** - This value of this flag is the number of DTMF characters the device is to generate.

There is no entry in the XML schema for dtmf\_count. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the avail\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format based on the number of chars in @chars.

**DTMF\_char** - This is an ASCII value for the numerals ‘0’ to ‘9’, ‘\*’, ‘#’. The device *shall* use these values to generate a DTMF sequence to be output on an analog output. The sequence *shall* complete with the last character sent being the timing mark for the preroll.

@chars [Optional; xsd:token]

### 10.3.3. Segmentation\_descriptor()

The segmentation\_descriptor() is an implementation of a splice\_descriptor(). It provides an optional extension to the time\_signal() and splice\_insert() commands that allows for segmentation messages to be sent in a time/video accurate method. This descriptor *shall* only be used with the time\_signal(), splice\_insert() and the splice\_null() commands. The time\_signal() or splice\_insert() message *should* be sent at least once a minimum of 4 seconds in advance of the signaled splice\_time() to permit the insertion device to place the splice\_info\_section() accurately.

Devices that do not recognize a value in any field *shall* ignore the message and take no action.

**Table 19 - segmentation\_descriptor()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
segmentation_descriptor() {		
<b>splice_descriptor_tag</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>descriptor_length</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>identifier</b>	32	uimsbf
<b>segmentation_event_id</b>	32	uimsbf
<b>segmentation_event_cancel_indicator</b>	1	bslbf
<b>reserved</b>	7	bslbf
if(segmentation_event_cancel_indicator == '0') {		
<b>program_segmentation_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>segmentation_duration_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>delivery_not_restricted_flag</b>	1	bslbf
if(delivery_not_restricted_flag == '0') {		
<b>web_delivery_allowed_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>no_regional_blackout_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>archive_allowed_flag</b>	1	bslbf
<b>device_restrictions</b>	2	bslbf
} else {		
<b>reserved</b>	5	bslbf
}		
if(program_segmentation_flag == '0') {		
<b>component_count</b>	8	uimsbf
for(i=0;i<component_count;i++) {		
<b>component_tag</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>reserved</b>	7	bslbf
<b>pts_offset</b>	33	uimsbf
}		
}		
if(segmentation_duration_flag == '1')		
<b>segmentation_duration</b>	40	uimsbf
<b>segmentation_upid_type</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>segmentation_upid_length</b>	8	uimsbf
segmentation_upid()		
<b>segmentation_type_id</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>segment_num</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>segments_expected</b>	8	uimsbf
if(segmentation_type_id == '0X34'    segmentation_type_id == '0X36') {		
<b>sub_segment_num</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>sub_segments_expected</b>	8	uimsbf
}		
}		
}		

The XML schema representation of the Segmentation Descriptor is specified in Figure 14.

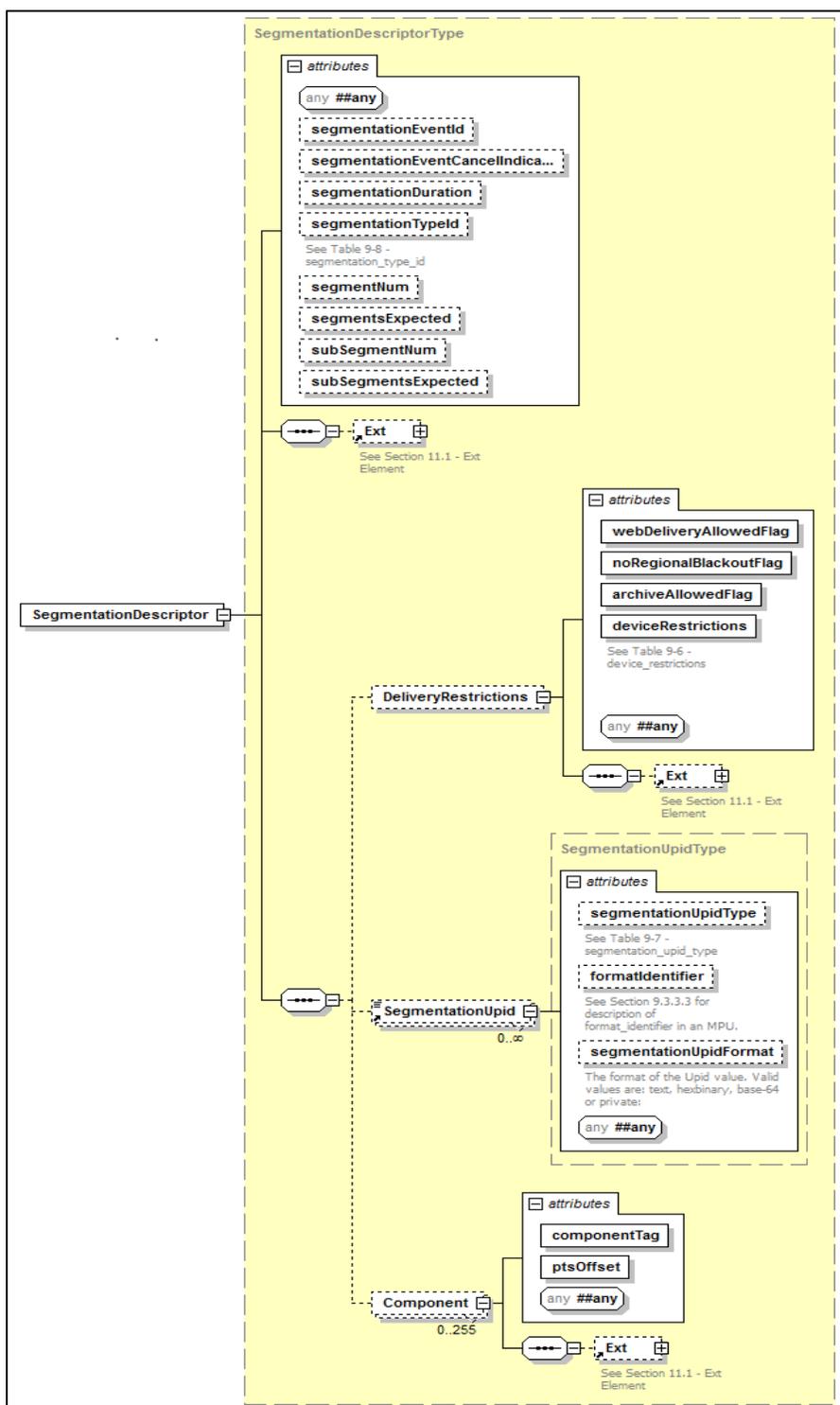


Figure 14 - SegmentationDescriptorType

### 10.3.3.1. Segmentation descriptor details

*Semantic definition of fields in segmentation\_descriptor() as shown.*

**splice\_descriptor\_tag** - This 8-bit number defines the syntax for the private bytes that make up the body of this descriptor. The splice\_descriptor\_tag *shall* have a value of 0x02.

There is no entry in the XML schema for splice\_descriptor\_tag. The value is set to 0x02 when transforming from an XML representation of the segmentation\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format.

**descriptor\_length** - This 8-bit number gives the length, in bytes, of the descriptor following this field.

There is no entry in the XML schema for descriptor\_length. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the segmentation\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format.

**identifier** - This 32-bit number is used to identify the owner of the descriptor. The identifier *shall* have a value of 0x43554549 (ASCII “CUEI”).

There is no entry in the XML schema for identifier.

**segmentation\_event\_id** - A 32-bit unique segmentation event identifier. Only one occurrence of a given segmentation\_event\_id value *shall* be active at any one time. See discussion in Section Segmenting Content - Additional semantics 10.3.3.5 (below).

@segmentation\_event\_id [Optional; xsd:unsignedInt]

**segmentation\_event\_cancel\_indicator** - A 1-bit flag that when set to ‘1’ indicates that a previously sent segmentation event, identified by segmentation\_event\_id, has been cancelled. The segmentation\_type\_id does not need to match between the original/cancelled segmentation event message and the message with the segmentation\_event\_cancel\_indicator true. Once a segmentation event is cancelled the segmentation\_event\_id *may* be reused for content identification or to start a new segment.

@segmentationEventCancelIndicator [Optional; xsd:Boolean] A value of TRUE *shall* be equivalent to a value of ‘1’ and FALSE *shall* be equivalent to a value of ‘0’. If omitted, set segmentation\_event\_cancel\_indicator to 0 when generating a segmentation\_descriptor().

**program\_segmentation\_flag** - A 1-bit flag that *should* be set to ‘1’ indicating that the message refers to a Program Segmentation Point and that the mode is the Program Segmentation Mode whereby all PIDs/components of the program are to be segmented. When set to ‘0’, this field indicates that the mode is the Component Segmentation Mode whereby each component that is intended to be segmented will be listed separately by the syntax that follows. The program\_segmentation\_flag can be set to different states during different descriptors messages within a program.

There is no entry in the XML schema for program\_segmentation\_flag. The value of program\_segmentation\_flag *shall* be set to ‘1’ when converting an XML representation of the segmentation\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format if there are no Component Elements present in the SegmentationDescriptor Element; otherwise, the value of program\_segmentation\_flag *shall* be set to ‘0’.

**segmentation\_duration\_flag** - A 1-bit flag that *should* be set to ‘1’ indicating the presence of segmentation\_duration field. The accuracy of the start time of this duration is constrained by the

splice\_command\_type specified. For example, if a splice\_null() command is specified the precise position in the stream is not deterministic.

There is no entry in the XML schema for segmentation\_duration\_flag. The value of segmentation\_duration\_flag *shall* be set to '1' when converting an XML representation of the segmentation\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format if the segmentationDuration Attribute is specified; otherwise, the value of segmentation\_duration\_flag *shall* be set to '0'.

**delivery\_not\_restricted\_flag** –When this bit has a value of '1' the next five bits are reserved. When this bit has the value of '0', the following additional information bits *shall* have the meanings defined below. This bit and the following five bits are provided to facilitate implementations that use methods that are out of scope of this standard to process and manage this segment.

There is no entry in the XML schema for delivery\_not\_restricted\_flag. The value of delivery\_not\_restricted\_flag *shall* be set to '0' when converting an XML representation of the segmentation\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format if the DeliveryRestrictions Element is specified; otherwise, the value of delivery\_not\_restricted\_flag *shall* be set to '1'.

**web\_delivery\_allowed\_flag** – This bit *shall* have the value of '1' when there are no restrictions with respect to web delivery of this segment. This bit *shall* have the value of '0' to signal that restrictions related to web delivery of this segment are asserted.

@webDeliveryAllowedFlag [Conditional Mandatory; xsd:boolean] The webDeliveryAllowedFlag *shall* be specified if the DeliveryRestrictions Element is specified.

**no\_regional\_blackout\_flag** –This bit *shall* have the value of '1' when there is no regional blackout of this segment. This bit *shall* have the value of '0' when this segment is restricted due to regional blackout rules.

@noRegionalBlackoutFlag [Conditional Mandatory; xsd:boolean] The noRegionalBlackoutFlag *shall* be specified if the DeliveryRestrictions Element is specified.

**archive\_allowed\_flag** –This bit *shall* have the value of '1' when there is no assertion about recording this segment. This bit *shall* have the value of 0 to signal that restrictions related to recording this segment are asserted.

@archiveAllowedFlag [Conditional Mandatory; xsd:boolean] The archiveAllowedFlag *shall* be specified if the DeliveryRestrictions Element is specified.

**device\_restrictions** – See Table 20 for the meaning of this syntax element. This field signals three pre-defined groups of devices. The population of each group is independent and the groups are non-hierarchical. The delivery and format of the messaging to define the devices contained in the groups is out of the scope of this standard.

**Table 20 - device\_restrictions**

Segmentation Message	device_restrictions
Restrict Group 0	00
Restrict Group 1	01
Restrict Group 2	10
None	11

**Restrict Group 0** – This segment is restricted for a class of devices defined by an out of band message that describes which devices are excluded.

**Restrict Group 1** – This segment is restricted for a class of devices defined by an out of band message that describes which devices are excluded.

**Restrict Group 2** – This segment is restricted for a class of devices defined by an out of band message that describes which devices are excluded.

**None** – This segment has no device restrictions.

@deviceRestrictions [Conditional Mandatory; xsd:unsignedByte] The deviceRestrictions *shall* be specified if the DeliveryRestrictions Element is specified.

**component\_count** - An 8-bit unsigned integer that specifies the number of instances of elementary PID stream data in the loop that follows. Components are equivalent to elementary PID streams. If program\_segmentation\_flag == '0' then the value of component\_count *shall* be greater than or equal to 1.

There is no entry in the XML schema for component\_count. For Component Splice Mode, the value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the segmentation\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format. component\_count *shall* be set to the count of Component Elements supplied within the SegmentationDescriptor Element in the XML document.

**component\_tag** - An 8-bit value that identifies the elementary PID stream containing the Segmentation Point specified by the value of splice\_time() that follows. The value *shall* be the same as the value used in the stream\_identification\_descriptor() to identify that elementary PID stream. The presence of this field from the component loop denotes the presence of this component of the asset.

@componentTag [Required, xsd:unsignedByte]

**pts\_offset** - A 33 bit unsigned integer that *shall* be used by a splicing device as an offset to be added to the pts\_time in the time\_signal() message to obtain the intended splice time(s). When this field has a zero value, then the pts\_time field(s) *shall* be used without an offset. If splice\_time() time\_specified\_flag = 0 or if the command this descriptor is carried with does not have a splice\_time() field, this field *shall* be used to offset the derived immediate splice time.

@ptsOffset [Required, PTSType] See Section 13.2.

**segmentation\_duration** - A 40 bit unsigned integer that specifies the duration of the segment in terms of ticks of the program's 90 kHz clock. It *may* be used to give the splicer an indication of when the segment will be over and when the next segmentation message will occur. *Shall* be 0 for end messages.

@segmentationDuration [Optional; xsd:unsignedLong]

**segmentation\_upid\_type** - A value from the following table. There are multiple types allowed to insure that programmers will be able to use an id that their systems support. It is expected that the consumers of these ids will have an out-of-band method of collecting other data related to these numbers and therefore they do not need to be of identical types. These ids *may* be in other descriptors in the program and, where the same identifier is used (ISAN for example), it *shall* match between programs.

**Table 21 - segmentation\_upid\_type**

segmentation_upid_type	segmentation_upid_length (Bytes)	segmentation_upid() (Name)	Description	Example Textual Representation
0x00	0	Not Used	The <b>segmentation_upid</b> is not defined and is not present in the descriptor.	
0x01	variable	User Defined	Deprecated: use type 0x0C; The <b>segmentation_upid</b> does not follow a standard naming scheme.	User Defined
0x02	8	ISCI	Deprecated: use type 0x03 8 characters; 4 alpha characters followed by 4 numbers.	ABCD1234
0x03	12	Ad-ID	Defined by the Advertising Digital Identification, LLC group. 12 characters; 4 alpha characters (company identification prefix) followed by 8 alphanumeric characters. (See [Ad Id])	ABCD0001000H [SMPTE 2092-1]
0x04	32	UMID	See [SMPTE 330M]	060A2B34.010101 05.01010D20.1300 0000.D2C9036C.8 F195343.AB7014 D2.D718BFDA
0x05	8	ISAN	Deprecated: use type 0x06 ISO 15706 binary encoding.	n/a
0x06	12	ISAN	Formerly known as V-ISAN. ISO 15706-2 binary encoding (“versioned” ISAN). See [ISO 15706-2 ].	0000-0001-2C52- 0000-P-0000- 0000-0
0x07	12	TID	Tribune Media Systems Program identifier. 12 characters; 2 alpha characters followed by 10 numbers.	MV0004146400
0x08	8	TI	AiringID (Formerly Turner ID) used to indicate a specific airing of a program that is unique within a network.	0x0A42235B81BC 70FC (expressed as hexadecimal)
0x09	variable	ADI	CableLabs metadata identifier as defined in Section 10.3.3.2.	provider.com/MO VE123456789012 3456

segmentation_upid_type	segmentation_upid_length (Bytes)	segmentation_upid() (Name)	Description	Example Textual Representation
0x0A	12	EIDR	An EIDR (see [EIDR]) represented in Compact Binary encoding as defined in Section 2.1.1 in EIDR ID Format (see [EIDR ID FORMAT])	Content: 10.5240/0E4F-892E-442F-6BD4-15B0-1 Video Service: 10.5239/C370-DCA5 [SMPTE 2079]
0x0B	variable	ATSC Content Identifier	ATSC_content_identifier() structure as defined in [ATSC A/57B].	Not Defined
0x0C	variable	MPU()	Managed Private UPID structure as defined in section 10.3.3.3.	User Defined
0x0D	variable	MID()	Multiple UPID types structure as defined in section 10.3.3.4.	See referenced UPID types
0x0E	variable	ADS Information	Advertising information. The specific usage is out of scope of this standard.	User Defined
0x0F	variable	URI	Universal Resource Identifier (see [RFC 3986]).	urn:uuid:f81d4fae-7dec-11d0-a765-00a0c91e6bf6
0x10-0xFF	variable	Reserved	Reserved for future standardization.	

**segmentation\_upid\_length** - Length in bytes of segmentation\_upid() as indicated by Table 21. If there is no segmentation\_upid () present segmentation\_upid\_length *shall* be set to zero.

There is no entry in the XML schema for segmentation\_upid\_length. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the SegmentationUpid to Bit Stream Format. In the case of UPID type MID(), this reflects the total length of nested UPID types structure. See Section 10.3.3.4. If there are no SegmentationUpid elements in an XML representation, segmentation\_upid\_length *shall* be set to zero in the Bit Stream Format.

**segmentation\_upid()** - Length and identification from Table 21 - segmentation\_upid\_type. This structure's contents and length are determined by the segmentation\_upid\_type and segmentation\_upid\_length fields. An example would be a type of 0x06 for ISAN and a length of 12 bytes. This field would then contain the ISAN identifier for the content to which this descriptor refers.

SegmentationUpid [Optional, xsd:SegmenationUpidType] Zero, one or more SegmentationUpid Elements *may* be specified. If multiple SegmentationUpid Elements are present in an XML representation, the MID() structure *shall* be generated per Section 10.3.3.4 See Section 11.4 for additional details on SegmentationUpidType.

**segmentation\_type\_id** - The 8 bit value *shall* contain one of the values in Table 22 to designate type of segmentation. All unused values are reserved. When the segmentation\_type\_id is 0x01 (Content Identification), the value of segmentation\_upid\_type *shall* be non-zero. If segmentation\_upid\_length is zero then segmentation\_type\_id *shall* be set to 0x00 for Not Indicated.

**Table 22 - segmentation\_type\_id**

Segmentation Message	Segmentation_type_id	segment_num	segments_expected	sub_segment_num	sub_segments_expected
Not Indicated	0x00	0	0	Not used	Not Used
Content Identification	0x01	0	0	Not used	Not Used
Program Start	0x10	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program End	0x11	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program Early Termination	0x12	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program Breakaway	0x13	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program Resumption	0x14	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program Runover Planned	0x15	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program Runover Unplanned	0x16	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program Overlap Start	0x17	1	1	Not used	Not Used
Program Blackout Override	0x18	0	0	Not used	Not Used
Program Start – In Progress	0x19	1	1	Not used	Not used
Chapter Start	0x20	Non-zero	Non-zero	Not used	Not Used
Chapter End	0x21	Non-zero	Non-zero	Not used	Not Used
Break Start	0x22	Non-zero	Non-zero	Not used	Not used
Break End	0x23	Not used	Not used	Not used	Not used
Provider Advertisement Start	0x30	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	Not used	Not Used
Provider Advertisement End	0x31	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	Not used	Not Used
Distributor Advertisement Start	0x32	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	Not used	Not Used
Distributor Advertisement End	0x33	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	Not used	Not Used
Provider Placement Opportunity Start	0x34	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero
Provider Placement Opportunity End	0x35	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	Not used	Not Used

Segmentation Message	Segmentation_type_id	segment_num	segments_expected	sub_segment_num	sub_segments_expected
Distributor Placement Opportunity Start	0x36	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero
Distributor Placement Opportunity End	0x37	0 or Non-zero	0 or Non-zero	Not used	Not Used
Unscheduled Event Start	0x40	0	0	Not used	Not Used
Unscheduled Event End	0x41	0	0	Not used	Not Used
Network Start	0x50	0	0	Not used	Not Used
Network End	0x51	0	0	Not used	Not Used

## Notes:

1. Only one Program Overlap Start is allowed to be active at a time. A Program End *shall* occur before a subsequent Program Overlap Start can occur.
2. See DVS 1196 for further usage of segmentation\_type\_id.

**segment\_num** - This field provides support for numbering segments within a given collection of segments (such as chapters, advertisements or placement opportunities). This value, when utilized, is expected to reset to one at the beginning of a collection of segments. This field is expected to increment for each new segment (such as a chapter). The value of this field *shall* be as indicated in Table 22.

@segmentNum [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

segments\_expected - This field provides a count of the expected number of individual segments (such as chapters) within a collection of segments. The value of this field *shall* be as indicated in Table 22.

@segmentsExpected [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

**sub\_segment\_num** – If specified, this field provides identification for a specific sub-segment within a collection of sub-segments. This value, when utilized, is expected to be set to one for the first sub-segment within a collection of sub-segments. This field is expected to increment by one for each new sub-segment within a given collection. If present, descriptor\_length *shall* include sub\_segment\_num in the byte count and serve as an indication to an implementation that sub\_segment\_num is present in the descriptor.

The value of this field *shall* be as indicated in Table 22. Any other usage of sub\_segment\_num beyond that defined in Table 22 is out of scope of this standard.

If sub\_segment\_num is provided, sub\_segments\_expected *shall* be provided.

@subSegmentNum [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

**sub\_segments\_expected** – If specified, this field provides a count of the expected number of individual sub-segments within the collection of sub-segments. If present, descriptor\_length *shall* include

sub\_segments\_expected in the byte count and serve as an indication to an implementation that sub\_segments\_expected is present in the descriptor.

The value of this field *shall* be as indicated in Table 22. Any other usage of sub\_segments\_expected beyond that defined in Table 22 is out of scope of this standard.

@subSegmentsExpected [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte]

### 10.3.3.2. Cablelabs metadata identifier

When the value of segmentation\_upid\_type is 0x09 (ADI), it *shall* have the abbreviated syntax of <element> : <identifier>. The variable <element> *shall* take only the values “PREVIEW”, “MPEG2HD”, “MPEG2SD”, “AVCHD”, “AVCSD”, “HEVCSD”, “HEVCHD”, “SIGNAL”, “PO” (PlacementOpportunity), “BLACKOUT” and “OTHER”.

For Cablelabs metadata 1.1 the variable <identifier> *shall* take the form <providerID>/<assetID>, the variables <providerID> and <assetID> *shall* be as specified in [CLADI1-1] Sections 5.3.1 for Movie or 5.5.1 for Preview represented as 7-bit printable ASCII characters (values ranging from 0x20 (space) to 0x7E (tilde)).

Cablelabs metadata 3.0 provides compatibility with this identifier model as described in [CL CONTENT] Section 6.11.1. For Cablelabs metadata 3.0 the variable <identifier> *shall* be a URI conforming to [RFC 3986].

Any specifics on the systems that will ingest and process this information are out of scope of this standard.

### 10.3.3.3. MPU() definition and semantics

Table 23 – MOU( )

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
MPU() { <b>format_identifier</b> <b>private_data</b> }	32 N*8	uimsbf uimsbf

**format\_identifier** – A 32-bit unique identifier as defined in ISO/IEC 13818-1 and registered with the SMPTE Registration Authority (See [SMPTE RA]).

**private\_data** – A variable length, byte-aligned, set of data as defined by the registered owner of the format\_identifier field value. The length is defined by the segmentation\_upid\_length, which includes the format\_identifier field length.

### 10.3.3.4. MID() definition and semantics

Table 24 – MID( )

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
MID() { for (i=0; i<N; i++) { <b>segmentation_upid_type</b> <b>length</b>	8 8	uimsbf uimsbf

} }	<b>segmentation_upid</b>	N*8	uimsbf
--------	--------------------------	-----	--------

**segmentation\_upid\_type** – As defined above.

**length** – segmentation\_upid\_length for the following segmentation\_upid.

**segmentation\_upid** – segmentation\_upid according to segmentation\_upid\_type as defined in Table 21.

Note: The number of segmentation\_upid’s present (“N”) is not explicitly signaled. It is discovered by repeatedly parsing the fields above until segmentation\_upid\_length is exhausted.

There is no structure in the XML schema for MID(). When converting an XML document to Bit Stream Format, the presence of two or more SegmentationUpid Elements *shall* result in a MID() structure being inserted into the bit stream.

### 10.3.3.5. Segmenting Content - Additional semantics

One use of this descriptor is to signal content Segments. Segments are expected to have a logical hierarchy consisting of programs (highest level), chapters, placement opportunities, and advertisements (refer to Table 22). Provider and Distributor advertisements share the lowest logical level and *should not* overlap.

For the purposes of defining the semantics stated in this document section, the following definition applies:

*Segment* - *shall* be either a *Program*, a *Chapter*, a *Provider Advertisement*, a *Distributor Advertisement*, or an *Unscheduled Event* as listed in Table 22, segmentation\_type\_id. Occurrences of the segmentation\_descriptor() that support Segments typically occur in pairs. The valid pairings are:

- Program start/end – Program end can be overridden by Program Early Termination
- Program Start – In Progress/end - Program end can be overridden by Program Early Termination
- Program breakaway/resumption
- Chapter start/end
- Provider advertisement start/end
- Distributor advertisement start/end
- Unscheduled\_event\_start/end

The following segmentation\_types (from Table 22) also support Segments but are not paired:

- Program Runover Planned
- Program Runover Unplanned

The following segmentation\_types (from Table 22) are outside of the scope of this document section. They are not considered to support Segments (Segmenting Content):

- Not Indicated
- Content Identification

Descriptors *should* normally be paired, once for a given Segment start and then for Segment end. Each Segment end usage *may* be followed by another Segment start of the same logical level Segment. Refer to Section 10.3.3.6(Programs), Section 10.3.3.7(Chapters) and Section 10.3.3.10(Placement Opportunities) for additional semantics. When a Segment's duration is provided, and that duration expires without a Segment end being signaled, then the value of **segmentation\_event\_id** *may* be reused if appropriate. Such inferred Segment end cases are not to be encouraged and *should not* be used.

In order to associate different types of segmentation constructs (such as associating Program level constructs with Chapter level constructs) the same segmentation\_upid()*may* be used in the associated constructs. This however is not required.

The semantics of the fields within the segmentation\_descriptor() for segmenting content are as follows (subject to additional constraints in other sections):

**segmentation\_event\_id** - When a Segment start is signaled, the segmentation\_event\_id value becomes active. While active this value *shall not* be used to identify other segmentation events. When a Segment end is signaled, the segmentation\_event\_id value *shall* match the segment start segmentation\_event\_id value and this value then becomes inactive and hence able to be used again for a new segmentation\_descriptor() occurrence including non-Segment usage such as Content Identification.

**program\_segmentation\_flag** - *shall* be set to '1'.

**segmentation\_duration\_flag** - If set to '1', a valid segmentation\_duration *shall* be included in the descriptor. If segmentation\_type\_id is set to 0x10 (Program Start) then this flag may be set to '0'.

**segment\_num** - *Shall* be set to non-zero values for Chapters ranging from one to the value of segments\_expected on the Chapter Start. For Program segments, this value *shall* be set to one on the Program Start or Program Start – In Progress. This field *may* be optionally utilized for Advertisements in the same manner as Chapters.

**segments\_expected** - *Shall* be set to a non-zero value on Chapter Start, Provider Advertisement Start, or Distributor Advertisement Start providing the number of starts in the program. For Program segments, this value *shall* be set to one. segments\_expected on Program End and Chapter End *shall* be set to 0 (zero).

**sub\_segment\_num** and **sub\_segments\_expected** *shall* only be specified on Placement Opportunity Start segments. See Section 10.3.3.10 for constraints specific to Placement Opportunity Start.

### 10.3.3.6. Programs - Additional semantics

When signaled, a Program *shall* begin with a segmentation\_descriptor() containing a **segmentation\_type\_id** value of 0x10 (Program Start). The Program *shall* utilize a single and unique value for **segmentation\_event\_id** in all descriptors that pertain to this Program. The usage of a **segmentation\_upid**( ) is optional but, if used, its value *shall* be uniquely assigned to this Program and not shared by Programs that are embedded within this Program. A Program *shall* end with a segmentation\_descriptor() containing a **segmentation\_type\_id** value of 0x11 (Program End) or 0x12 (Program Early Termination).

The following segmentation messages *shall* only occur between the Program Start and Program end (Program End or Program Early Termination): Program Breakaway (**segmentation\_type\_id** value of 0x13); Program Resumption (**segmentation\_type\_id** value of 0x14); Program Runover Planned (**segmentation\_type\_id** value of 0x15); or Program Runover Unplanned (**segmentation\_type\_id** value

of 0x16). A Program Resumption *may* only follow a Program Breakaway. A program *may* be ended while in a Program Breakaway state.

Following a Program Breakaway, another Program Start to Program End sequence *may* occur, with new values of **segmentation\_event\_id** and **segmentation\_upid()**. An entire embedded Program or Segments of an embedded Program *shall* be situated only between a Program Breakaway and a Program Resumption. Multiple instances of embedded Programs *may* occur. Note: Program Runover messages are asynchronous notifications and *may* occur at any time between the start and end of the program including within another embedded active program.

A Program Blackout Override (segmentation\_type\_id value of 0x18) *may* be sent between a program start (Program Start or Program Start – In Progress) and program end (Program End or Program Early Termination). When a Program Blackout Override is received, the Delivery Restrictions from the Program Blackout Override message *may* be applied to the referenced Program (see section 10.3.3.8 “Delivery Restrictions – Additional Semantics”).

If provided the segmentation\_duration is considered from the splice\_time() of the time\_signal command, if time is present, or from the time the message is received. The duration clock continues to increment during Program Breakaways. Segmentation\_duration can be extended using a Runover Planned or Runover Unplanned message. The value supplied in the new message is an update to the overall duration of the program and represents the elapsed time from the effective moment of the new message to the end of the segment. It is not an addition of elapsed time. If segmentation\_duration is specified, when the duration is exceeded the program *shall* be considered terminated.

If at Program start a duration is not provided, a duration *may* be provided at a later time using a Program Runover Planned or Program Runover Unplanned message.

If a duration is in effect, either set at Program start or later introduced, segmentation\_duration *may* be set to zero by sending a Program Runover Planned or Program Runover Unplanned message with segmentation\_duration\_flag set to ‘0’.

A Content Identification (value of segmentation\_type\_id 0x01) message with a value of **segmentation\_upid()** matching the currently active Program *may* be sent on a periodic basis to make an implementation more robust. If sent it *shall* match the values of **segmentation\_event\_id** and **segmentation\_upid()** used in the Program related messages. This does not restrict Content Identification messages being sent that do not match the **segmentation\_event\_id** and **segmentation\_upid()** used in the Program related messages.

### 10.3.3.7. Chapters - Additional semantics

A chapter Segment *shall* be introduced by a Chapter Start and ended by a Chapter End. For Chapter End, the value of **segmentation\_event\_id** *shall* match the value of **segmentation\_event\_id** for Chapter Start. If present, the **segmentation\_upid()** *shall* be the same in both occurrences of a segmentation\_descriptor() pair.

Chapter Segments *may* be associated with Program segments using the same **segmentation\_upid()** on both Chapter and Program messages.

Chapters *may* overlap. Chapters *may* be numbered using **segment\_num**. **segments\_expected** on the Chapter Start *shall* indicate the expected number of chapters. Use of non-zero values for **segmentation\_duration** on Chapter Start is optional.

### **10.3.3.8. Delivery Restrictions – Additional semantics**

Delivery restrictions on the following segmentation types *shall* be applied in the absence of out of band data as described later in this section.

- Program Start
- Program Resumption
- Program Runover Planned
- Program Runover Unplanned
- Program Overlap Start
- Program Blackout Override
- Program Start – In Progress
- Chapter Start
- Provider Advertisement Start
- Distributor Advertisement Start
- Provider Placement Opportunity Start
- Distributor Placement Opportunity Start
- Unscheduled Event Start
- Network Start

Delivery restrictions in end messages *shall* be ignored.

For Programs, a Program Blackout Override *shall* be used to provide new values for the delivery restrictions for the associated Program Start, Program Start – In Progress or Program Overlap Start message. See Section 10.3.3.6 for additional information.

For Programs, a Program Resumption *may* include new values for the delivery restrictions for the associated Program Start, Program Start – In Progress, or Program Overlap Start message.

The delivery restrictions from the most recent message *shall* be applied.

In addition to delivery restrictions in the SCTE 35 message, out of band data *may* be supplied (see [SCTE 224]). If there is matching out of band data, the matching out of band data that applies to the given program, advertising or unscheduled event *should* supersede the delivery flags and device restrictions from the SCTE 35 message.

### **10.3.3.9. Content Identifiers – Additional semantics**

The following constraints *shall* be applied when including content identifiers in Segmentation Descriptors.

Programs *should* be identified using both video service and tv/movie EIDRs [EIDRA] (segmentation\_upid\_type=0x0A).

As an alternative to EIDR, an airing identifier that is globally unique to a given video service *may* be supplied (segmentation\_upid\_type=0x08). If known, the video service and tv/movie EIDRs [EIDR] *should* be supplied via some out of band mechanism. Alternate identifiers in an [SCTE 224] message is a mechanism that *may* be leveraged.

Advertisements *should* be identified using Distributor Advertisement Start or Provider Advertisement Start. The identifier *should* be an Ad Id (segmentation\_upid\_type=0x03).

### 10.3.3.10.Placement Opportunities – Additional semantics

A Placement Opportunity *shall* be introduced by a Provider Placement Opportunity Start or a Distributor Placement Opportunity Start.

A Placement Opportunity *shall* be closed by an associated Provider Placement Opportunity End or Distributor Placement Opportunity End. One or more Placement Opportunity Start segmentation types or Placement Opportunity End segmentation types, Provider and/or Distributor types, *may* be present in the PID stream that reference the same PTS.

Placement Opportunity Start or Placement Opportunity End constraints defined in the remainder of this section *shall* apply to both Provider and Distributor Placement Opportunities.

The Placement Opportunity Start segmentation types and associated Placement Opportunity End segmentation types *shall* have the same segmentation\_event\_id. See section 10.3.3.5 for additional constraints on segmentation\_event\_id.

Each start and end *shall* be uniquely identifiable.

Each Placement Opportunity Start and Placement Opportunity End *should* have a unique signal identifier. The following *should* be utilized:

- segmentation\_upid\_type set to 0x09
- segmentation\_upid set to “`SIGNAL:<Base64 encoded GUID>`”

Placement Opportunities *may* alternatively be uniquely identifiable by:

1. The Provider including an airing id in the Placement Opportunity Start
  - using:segmentation\_upid\_type set to 0x08
  - segmentation\_upid set to a unique airing identifier
2. The Distributor system inferring the break position within the program based on order of receipt in the PID stream.

The Placement Opportunity Start and End *may* include a unique identity for a Placement Opportunity. If supplied, the following *shall* be utilized:

- segmentation\_upid\_type set to 0x09
- segmentation\_upid set to “`PO:<Base64 encoded GUID>`”

If Placement Opportunity identifiers are present, associated Placement Opportunity Start and End *shall* carry the same Placement Opportunity identifiers. A given Placement Opportunity identifier *shall* appear in one Placement Opportunity Start and one Placement Opportunity End.

See [RFC 4648] for additional information on base-64 encoding. See Section 10.3.3.2 for additional information.

Break numbering via Placement Opportunity Starts *shall* be supported per the following. The numbering of Breaks via Placement Opportunity Start messages are dependent on what is sent by a Provider in the Transport Stream sent to a Distributor:

- a) Program Segmentation descriptors are present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering within a Program is not supported.

- b) Program Segmentation descriptors are present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering within a Program is supported.
- c) Program Segmentation descriptors are not present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering within a Program is not supported.
- d) Program Segmentation descriptors are not present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering within a Program is supported.

If Program Segmentation descriptors (See Section 10.3.3.6) are present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering within a Program is not supported, Placement Opportunity Start's within the Program **shall** comply with the following:

- segments\_expected in all Placement Opportunity Start's **shall** be set to 0 (zero).
- segment\_num in all Placement Opportunity Start's **shall** be set to 0 (zero).

If Program Segmentation descriptors (See Section 10.3.3.6) are present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering within a Program is supported, Placement Opportunity Start's **shall** comply with the following:

- segments\_expected in all Placement Opportunity Start's in a collection of Placement Opportunities within a Program **shall** be set to the expected number of Breaks within the Program.
- segment\_num on the first Placement Opportunity Start **shall** be set to 1 (one) for the first Break and incremented by 1 for each subsequent Break within the Program.

A Break *may* have one or more Placement Opportunity Start's. All Placement Opportunity Start's in a given break **shall** have the same values for segment\_num and segments\_expected. If the number of Breaks changes, increase or decrease, within the Program, segments\_expected on the next Placement Opportunity Start **shall** be updated with the new segments\_expected. If the number of Breaks is reduced after the last set of Placement Opportunity Start's are sent for a Break, the distributor implementation *should* recognize that no additional Breaks exist for a Program when the Program End message is received.

If Program Segmentation descriptors are not present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering within a Program is not supported, all Placement Opportunity Start's **shall** comply with the following:

- segments\_expected **shall** be set to 0 (zero)
- segment\_num **shall** be set to 0 (zero).

If Program segmentation descriptors are not present in the Transport Stream and Break numbering is supported, Placement Opportunity Start's **shall** comply with the following:

- segments\_expected in all Placement Opportunity Start's in a group of Placement Opportunities **shall** be set to the expected number of Breaks in the next group of Breaks.
- segment\_num on the first Placement Opportunity Start **shall** be set to 1 (one) for the first Break and incremented by 1 for each subsequent Break within the group of Breaks.

If the number of Breaks within the group of Breaks changes, increase or decrease, within the group, segments\_expected on the next Placement Opportunity Start **shall** be updated with the new segments\_expected. If number of Breaks within the group of Breaks is reduced after the last set of Placement Opportunity Start's are sent for a Break, the distributor implementation *should* recognize that no additional Breaks will be signaled when the next Placement Opportunity Start with segment\_num

equal to 1 is received. Since there are no Program related segmentation descriptors, the implementation *should* recognize when segment\_num is reset to one to indicate when a new group of Breaks is started.

A Break *may* have one or more Placement Opportunities. All Placement Opportunity Starts in a given break *shall* have the same values for segment\_num and segments\_expected. A Placement Opportunity *shall* have one or more Placement Opportunity End's. A Placement Opportunity *may* contain one or more nested Placement Opportunities. The Placement Opportunity Start and associated Placement Opportunity Ends for a contained Placement Opportunity *shall* be within the Placement Opportunity Start and first Placement Opportunity End of the containing Placement Opportunity.

The numbering of Placement Opportunities within a Break are dependent on whether:

- a) Placement Opportunity numbering within a Break is not supported
- b) Placement Opportunity numbering within a Break is supported

If Placement Opportunities within a Break are not numbered the Placement Opportunity Start *shall* comply with one of the following:

- sub\_segment\_num and sub\_segments\_expected *may* be omitted

OR

- sub\_segments\_expected *shall* be set to 0 (zero)
- sub\_segment\_num on all Placement Opportunity Starts *shall* be set to 0 (zero)
- both sub\_segment\_num and sub\_segments *shall* be present in the segmentation descriptor and included in the overall byte count for the segmentation descriptor

If Placement Opportunities within a Break are numbered and contains only one opportunity the Placement Opportunity Start *should* comply with the following:

- sub\_segments\_expected *shall* be set to 1 (one)
- sub\_segment\_num on the first Placement Opportunity Start *shall* be set to 1 (one)

If the number of Placement Opportunities within a Break increases from 1 (one) after the first Placement Opportunity Start for the break is sent, sub\_segments\_expected on the next Placement Opportunity Start *shall* be updated with the new segments\_expected.

If Placement Opportunities within a Break are numbered and there are multiple Placement Opportunity Starts within a break, the Placement Opportunity Starts *shall* comply with the following:

- sub\_segments\_expected *shall* be set to the expected number of Placement Opportunity Start messages expected within the break.
- sub\_segment\_num on the first Placement Opportunity Start *shall* be set to 1 (one) and incremented by one on each subsequent Placement Opportunity Start.

If the number of Placement Opportunities change, increase or decrease, within the Break, sub\_segments\_expected on the next Placement Opportunity Start *shall* be updated with the new sub\_segments\_expected. If the number of Placement Opportunities is reduced after the last Placement Opportunity Start is sent for a Break, the distributor implementation *should* recognize that no additional Breaks will be signaled when the next Placement Opportunity Start with sub\_segment\_num equal to 1 (one) is received.

Additional Placement Opportunity End segmentation types that have the same segmentation\_event\_id as the Placement Opportunity Start *may* be present. To inform downstream systems of the number of Placement Opportunity End segmentation types to be expected in the PID stream associated with a given Placement Opportunity Start, the segmentation descriptor *shall* comply with the following:

- segmentation\_duration on the Placement Opportunity Start *shall* be the duration defined by the last Placement Opportunity End.
- segmentation\_event\_id *shall* have the same value on all Placement Opportunity End segmentation types as the associated Placement Opportunity Start.
- segments\_expected on all Placement Opportunity End segmentation types *shall* be set to the number of Placement Opportunity End segmentation types to be sent.
- segment\_num on the first Placement Opportunity End *shall* be set to 1 (one) and incremented by one on each subsequent Placement Opportunity End.
- segmentation\_upid on the Placement Opportunity Start or Placement Opportunity End *may* include one Placement Opportunity identifier or, if more than one Placement Opportunity identifier, Placement Opportunity identifiers in a MID() structure.

If the number of Placement Opportunity Ends change, increase or decrease, within the Placement Opportunity, sub\_segments\_expected on the next Placement Opportunity End *shall* be updated with the new sub\_segments\_expected. If the number of Placement Opportunity Ends is reduced after the last Placement Opportunity End is sent for a Placement Opportunity, the distributor implementation *should* recognize that no additional Placement Opportunity Ends will be signaled when the next Placement Opportunity message with a new segmentation\_event\_id is received.

The segmentation\_duration on the Placement Opportunity Start *shall* be the duration of the underlying content for the Break. If multiple Placement Opportunity End segmentation types are associated with a Placement Opportunity Start, the segmentation\_duration in the Placement Opportunity Start *should* be the duration defined by the last Placement Opportunity End sharing the same segmentation\_event\_id. If a Placement Opportunity End with a sub\_segment\_num equal to expected Placement Opportunity Ends is received prior to reaching the duration in the Placement Opportunity Start, the Placement Opportunity *shall* be considered closed.

In those cases where a Provider chooses to provide supplemental information to a Distributor, the information *may* be passed in a segmentation\_upid using a segmentation\_upid\_type of ADS Information (0x0E). An out of band mechanism *may* also be leveraged to provide supplemental information about a Placement Opportunity (See [SCTE 224]).

#### **10.3.4. time\_descriptor()**

The time\_descriptor is an implementation of a splice\_descriptor. It provides an optional extension to the splice\_insert(), splice\_null() and time\_signal() commands that allows a programmer's wall clock time to be sent to a client. For the highest accuracy, this descriptor *should* be used with the time\_signal() or splice\_insert() command. This command *may* be inserted using SCTE 104 or by out of band provisioning on the device inserting this message.

The repetition rate of this descriptor *should* be at least once every 5 seconds. When it is the only descriptor present in the time\_signal() or splice\_null() command then the encoder *should not* insert a key frame.

This command *may* be used to synchronize time based external metadata with video and the party responsible for the metadata and the time value used *should* insure that they are properly synchronized and have the desired level of accuracy required for their application.

### 10.3.4.1. Informative description of TAI

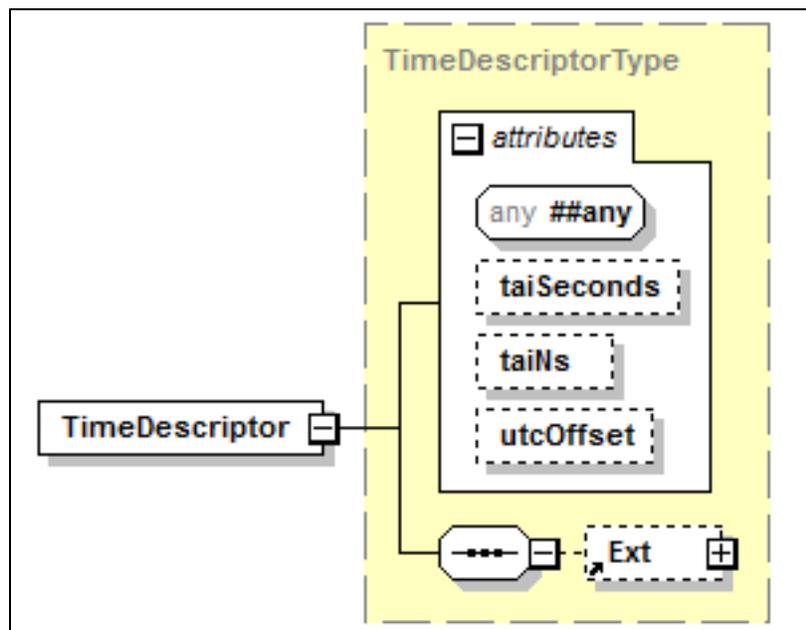
The `time_descriptor()` uses the time format defined for the Precision Time Protocol [PTP]. [PTP] is based upon an international time scale called International Atomic Time (TAI), unlike NTP [RFC5905] which is based upon UTC. [PTP] is being used in a/v bridging and broadcast synchronization protocols and likely to be available in a studio environment. Other time sources, such as NTP or GPS, are readily convertible to PTP format.

TAI does not have "leap" seconds like UTC. When UTC was introduced (January 1, 1972) it was determined there *should* be a difference of 10 seconds between the two time scales. Since then an additional 25 leap seconds (including one in June 2012) have been added to UTC to put the current difference between the two timescales at 35 seconds (as of Sep 2014.). The [PTP] protocol communicates the current offset between TAI and UTC to enable conversion. By default [PTP] uses the same "epoch" (i.e. origination or reference start time and date of the timescale) as UNIX time, of 00:00, January 1, 1970.

**Table 25 - time\_descriptor()**

Syntax	Bits	Mnemonic
<code>time_descriptor() {</code>		
<b>splice_descriptor_tag</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>descriptor_length</b>	8	uimsbf
<b>identifier</b>	32	uimsbf
<b>TAI_seconds</b>	48	uimsbf
<b>TAI_ns</b>	32	uimsbf
<b>UTC_offset</b>	16	uimsbf
<code>}</code>		

The XML schema for the `time_descriptor()` is shown in Figure 15.



**Figure 15 - TimeDescriptor**

### 10.3.4.2. Semantic definition of fields in time\_descriptor()

**splice\_descriptor\_tag** - This 8-bit number defines the syntax for the private bytes that make up the body of this descriptor. The splice\_descriptor\_tag *shall* have a value of 0x03.

There is no entry in the XML schema for splice\_descriptor\_tag. The value is set to 0x03 when transforming from an XML representation of the time\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format.

**descriptor\_length** - This 8-bit number gives the length, in bytes, of the descriptor following this field. The descriptor\_length field *shall* have a value of 0x10.

There is no entry in the XML schema for descriptor\_length. The value *shall* be derived when converting an XML representation of the time\_descriptor() to Bit Stream Format.

**identifier** - This 32-bit number is used to identify the owner of the descriptor. The identifier *shall* have a value of 0x43554549 (ASCII “CUEI”).

There is no entry in the XML schema for identifier.

**TAI\_seconds** - This 48-bit number is the TAI seconds value.

@taiSeconds [Optional; xsd:unsignedLong with a restriction up to 48 bits (281474976710656)].

**TAI\_ns** - This 32-bit number is the TAI nanoseconds value.

@taiNs [Optional; xsd:unsignedInt]

**UTC\_offset** - This 16-bit number *shall* be used in the conversion from TAI time to UTC or NTP time per the following equations.

$$\text{UTC seconds} = \text{TAI seconds} - \text{UTC\_offset}$$

$$\text{NTP seconds} = \text{TAI seconds} - \text{UTC\_offset} + 2,208,988,800$$

@utcOffset [Optional; xsd:unsignedShort]

## 11. Encryption

### 11.1. Overview

The splice\_info\_section supports the encryption of a portion of the section in order that one *may* prevent access to an avail to all except those receivers that are authorized for that avail. This chapter of the document describes the various encryption algorithms that *may* be used. The encryption of the section is optional, as is the implementation of encryption by either the creator of the message, or any receive devices. The use of encryption is deemed optional to allow a manufacturer to ship “in-the-clear” systems without worrying about the export of encryption technology. If encryption is included in the system, any receive device *shall* implement all of the algorithms listed in this document, which allows the creator of a splice info table to use any of the algorithms in a transmission. The use of private encryption technology is optional, and out of the scope of this document.

## 11.2. Fixed key encryption

The encryption used with this document assumes a fixed key is to be used. The same key is provided to both the transmitter and the receiver. The method of delivering the key to all parties is unspecified. This document allows for up to 256 different keys to be available for decryption. The `cw_index` field is used to determine which key *should* be used when decrypting a section. The length of the fixed key is dependent on the type of algorithm being used. It is assumed that fixed key delivered to all parties will be the correct length for the algorithm that is intended to be used.

## 11.3. Encryption algorithms

The `encryption_algorithm` field of the `splice_info_section` is a six-bit value, which *may* contain one of the values shown in Table 26. All Data Encryption Standard variants use a 64-bit key (actually 56 bits plus a checksum) to encrypt or decrypt a block of 8 bytes. In the case of triple DES, there will need to be 3 64-bit keys, one for each of the three passes of the DES algorithm. The “standard” triple DES actually uses two keys, where the first and third keys are identical. See [FIPS PUB 46-3] and [FIPS PUB 81].

**Table 26 - Encryption algorithm**

Value	Encryption algorithm
0	No encryption
1	DES – ECB mode
2	DES – CBC mode
3	Triple DES EDE3 – ECB mode
4-31	Reserved
32-63	User private

### 11.3.1. DES – ECB mode

This algorithm uses the “Data Encryption Standard”, (see [FIPS PUB 81]), in the electronic codebook mode.

In order to use this type of encryption, the encrypted data *shall* contain a multiple of 8 bytes of data, from `splice_command_type` through to `E_CRC_32` fields. The `alignment_stuffing` loop *may* be used to pad any extra bytes that *may* be required.

### 11.3.2. DES – CBC mode

This algorithm uses the “Data Encryption Standard”, (see [FIPS PUB 81]), in the cipher block chaining mode. The basic algorithm is identical to DES ECB. Each 64-bit plaintext block is bitwise exclusive-ORed with the previous ciphertext block before being encrypted with the DES key. The first block is exclusive-ORed with an initial vector. For the purposes of this document, the initial vector *shall* have a fixed value of zero.

In order to use this type of encryption, the encrypted data *shall* contain a multiple of 8 bytes of data, from `splice_command_type` through to `E_CRC_32` fields. The `alignment_stuffing` loop *may* be used to pad any extra bytes that *may* be required.

### 11.3.3. Triple DES EDE3 – ECB mode

This algorithm uses three 64-bit keys, each key being used on one pass of the DES-ECB algorithm. See [FIPS PUB 46-3]). Every block of data at the transmit device is first encrypted with the first key,

decrypted with the second key, and finally encrypted with the third key. Every block at the receive site is first decrypted with the third key, encrypted with the second key, and finally decrypted with the first key.

In order to use this type of encryption, the encrypted data *shall* contain a multiple of 8 bytes of data, from splice\_command\_type through to E\_CRC\_32 fields. The alignment\_stuffing loop *may* be used to pad any extra bytes that *may* be required.

### 11.3.4. User private algorithms

This document allows for the use of private encryption algorithms. It is not specified how the transmit and receive devices agree on the algorithm to use for any user private code. It is also not specified as to how coordination of private values for the encryption\_algorithm field *should* be registered or administered.

## 11.4. Segmentation Upid Element

The Segmentation Upid Element is used to express a UPID in an XML document. See 10.3.3 Segmentation\_descriptor() for usage in Segmentation Descriptor.

The XML schema for SegmentationUpid is shown in Figure 16.

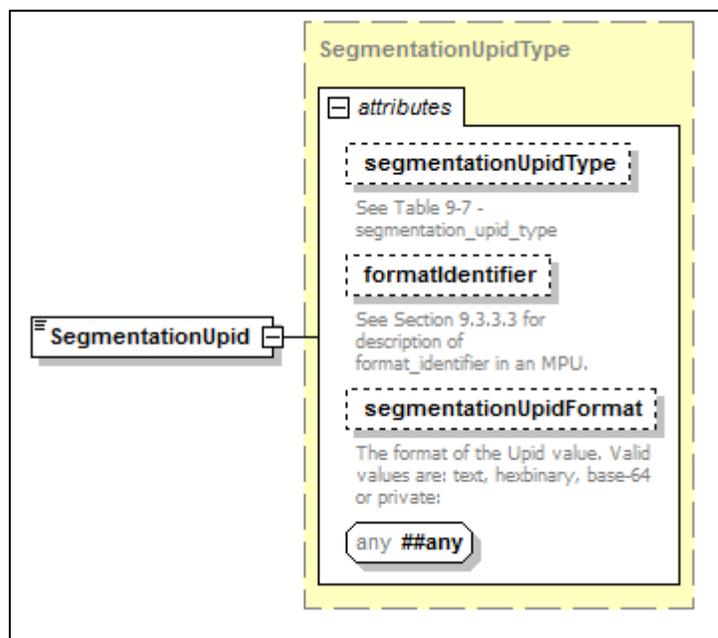


Figure 16 - SegmentationUpid

@segmentationUpidType [Optional, xsd:unsignedByte] See Table 21 for valid values. The value for MID() *shall not* be specified. MID() *shall* be implied based on the presence of multiple SegmentationUpid Elements.

@formatIdentifier [Optional, xsd:unsignedInt] Specify for MPU only. See section 10.3.3.3 for description of format\_identifier in an MPU.

@segmentationUpidFormat The format of the Upid value. Valid values are: text, hexbinary, base-64 or private.

## 12. SCTE 35 Usage

### 12.1. SCTE 35 Usage in DASH

SCTE 35 messages can be carried in DASH. See [SCTE 214-1], [SCTE 214-2] and [SCTE 214-3].

### 12.2. SCTE 35 Usage in HLS

Manipulation of an HLS M3U8 manifest is used to provide seamless ad insertion. The manifest is modified to include targeted ads prior to delivery to the player, or the manifest is modified at the player before delivery to the device's video playback engine. These mechanisms allow for seamless playback without buffering or other interruptions in the playback experience. HLS M3U8 manifest manipulation can be done on a server or on a client (for example, to implement companion ads). Client side ad insertion typically would need a secure player implementation to insure the ad segments play out correctly.

Ad cues and other signaling metadata are placed into the HLS M3U8 manifest file using HLS tags and attribute lists.

The SCTE 35 HLS tag definition in this standard is consistent with HLS tag definitions in [HLS].

The SCTE 35 HLS attributes on the tag definition in this standard is consistent with HLS attribute definition in [HLS].

The SCTE 35 HLS attributes *shall* comply with the following:

Attribute Type	AttributeValue Data Type
Number	decimal-floating-point
String	quoted-string

The general method of operation utilizes tags marking the beginning and end of each signaled sequence of content segments. In this way it is possible to signal placement opportunities, local (distributor) avails and provider advertisements.

Using tags marking the beginning and end of each signaled sequence of content segments *may* also be used to control stream blackouts using manifest manipulation on the server so restricted content is never sent to the viewer.

HLS tag defined in this section is an alternative to use of the EXT-X-DATERANGE tag defined in the current [HLS] HLS Internet Draft in sec 4.3.2.7. Carriage of SCTE 35 cue messages using the EXT-X-DATERANGE tag is described in section 4.3.2.7.1 of the aforementioned Internet Draft.

#### 12.2.1. HLS cue tags

The #EXT-X-SCTE35 is the only tag defined by this standard.

**Table 27 - Tag #EXT-X-SCTE35**

Tag Name	Attributes	Description
#EXT-X-SCTE35	CUE DURATION ELAPSED	Tag representing an embedded SCT35 message as a binary representation as described in section 7.4 The binary

	ID TIME TYPE UPID BLACKOUT CUE-OUT CUE-IN SEGNE	representation <i>shall</i> be encoded in Base64 as defined in section 7.4 of [RFC 4648] with W3C recommendations. The client or manifest manipulator <i>should</i> decode the Base64 encoded string, then apply Table 5 to interpret the message.
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Table 28 - Tag attributes

Attribute Name	Attribute Type	Required	Description
CUE	String	Required	The SCTE 35 binary message encoded in Base64 as defined in section 7.4 of [RFC 4648] with W3C recommendations.
DURATION	Double	Optional	The duration of the signaled sequence defined by the CUE. The duration is expressed in seconds to millisecond accuracy.
ELAPSED	Double	Optional	Offset from the CUE (typically a start segmentation type) of the earliest presentation time of the HLS media segment that follows. If an implementation removes fragments from the manifest file (ex. live application), the ELAPSED value <i>shall</i> be adjusted by the duration of the media segments removed. Elapsed is expressed in seconds to millisecond accuracy.
ID	String	Optional	A unique value identifying the CUE.
TIME	Double	Optional	TIME represents the start time of the signaled sequence. If present in a stream, the SCTE 35 time descriptor <i>should</i> be utilized as the time basis. TIME <i>shall</i> be the UTC time corresponding to the start time of the first inserted HLS media segment. TIME <i>shall</i> be to millisecond accuracy. To calculate the actual temporal position within the content for the CUE, add TIME and ELAPSED.
TYPE	Integer	Optional	If present, the segmentation type id from the SCTE 35 segmentation descriptor. (See Table 22)
UPID	String	Optional	Quoted string containing the segmentation_upid_type and the segmentation_upid separated by a colon. The segmentation_upid_type is an ascii hex value prefixed with 0x or 0X. The segmentation_upid is an ascii hex prefixed with 0x or 0X, or an ascii string representation of the decoded binary. If segmentation_upid_type is 0x0D (MID),

Attribute Name	Attribute Type	Required	Description
			seperate each <segmentation_upid_type:segmentation_upid> pair with a semi-colon.
BLACKOUT	String	Optional	Enumeration of delivery restriction states as determined by business logic in the packager. Valid values are: YES, NO (default), MAYBE. YES indicates content is currently subject to blackout. MAYBE indicates content is subject to conditional restrictions and that external authorization is required for rights enforcement (i.e., regional blackout and/or device restrictions). NO indicates content is not subject to restriction.
CUE-OUT	String	Optional	Signal to begin ad insertion. Valid values are: YES, NO (default), CONT. CONT signals the "continuation" of a break replacement opportunity started with CUE-OUT on a previous tag. Used for partial break replacement when a player joins mid-break. When CONT is present, the ELAPSED and DURATION attributes should be included.
CUE-IN	String	Optional	Signal to stop replacing content. Valid values are: YES, NO (default)
SEGNE	String	Optional	Values from the seg_num and seg_expected fields, expressed as decimal integers and delimited with a colon. For example, SEGNE="3:3"

### 12.2.2. HLS playlist example

The following HLS example illustrates a possible live programming scenario that includes a full complement of #EXT-X-SCTE 35 tags.

- 1) Network Start (0x50) – 2015-12-01T00:00:00+00:00 – 32400.0 seconds of elapsed video removed from the playlist since original tag at 1448928000.000
- 2) Program Start (0x10) – 2015-12-01T09:00:00+00:00 – Blackout attribute indicates a potential regional blackout.
- 3) Provider Placement Opportunity Start (0x34) – Duration 60.060 seconds – Cue-Out indicates dynamic ad insertion/replacement is desired by the publisher
  - a. Distributor Placement Opportunity Start (0x36)
  - b. Distributor Placement Opportunity End (0x37)
- 4) Provider Placement Opportunity End (0x35)
- 5) Program End (0x11) and Program Start (0x10) for the next program, which is not subject to blackout restrictions.

The SCTE35 Base64 CUE values have been omitted for the sake of space and clarity of the example.

```
#EXTM3U
#EXT-X-TARGETDURATION:10
#EXT-X-VERSION:4
#EXT-X-MEDIA-SEQUENCE:918
#EXT-X-PROGRAM-DATE-TIME:2015-12-01T09:00:00+00:00
```

```

#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x50,TIME=1448928000.000,ELAPSED=32400.0,CUE="...",ID="e+CuqI"
#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x10,ELAPSED=0.0,UPID="0x08:0x9425",BLACKOUT=MAYBE,CUE="...",ID="dAQ"
#EXTINF:1.034
stream_med_00000.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00001.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00002.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00003.ts
#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x34,DURATION=60.060,CUE-OUT=YES,UPID="0x08:0x9425BC",CUE="...",ID="f6UrRd"
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00004.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00005.ts
#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x36,CUE="...",ID="4Y1v5d"
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00006.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00007.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00008.ts
#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x37,CUE="...",ID="pIVi5"
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00009.ts
#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x35,CUE-IN=YES,CUE="...",ID="f6UrRd"
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00010.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00011.ts
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00012.ts
#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x11,UPID="0x08:0x9425BC",CUE="...",ID="dAQpTQ"
#EXT-X-SCTE35:TYPE=0x10,UPID="0x08:0x9425BD",BLACKOUT=NO,CUE="...",ID="dAQpTr"
#EXTINF:10.010
stream_med_00013.ts

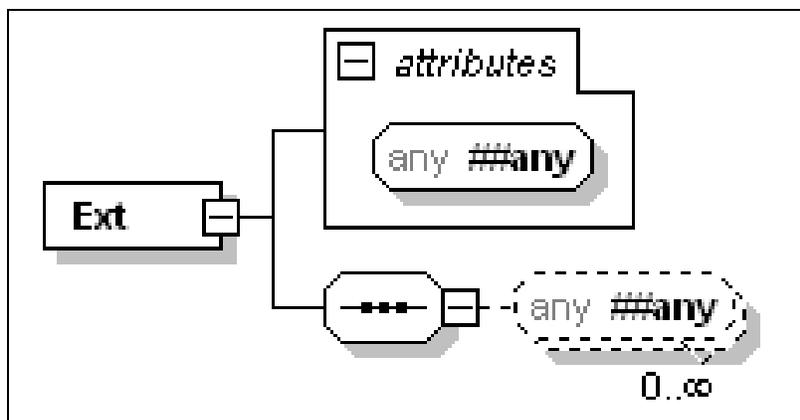
```

## 13. SCTE 35 XML elements and types

In addition to the SCTE 35 XML types and associated elements and attributes described in earlier sections of this specification, this section provides details on additional SCTE 35 XML elements and types.

### 13.1. Ext element

The Ext (extensibility) element allows zero or more elements from any namespace to be included. This element facilitates expansion, customization, and extensibility of the specification. Encapsulating elements from external namespaces into a single element allows filters, transforms, and other operations to be applied easily. See Figure 17.



**Figure 17 - Ext Element**

**@##any [Optional]**—Any additional attribute from any namespace.

**##any [Optional]**—Zero or more elements from any namespace. (Zero elements are allowed as all the data *may* be included via attributes.)

### 13.2. PTSType

PTSType is a simple type used to specify a PTS Time. PTSType is an `xsd:unsignedLong` that can hold 33-bit time. It is constrained to a minimum value of 0 and a maximum value of 8589934592. The default value is 0.