3.13 Audio

As you study this section, answer the following questions:

- What do you need to do to play AIFF files on a Windows computer?
- What color typically indicates the speaker port on a sound card? What color is used for the microphone?
- Which connectors are used for digital S/PDIF audio?
- Which encoding techniques are used for surround sound audio?

In this section, you will learn to:

- Select and install a sound card

Key terms for this section include the following:

Term	Definition
Sound card	An expansion card that manages sound input and output.
ADC	An analog-to-digital converter.
DSP	A digital signal processor.
DAC	A digital-to-analog converter.
Sampling rate	A number of analog signal samples taken in over a period of time.
Feature support	DirectSound 3D, EAX, THX, Dolby Digital, DTS, SDDS, MIDI.
Analog output	An output that allows sound to be played through external devices.
Analog input	An input that allows audio to be recorded through the sound card.
Audio file types	WAV, AIFF, AU, MP3, AAC, WMA, MIDI.
I/O	Acronym for input/output.
Mini TRS	A port that accepts 3.5mm plugs for analog audio I/O.
TOSLINK	A digital optical I/O for S/PDIF audio.
RCA	A coaxial digital I/O for S/PDIF audio.
IEEE 1394	A FireWire port.
HDMI	A port that sends HD audio to an HDMI device.

This section helps you prepare for the following certification exam objectives:

Exam	Objective
TestOut PC Pro	2.1 Install, update, and configure an operating system 2.1.6 Manage audio device settings
CompTIA 220-1001	3.5 Given a scenario, install and configure motherboards, CPUs, and add-on cards. ▪ Expansion cards ▪ Sound cards 3.6 Explain the purposes and uses of various peripheral types. ▪ Speakers
CompTIA 220-1002	1.6 Given a scenario, use Microsoft Windows Control Panel utilities. ▪ Sound