

# USB Type-C ENGINEERING CHANGE NOTICE

**Title: Alt Mode Port Expansion**

**Applied to: USB Type-C Specification Release 1.2**

<b>Brief description of the functional changes proposed:</b>
Clarify the requirements for Alt Mode devices with downstream facing USB Type-C connectors.

<b>Benefits as a result of the proposed changes:</b>
Ensures great user experiences using the USB Type-C connector.

<b>An assessment of the impact to the existing revision and systems that currently conform to the USB specification:</b>
None.

<b>An analysis of the hardware implications:</b>
Depends on the Alt Mode architecture.

<b>An analysis of the software implications:</b>
None.

<b>An analysis of the compliance testing implications:</b>
This provides clarity for Compliance Testing.

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## Actual Change Requested

### From Text:

#### 5.1 Alternate Modes

All hosts and devices (except chargers) using a USB Type-C™ receptacle shall expose a USB interface. In the case where the host or device optionally supports Alternate Modes:

- The host and device shall use *USB Power Delivery* Structured Vendor Defined Messages (Structure) to discover, configure and enter/exit modes to enable Alternate Modes.
- The device is strongly encouraged to provide equivalent USB functionality where such exists for best user experience.
- Where no equivalent USB functionality is implemented, the device shall provide a USB interface exposing a *USB Billboard Device Class* used to provide information needed to identify the device. A device is not required to provide a USB interface exposing a *USB Billboard Device Class* for non-user facing modes (e.g., diagnostic modes).

As Alternate Modes do not traverse the USB hub topology, they shall only be used between a directly connected host and device.

### To Text:

#### 5.1 Alternate Modes

All hosts and devices (except chargers **and clearly marked charge-through ports**) using a USB Type-C™ receptacle shall expose a USB interface. In the case where the host or device optionally supports Alternate Modes:

- The host and device shall use *USB Power Delivery* Structured Vendor Defined Messages (Structure) to discover, configure and enter/exit modes to enable Alternate Modes.
- The device is strongly encouraged to provide equivalent USB functionality where such exists for best user experience.
- Where no equivalent USB functionality is implemented, the device shall provide a USB interface exposing a *USB Billboard Device Class* used to provide information needed to identify the device. A device is not required to provide a USB interface exposing a *USB Billboard Device Class* for non-user facing modes (e.g., diagnostic modes).

As Alternate Modes do not traverse the USB hub topology, they shall only be used between a directly connected host and device.

**There are Alternate Mode devices that look like a USB hub. Their downstream facing ports are USB Type-C™ receptacles that support Alternate Modes. They are referred to as Alternate Mode port expanders or docks:**

- **The Alternate Mode port expander's downstream facing USB Type-C™ receptacles shall expose a USB 2.0 interface.**
- **If the An Alternate Mode port expander has with the capability to pass USB SuperSpeed through its upstream facing port, it shall should expose USB SuperSpeed on its downstream facing USB Type-C™ receptacles.**