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# CXL™ Type 3 Device Component Command Interface over MCTP Binding Specification

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33 This document's normative language is English. Translation into other languages is permitted.

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## Foreword

71 The CXL™ (*Compute Express Link™*) Type 3 Device Component Command Interface over MCTP  
72 *Binding Specification* (DSP0281) was prepared by the Platform Management Communications  
73 Infrastructure (PMCI Working Group) of the DMTF.

74 DMTF is a not-for-profit association of industry members dedicated to promoting enterprise and systems  
75 management and interoperability. For information about the DMTF, see <http://www.dmtf.org>.

76 The CXL Consortium is an open industry standard group formed to develop technical specifications that  
77 facilitate breakthrough performance for emerging usage models while supporting an open ecosystem for  
78 data center accelerators and other high-speed enhancements. For information about the CXL consortium,  
79 see <https://www.computeexpresslink.org>.

### 80 **Acknowledgments**

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94

## Introduction

95 The CXL™ Type 3 Device Component Command Interface over MCTP Binding Specification defines a  
96 new MCTP message type used to convey CXL™ Type 3 Component Command Interface Messages over  
97 MCTP to CXL Type 3 Devices.

### 98 **Document conventions**

#### 99 **Typographical conventions**

100 This document uses the following typographical conventions:

- 101 • Document titles are marked in *italics*.
- 102 • Important terms that are used for the first time are marked in italics.
- 103 • Terms include a link to the term definition in the "Terms and definitions" clause, enabling easy  
104 navigation to the term definition.
- 105 • ABNF rules are in monospaced font.

#### 106 **ABNF usage conventions**

107 Format definitions in this document are specified using ABNF (see [RFC5234](#)), with the following  
108 deviations:

- 109 • Literal strings are to be interpreted as case-sensitive Unicode characters, as opposed to the  
110 definition in [RFC5234](#) that interprets literal strings as case-insensitive US-ASCII characters.  
111

# 112 CXL™ Type 3 Device Component Command Interface over 113 MCTP Binding Specification

## 114 1 Scope

115 The CXL™ Type 3 Device Component Command Interface over MCTP Binding Specification defines the  
116 bindings between CXL elements and MCTP elements in order to transport Component Command  
117 Interface Messages (CCI) for CXL Type 3 devices using MCTP. The specific Component Command  
118 Interface message contents will be documented outside of DMTF directly by the CXL consortium.

119 Portions of this specification rely on information and definitions from other specifications, which are  
120 identified in clause 2. The following references are particularly relevant:

- 121 • DMTF DSP0236, *Management Component Transport Protocol (MCTP) Base Specification 1.3*,  
122 defines the MCTP transport protocol over which the CXL Type 3 Component Command Interface  
123 over MCTP messages are to be conveyed.
- 124 • CXL Consortium, *Compute Express Link™ (CXL™) Specification Revision 2.0*, defines  
125 commands and message formats for CXL devices.
- 126 • CXL Consortium, *Compute Express Link™ (CXL™) Errata for the Compute Express Link  
127 Specification Revision 2.0*.
- 128 • CXL Consortium, *Type 3 Management Using MCTP CCI, ECN for management using MCTP  
129 CCI*, defines the CXL Type 3 Component Command Interface and message formats.

## 130 2 Normative references

131 The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated or  
132 versioned references, only the edition cited (including any corrigenda or DMTF update versions) applies.  
133 For references without a date or version, the latest published edition of the referenced document  
134 (including any corrigenda or DMTF update versions) applies. Earlier versions may not provide sufficient  
135 support for this specification.

136 CXL Consortium, *Compute Express Link™ (CXL™) Specification Revision 2.0*,  
137 <https://www.computeexpresslink.org>

138 CXL Consortium, *Compute Express Link™ (CXL™) Errata for the Compute Express Link Specification  
139 Revision 2.0*, <https://www.computeexpresslink.org>

140 CXL Consortium, *Type 3 Management Using MCTP CCI ECN*, <https://www.computeexpresslink.org>

141 DMTF DSP0236, *Management Component Transport Protocol (MCTP) Base Specification 1.3*  
142 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0236\\_1.3.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0236_1.3.pdf)

143 DMTF DSP0237, *Management Component Transport Protocol (MCTP) SMBus/I2C Transport Binding  
144 Specification 1.2*  
145 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0237\\_1.2.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0237_1.2.pdf)

146 DMTF DSP0238, *Management Component Transport Protocol (MCTP) PCIe VDM Transport Binding  
147 Specification 1.1*  
148 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0238\\_1.1.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0238_1.1.pdf)

149 DMTF DSP0233, *Management Component Transport Protocol (MCTP) I3C Transport Binding  
150 Specification 1.0*, [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0233\\_1.0.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0233_1.0.pdf)

- 151 DMTF DSP0239, *Management Component Transport Protocol (MCTP) IDs and Codes 1.9*  
152 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0239\\_1.9.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0239_1.9.pdf)
- 153 DMTF DSP0241, *Platform Level Data Model (PLDM) over MCTP Binding Specification 1.0*  
154 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0241\\_1.0.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0241_1.0.pdf)
- 155 DMTF DSP0240, *Platform Level Data Model (PLDM) Base Specification 1.1*  
156 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0240\\_1.1.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0240_1.1.pdf)
- 157 DMTF DSP0248, *Platform Level Data Model (PLDM) for Platform Monitoring and Control Specification*  
158 *1.2*  
159 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0248\\_1.2.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0248_1.2.pdf)
- 160 DMTF DSP0267, *Platform Level Data Model (PLDM) for Firmware Update Specification 1.1*  
161 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0267\\_1.1.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0267_1.1.pdf)
- 162 DMTF DSP0218, *Platform Level Data Model (PLDM) for Redfish Device Enablement 1.1*  
163 [https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0218\\_1.1.pdf](https://www.dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP0218_1.1.pdf)
- 164 IETF, RFC4122, *A Universally Unique Identifier (UUID) URN Namespace*, July 2005  
165 <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4122.txt>
- 166 IETF RFC5234, *ABNF: Augmented BNF for Syntax Specifications*, January 2008,  
167 <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5234>
- 168 DMTF DSP4004, *DMTF Release Process 2.4*,  
169 [http://dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP4004\\_2.4.pdf](http://dmtf.org/sites/default/files/standards/documents/DSP4004_2.4.pdf)
- 170 ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, *Rules for the structure and drafting of International Standards*,  
171 <https://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink.exe?func=ll&objId=4230456&objAction=browse&sort=subtype>

### 172 **3 Terms and definitions**

173 In this document, some terms have a specific meaning beyond the normal English meaning. Those terms  
174 are defined in this clause.

175 The terms "shall" ("required"), "shall not", "should" ("recommended"), "should not" ("not recommended"),  
176 "may", "need not" ("not required"), "can" and "cannot" in this document are to be interpreted as described  
177 in [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2](#), Clause 7. The terms in parentheses are alternatives for the preceding term,  
178 for use in exceptional cases when the preceding term cannot be used for linguistic reasons. Note that



179 [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2](#), Clause 7 specifies additional alternatives. Occurrences of such additional  
180 alternatives shall be interpreted in their normal English meaning.

181 The terms "clause", "subclause", "paragraph", and "annex" in this document are to be interpreted as  
182 described in [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2](#), Clause 6.

183 The terms "normative" and "informative" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [ISO/IEC](#)  
184 [Directives, Part 2](#), Clause 3. In this document, clauses, subclauses, or annexes labeled "(informative)" do  
185 not contain normative content. Notes and examples are always informative elements.

186 Refer to [DSP0236](#) for terms and definitions that are used across the MCTP specifications.

187 Refer to the [CXL Specification](#) for terms and definitions that are used in the Compute Express Link™  
188 Component Command Interface specification. For the purposes of this document, the following additional  
189 terms and definitions apply.

### 190 3.1

#### 191 **Compute Express Link™**

192 A low-latency, high-bandwidth link that supports dynamic protocol muxing of coherent accesses, memory  
193 access, and IO protocols, thus enabling attachment of coherent accelerators or memory devices.

### 194 3.2

#### 195 **CXL™ Type 3 Component Command Interface**

196 Command interface defined by the CXL consortium to manage Type 3 devices in a CXL system.

### 197 3.3

#### 198 **CXL™ Type 3 Device**

199 A CXL memory device that supports CXL.io and CXL.mem protocols.

### 200 3.4

#### 201 **Endpoint**

202 An MCTP endpoint unless otherwise specified.

## 203 4 Symbols and abbreviated terms

### 204 4.1

205 Refer to [DSP0236](#) for terms and definitions that are used across the MCTP specifications. Refer to the  
206 [CXL Specification](#) for terms and definitions that are used in the Compute Express Link™ Component  
207 Command Interface specification. For the purposes of this document, the following additional symbols  
208 and abbreviated terms apply.

### 209 4.1

#### 210 **CCI**

211 Component Command Interface

### 212 4.2

#### 213 **CXL™**

214 Compute Express Link

### 215 4.3

#### 216 **MC**

217 Management Controller

## 218 **4.4** 219 **MCTP**

220 Management Component Transport Protocol

## 221 **5 Conventions**

### 222 **5.1 Reserved and unassigned values**

223 Unless otherwise specified, any reserved, unspecified, or unassigned values in enumerations or other  
224 numeric ranges are reserved for future definition by the DMTF.

225 Unless otherwise specified, numeric or bit fields that are designated as reserved shall be written as 0  
226 (zero) and ignored when read.

### 227 **5.2 Byte ordering**

228 Unless otherwise specified, the byte ordering of multibyte numeric fields or multibyte bit fields in this  
229 specification shall be "Big Endian": The lowest byte offset holds the most significant byte and higher  
230 offsets hold lesser significant bytes.

## 231 **6 Overview**

### 232 **6.1 General**

233 Compute Express Link™ (CXL) is a dynamic multi-protocol technology designed to support accelerators  
234 and memory devices. CXL provides a rich set of protocols that include I/O semantics similar to PCIe (i.e.,  
235 CXL.io), caching protocol semantics (i.e., CXL.cache), and memory access semantics (i.e., CXL.mem)  
236 over a discrete or on-package link.

237 CXL Type 3 devices are devices that support CXL.io and CXL.mem protocols. These devices can be  
238 managed during runtime via a Component Command Interface (CCI) that represents a command target  
239 to process management and configuration commands. The CCI and the commands that are supported  
240 via the CCI are defined by the members of CXL Consortium in the Compute Express Link specification.  
241 Refer to [www.computeexpresslink.org](http://www.computeexpresslink.org) and the [CXL specification](#) for more information.

242 This specification only defines how CXL Type 3 CCI commands are encapsulated in MCTP Messages  
243 and transferred between MCTP Endpoints over transports that have a corresponding MCTP transport  
244 binding specification. These are referred to in this document as CCI Messages over MCTP. The  
245 definitions and semantics of the Type 3 CCI Commands themselves are outside the scope of this  
246 specification and are defined in the CXL specification.

247 The MCTP Transport Bindings that are used for CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP are defined in other  
248 companion specifications including but not limited to the MCTP SMBus/I2C Transport Binding  
249 Specification ([DSP0237](#)), MCTP I3C Transport Binding Specification ([DSP0233](#)) and the MCTP PCIe  
250 VDM Transport Binding Specification ([DSP0238](#)).

### 251 **6.2 Other Standards**

252 CXL Type 3 devices may also support management capabilities using existing DMTF specifications  
253 including but not limited to the Platform Level Data Model (PLDM) specifications such as the PLDM Base  
254 Specification ([DSP0240](#)), PLDM over MCTP Binding Specification ([DSP0241](#)), PLDM for Platform  
255 Monitoring and Control ([DSP0248](#)), PLDM for Firmware Update ([DSP0267](#)) and PLDM for Redfish Device

256 Enablement ([DSP0218](#)). Where applicable, the DMTF encourages use of these existing specifications to  
 257 provide a common management experience that spans many device types and interfaces.

## 258 7 Message Type-specific considerations

### 259 7.1 Message Type number

260 The Message Type number for CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP messages is defined in the MCTP IDs and  
 261 Codes Specification ([DSP0239](#)) and the number assigned is 0x08.

### 262 7.2 CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP specification version information

263 Implementations that follow this specification shall return the following version information in the response  
 264 to the GET MCTP Version Support command when the Message Type parameter in the request is set to  
 265 0x08 (return CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP specification version information).

266 The Version Number Entry 1 field shall be used to indicate compatibility with Version 1.0.0 of the CXL  
 267 Type 3 CCI over MCTP message type as:

268 1.0 [Major version 1, minor version 0, any update version, no alpha]

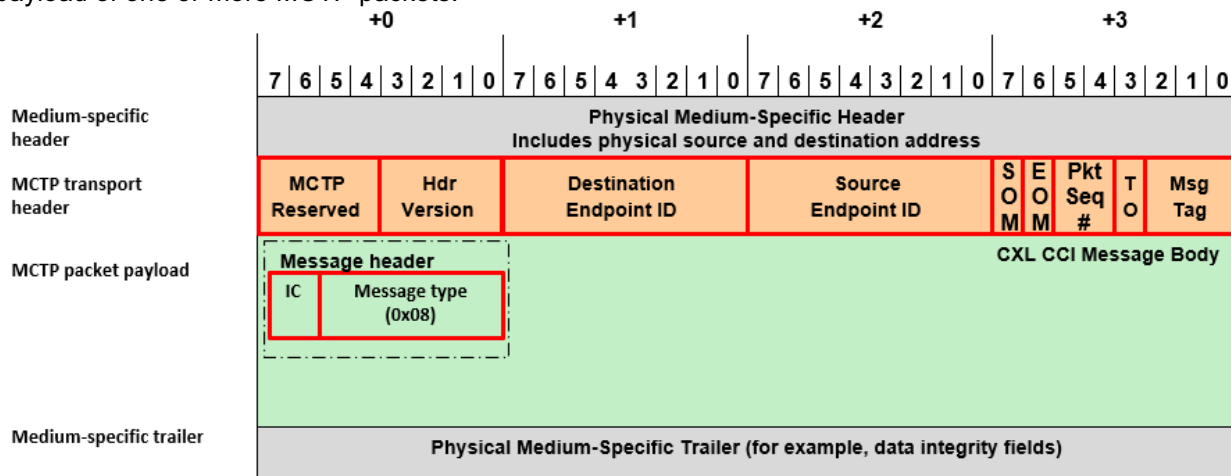
269 This is reported using the encoding as: 0xF1F0FF00

### 270 7.3 Timing specifications

271 CXL Type 3 CCI messages over MCTP are made up of one or more MCTP packets. Each MCTP packet  
 272 shall comply with the timing, arbitration, and fairness requirements of the transport binding specifications  
 273 for the media through which it passes. For examples, refer to the MCTP SMBus/I2C Transport Binding  
 274 Specification ([DSP0237](#)) and the MCTP PCIe VDM Transport Binding Specification ([DSP0238](#)) for  
 275 specific packet and message timing requirements.

### 276 7.4 CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP message format

277 Referring to Figure 1, the CXL Type 3 CCI Messages over MCTP are carried via the MCTP packet  
 278 payload of one or more MCTP packets.



279

280

Figure 1: MCTP Message fields

## 281 7.4.1 Integrity Check (IC), Tag Owner (TO) and Message Tag (Msg Tag) usage

282 CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP messages do not include an overall message integrity check field and shall  
283 set the Integrity Check (IC) bit to 0b.

284 When request/response message exchange is used and the Tag Owner (TO) bit is set to 1b in the  
285 request, a responder shall return the same Message Tag with the Tag Owner bit cleared to 0b in the  
286 corresponding response message.

287

Field Name	Field Size	Description
TO	1 bit	1b - CXL Type 3 CCI Request messages 0b – CXL Type 3 CCI Response messages
IC	1 bit	Message Integrity Check bit = 0b CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP messages do not include an overall Message Integrity check field.
Message type	7 bits	CXL Type 3 CCI = 0x08 This field identifies the MCTP message as carrying a CXL Type 3 CCI message.
CXL Type 3 CCI Message Body	Variable	The CXL Type 3 CCI message fields are defined in the CXL Specification

288 **Table 1: CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP Message Field Descriptions**

289 For a definition of CXL Type 3 CCI request and response messages, refer to the [CXL Specification](#).

## 290 7.4.2 Message assembly

291 CXL Type 3 CCI messages over MCTP may be split into one or more MCTP packets thus requiring  
292 segmentation and assembly. All multi-packet CXL Type 3 CCI over MCTP messages shall comply with  
293 the message packetization and assembly rules of the MCTP base specification ([DSP236](#)). Specifically,  
294 sections in the MCTP base specification related to Message assembly, Dropped packets, Starting  
295 message assembly, Terminating message assembly/dropped messages, and Dropped messages shall  
296 be complied with. CXL Type 3 CCI messages when transported over MCTP shall not require any  
297 changes to the MCTP base specification.

## 298 7.5 Maximum message size

299 The CXL Type 3 CCI message body over MCTP shall be less than or equal to 1088 bytes. All MCTP  
300 endpoints shall support this maximum message body size of 1088 bytes, which includes a maximum of  
301 1024 bytes for the CXL Type 3 CCI message payload and a maximum of 64 bytes for the CXL Type 3  
302 CCI header. This corresponds to a transfer of 17 MCTP packets using a baseline transmission unit of 64  
303 bytes for the MCTP packet payload. See the CXL Specification for a definition of the CXL Type 3 CCI  
304 message payload and headers.

305 The maximum message size includes the IC bit and Message Type fields plus any additional Message  
306 Type-specific header fields, as required by the CXL Type 3 CCI. Refer to the [CXL Specification](#) for any  
307 additional restrictions on message sizes.

## 308 **7.6 Multiple MCTP physical transports**

309 In order to facilitate identification of devices that are accessible via multiple physical transports, the  
310 endpoints in the device shall support the Get Endpoint UUID MCTP command.

311 An MCTP endpoint is not required to support more than one outstanding command over a single physical  
312 transport. A requestor shall have requests outstanding on only one physical transport at a time.

313 Otherwise, this specification does not define any additional behaviors related to communicating with  
314 CXL™ Type 3 devices over MCTP that may be accessed through more than one type of MCTP physical  
315 transport on a given MCTP network.

316  
317  
318  
319

## **ANNEX A (informative)**

### **Change log**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.0.0	2021-12-28	Initial Version.

320