

# IEEE Standard Signaling Method for a Bidirectional Parallel Peripheral Interface for Personal Computers

Sponsor

**Microprocessor and Microcomputer Standards Committee**  
of the  
**IEEE Computer Society**

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**Abstract:** A signaling method for asynchronous, fully interlocked, bidirectional parallel communications between hosts and printers or other peripherals is defined. A functional subset of the signaling method may be implemented on personal computers (PCs) or equivalent parallel port hardware with new software. New electrical interfaces, cabling, and interface hardware that provides improved performance while retaining backward compatibility with this subset is detailed.

**Keywords:** bidirectional parallel communications, computers, interfaces, PCs, personal computers, printers

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## Introduction

(This introduction is not a part of IEEE Std 1284-2000, IEEE Standard Signaling Method for a Bidirectional Parallel Peripheral Interface for Personal Computers.)

This standard was formally started as an IEEE effort in January 1992, but without the advance work done by a loose alliance of printer manufacturers and printer software developers called the Network Printing Alliance, this standard would not be possible.

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