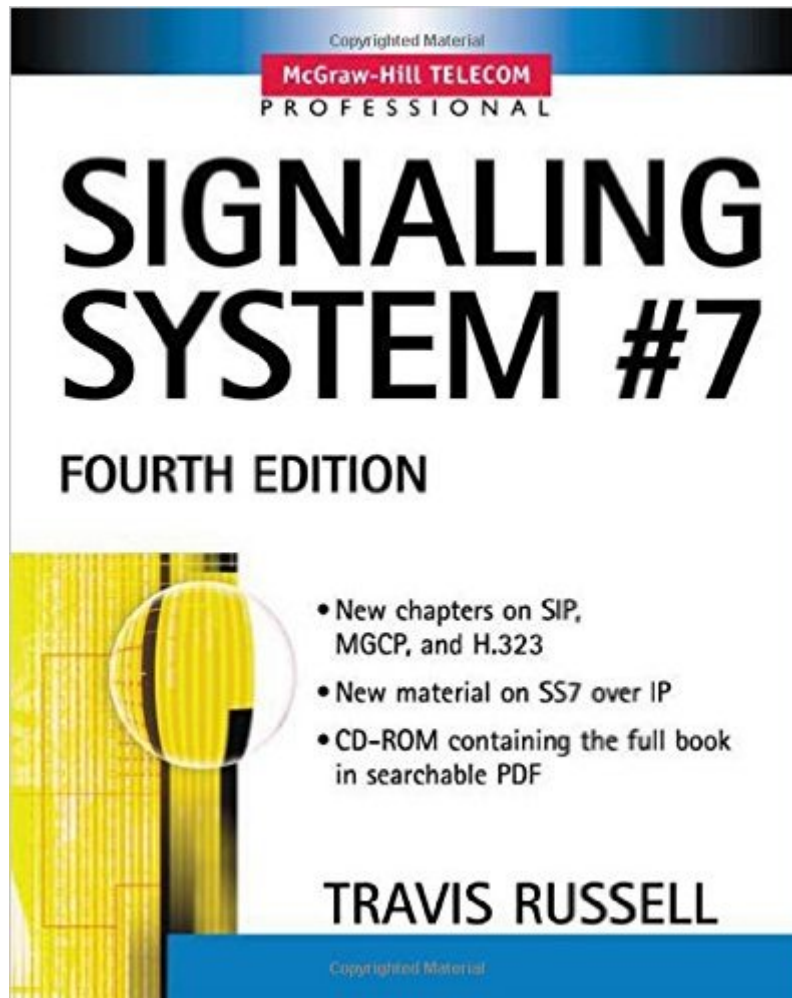


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# Signaling System # 7



## Synopsis

The CD-ROM contains the entire book in searchable PDF, in the new updated and expanded fourth edition of the industry authority on signaling system #7 since 1995. Originally designed for analog telephone networks, SS7 has continually undergone changes to accommodate the ever-evolving world of telecom. Today, SS7 is used for data, voice, video, audio, and voice-over IP networks - and no other resource even comes close to providing such a complete understanding of the signaling network, its architecture, and protocols used to communicate through it like Travis Russell's "Signaling System #7". The author bypasses heavy-handed engineering and mathematical derivations, making this unique guide understandable even to novices and an informative easy-read for experienced pros who need to fill-in some essential knowledge gaps. Each chapter presents a readable discussion, followed by technical details such as parameters, message structures and bit values. Hands-on expert Russell, knowing exactly what you need for a crystal-clear understanding of SS7, also provides the technical details, protocol messages, and application examples. New to this edition is: the new coverage of SS7 over IP; a reorganized chapter structure that covers three levels: basic, intermediate, and advanced; and a CD-ROM containing the entire book in searchable PDF. Here is the only resource you'll ever need to fully understand the "how's" and "why's" of Signaling System #7 - once you own it, you'll understand why the "Russell book" is considered indispensable among telecommunication managers, engineers, technicians, and network managers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book covers basics of SS7 very well. It is also a good reference. It covers MTP(1 to 3), SCCP, TCAP and ISUP. There are also short chapters on local number portability and usage of SS7 in VoIP. Content of the book is rich enough if the reader was interested the usage of SS7 in PSTN only (MTP,SCCP,TCAP,ISUP). However it doesn't cover any detail on other application parts like MAP, OMAP, INAP and usage of SS7 in UMTS and GSM. The chapter on SS7 in VoIP communications is rather short and not very informative. There is not much detail on Sigtran, SCTP and MTP adaptation layers. There is also an inconsistency about the content of the book (4th edition with ISBN 0071387722). Table of contents given in the publishers web site is not correct. As one of the previous reviewer has mentioned, there are only 11 chapters in this book (not 16). Correct chapter layout in the book is :1- Signaling System #7.2- SS7 Network.3- Overview of a Protocol.4- Overview of Signal Units.5- Message Transfer Part (MTP).6- Message Transfer Part Level 3.7- General Description of SCCP Functions.8- Overview of TCAP.9- Overview of ISUP.10- Local Number Portability.11- IP telephonyAppendicesAnd therefore following chapters don't exist the book separately (neither in the CDROM covering entire book in PDF format):- SS7 and SIP- SS7 and H.323- SS7 over IP- SS7 and VoIP- SS7 and TCP/IP- SS7 and MGCPI recommend this book for the readers who want to know signalling in PSTN. It wouldn't be useful for signalling in mobile communication networks and VoIP communication networks.

If you need a book on SS7, this is probably the one you should buy. But that is only because there is little else to choose from. Unfortunately, it is a very poorly written book. Russell obviously knows his stuff, but like most other telecommunications engineers he seems unable to write in a form that gives the reader any pleasure. Facts repeat themselves (often several times in the same paragraph), different chapters repeat the same thing in several different ways, and there is rarely much explanation for WHY things are done the way they are. What's worse is the pointless verbosity of the whole mess - it's almost impossible to find an answer to a question about SS7 quickly. I think the author has done a fine job putting the facts down, but the editors never did their jobs. This book reads like a first draft that was never ever reviewed.

I ordered this book hoping the first two reviewers were overly pessimistic, but boy were they right. This book has terrific potential, but Travis does not stick to the chosen topic well enough, mixing material covered in different layers. It's a good thing I saw this and could overlook it...pity the novice hoping to make some sense of the SS7 structure. There's way too much verbage and not nearly

enough illustrations and real-world examples. After finishing the book, I felt I was presented with a "gob" of information and a very weak understanding of its true structure. On the plus side, it's probably the best textbook on the subject, but that speaks strongly to the need for another book, or major re-write.

In response to the review below, McGraw-Hill wishes to make clear that the Fourth Edition of Signaling System #7 is a completely rewritten book. Whereas the 2nd and 3rd editions were made by adding to material to the existing text, the 4th has been rewritten from scratch (indeed, Mr. Russell has trimmed over 100 pages of out-dated and replicated material) and the new material folded into the existing chapter structure. There is some material from previous editions, particularly in chapters on more evergreen topics, but updates and new sections have been added throughout.

I feel that this book would serve as a helpful reference source only if you already know about SS7. It will not teach you from the start, although almost all the basics are covered, it still lacks the approach which a 10 page tutorial has! i.e. to tell you how things work for a novice. Many important topics, especially in the ISUP section are not covered well or are not covered at all. e.g. there is NO section which talks about TESTING SS7 and testing strategies, equipment etc. Chapters on MTP are the best and contain a lot of relevant, hard to come by, information but many concepts are repeated so much that it is maddening. Instead of presenting a lot of new material, same concepts are rephrased many a time. In short, buy this book if you already know what is SS7 and what it does and need to have a quick reference book. This book has to be used in conjunction with ITU-T documents to make complete sense/to make you more productive. Overall a good, should have, book and for the lack of better book, the only reference available (to the best of my humble knowledge)

This is quite possibly the most badly written book I have ever read. All the concepts and details are in there - but, just like Prego, there's no particular order or discernable logic to it. At least with Prego, you can get something to eat out of the deal.. Russell's book introduces ideas and concepts before they're defined, repeats definitions, and generally just meanders around. And, for the nit-picky, the grammar is sloppy as well. Anybody wishing to learn about SS7 would be better off searching the internet and reading the SS7 tutorials found there. I'm using my copy as a \$69.00 door-stop.

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