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NOTE Combinations of protocol types are specified in IEC 61784-1 and IEC 61784-2.

International Standard IEC 61158-4-4 has been prepared by subcommittee 65C: Industrial networks, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2014. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

a) additional user parameters to services;

b) additional services to support distributed objects;

c) additional secure services;

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
65C/946/FDIS	65C/955/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all the parts of the IEC 61158 series, published under the general title *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

This document is one of a series produced to facilitate the interconnection of automation system components. It is related to other standards in the set as defined by the “three-layer” fieldbus reference model described in IEC 61158-1.

The data-link protocol provides the data-link service by making use of the services available from the physical layer. The primary aim of this document is to provide a set of rules for communication expressed in terms of the procedures to be carried out by peer data-link entities (DLEs) at the time of communication. These rules for communication are intended to provide a sound basis for development in order to serve a variety of purposes:

a) as a guide for implementors and designers;

b) for use in the testing and procurement of equipment;

c) as part of an agreement for the admittance of systems into the open systems environment;

d) as a refinement to the understanding of time-critical communications within OSI.

This document is concerned, in particular, with the communication and interworking of sensors, effectors and other automation devices. By using this document together with other standards positioned within the OSI or fieldbus reference models, otherwise incompatible systems may work together in any combination.

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1 Scope

1.1 General

The data-link layer provides basic time-critical messaging communications between devices in an automation environment.

This protocol provides a means of connecting devices through a partial mesh network, such that most failures of an interconnection between two devices can be circumvented. In common practice the devices are interconnected in a non-redundant hierarchical manner reflecting application needs

1.2 Specifications

This document specifies

a) procedures for the timely transfer of data and control information from one data-link user entity to a peer user entity, and among the data-link entities forming the distributed data-link service provider;

b) the structure of the fieldbus DLPDUs used for the transfer of data and control information by the protocol of this document, and their representation as physical interface data units.

1.3 Procedures

The procedures are defined in terms of

a) the interactions between peer DL-entities (DLEs) through the exchange of fieldbus DLPDUs;

b) the interactions between a DL-service (DLS) provider and a DLS-user in the same system through the exchange of DLS primitives;

c) the interactions between a DLS-provider and a Ph-service provider in the same system through the exchange of Ph-service primitives.

1.4 Applicability

These procedures are applicable to instances of communication between systems which support time-critical communications services within the data-link layer of the OSI or fieldbus reference models, and which require the ability to interconnect in an open systems interconnection environment.

Profiles provide a simple multi-attribute means of summarizing an implementation’s capabilities, and thus its applicability to various time-critical communications needs.

1.5 Conformance

This document also specifies conformance requirements for systems implementing these procedures. This document does not contain tests to demonstrate compliance with such requirements.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE All parts of the IEC 61158 series, as well as IEC 61784-1 and IEC 61784-2 are maintained simultaneously. Cross-references to these documents within the text therefore refer to the editions as dated in this list of normative references.

ISO/IEC 7498-1, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Basic Reference Model: The Basic Model*

ISO/IEC 7498-3, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Basic Reference Model: Naming and addressing*

ISO/IEC 10731, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Basic Reference Model – Conventions for the definition of OSI services*