

© Copyright SEK Svensk Elstandard. Reproduction in any form without permission is prohibited.

## Industriell processtyrning – Fältbuss – Del 6-4: Specifikation av protokoll i applikationsskiktet – Delar i fältbuss, Typ 4

*Industrial communication networks –  
Fieldbus specifications –  
Part 6-4: Application layer protocol specification –  
Type 4 elements*

Som svensk standard gäller europastandarden EN IEC 61158-6-4:2023. Den svenska standarden innehåller den officiella engelska språkversionen av EN IEC 61158-6-4:2023.

### Nationellt förord

Europastandarden EN IEC 61158-6-4:2023

består av:

- **europastandardens ikraftsättningsdokument**, utarbetat inom CENELEC
- **IEC 61158-6-4, Fourth edition, 2023 - Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 6-4: Application layer protocol specification – Type 4 elements**

utarbetad inom International Electrotechnical Commission, IEC.

Tidigare fastställd svensk standard SS-EN IEC 61158-6-4, utg 3:2019 med eventuella tillägg, ändringar och rättelser gäller ej fr o m 2026-04-28.

---

ICS 35.110.00; 25.040.40; 35.100.70

---

Denna standard är fastställd av SEK Svensk Elstandard, som också kan lämna upplysningar om **sakinnehållet** i standarden.  
Postadress: Box 1284, 164 29 KISTA  
Telefon: 08 - 444 14 00.  
E-post: [sek@elstandard.se](mailto:sek@elstandard.se). Internet: [www.elstandard.se](http://www.elstandard.se)

---

### *Standarder underlättar utvecklingen och höjer elsäkerheten*

Det finns många fördelar med att ha gemensamma tekniska regler för bl a mätning, säkerhet och provning och för utförande, skötsel och dokumentation av elprodukter och elanläggningar.

Genom att utforma sådana standarder blir säkerhetsfordringar tydliga och utvecklingskostnaderna rimliga samtidigt som marknadens acceptans för produkten eller tjänsten ökar.

Många standarder inom elområdet beskriver tekniska lösningar och metoder som åstadkommer den elsäkerhet som föreskrivs av svenska myndigheter och av EU.

### *SEK är Sveriges röst i standardiseringsarbetet inom elområdet*

SEK Svensk Elstandard svarar för standardiseringen inom elområdet i Sverige och samordnar svensk medverkan i internationell och europeisk standardisering. SEK är en ideell organisation med frivilligt deltagande från svenska myndigheter, företag och organisationer som vill medverka till och påverka utformningen av tekniska regler inom elektrotekniken.

SEK samordnar svenska intressenters medverkan i SEKs tekniska kommittéer och stödjer svenska experters medverkan i internationella och europeiska projekt.

### *Stora delar av arbetet sker internationellt*

Utformningen av standarder sker i allt väsentligt i internationellt och europeiskt samarbete. SEK är svensk nationalkommitté av International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) och Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique (CENELEC).

Standardiseringsarbetet inom SEK är organiserat i referensgrupper bestående av ett antal tekniska kommittéer som speglar hur arbetet inom IEC och CENELEC är organiserat.

Arbetet i de tekniska kommittéerna är öppet för alla svenska organisationer, företag, institutioner, myndigheter och statliga verk. Den årliga avgiften för deltagandet och intäkter från försäljning finansierar SEKs standardiseringsverksamhet och medlemsavgift till IEC och CENELEC.

### *Var med och påverka!*

Den som deltar i SEKs tekniska kommittéarbete har möjlighet att påverka framtida standarder och får tidig tillgång till information och dokumentation om utvecklingen inom sitt teknikområde. Arbetet och kontakterna med kollegor, kunder och konkurrenter kan gynnsamt påverka enskilda företags affärsutveckling och bidrar till deltagarnas egen kompetensutveckling.

Du som vill dra nytta av dessa möjligheter är välkommen att kontakta SEKs kansli för mer information.

### **SEK Svensk Elstandard**

Box 1284  
164 29 Kista  
Tel 08-444 14 00  
[www.elstandard.se](http://www.elstandard.se)

English Version

**Industrial communication networks - Fieldbus specifications -  
Part 6-4: Application layer protocol specification - Type 4  
elements  
(IEC 61158-6-4:2023)**

Réseaux de communication industriels - Spécifications des  
bus de terrain - Partie 6-4: Spécification du protocole de la  
couche liaison de données - Éléments de type 4  
(IEC 61158-6-4:2023)

Industrielle Kommunikationsnetze - Feldbusse - Teil 6-4:  
Protokollspezifikation des Application Layer  
(Anwendungsschicht) - Typ 4-Elemente  
(IEC 61158-6-4:2023)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2023-04-28. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.



European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

## **European foreword**

The text of document 65C/1204/FDIS, future edition 4 of IEC 61158-6-4, prepared by SC 65C "Industrial networks" of IEC/TC 65 "Industrial-process measurement, control and automation" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 61158-6-4:2023.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national (dop) 2024-01-28 level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the (dow) 2026-04-28 document have to be withdrawn

This document supersedes EN IEC 61158-6-4:2019 and all of its amendments and corrigenda (if any).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CENELEC website.

### **Endorsement notice**

The text of the International Standard IEC 61158-6-4:2023 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for Bibliography, the following notes have to be added for the standard indicated:

- |                      |      |                                     |
|----------------------|------|-------------------------------------|
| IEC 61158-1          | NOTE | Approved as EN IEC 61158-1          |
| IEC 61784-1 (series) | NOTE | Approved as EN IEC 61784-1 (series) |
| IEC 61784-2 (series) | NOTE | Approved as EN IEC 61784-2 (series) |

## Annex ZA (normative)

### Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

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 1 Where an International Publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

NOTE 2 Up-to-date information on the latest versions of the European Standards listed in this annex is available here: [www.cencenelec.eu](http://www.cencenelec.eu).

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 61158-3-4	2023	Industrial communication networks - Fieldbus specifications - Part 3-4: Data-link layer service definition - Type 4 elements	-	-
IEC 61158-4-4	2023	Industrial communication networks - Fieldbus specifications - Part 4-4: Data-link layer protocol specification - Type 4 elements	-	-
IEC 61158-5-4	2023	Industrial communication networks - Fieldbus specifications - Part 5-4: Application layer service definition - Type 4 elements	-	-
IEC 61158-6-1	-	Industrial communication networks - Fieldbus specifications - Part 6-1: Application layer protocol specification - Type 1 elements	-	-
ISO/IEC 7498-1	-	Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Basic reference model: The basic model	-	-
ISO/IEC 8822	-	Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Presentation service definition	-	-
ISO/IEC 8824-1	-	Information technology - Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) - Part 1: Specification of basic notation	-	-
ISO/IEC 9545	-	Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Application layer structure	-	-
ISO/IEC 9797-1	-	Information technology - Security techniques - Message Authentication Codes (MACs) - Part 1: Mechanisms using a block cipher	-	-
ISO/IEC 10731	-	Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Basic Reference Model - Conventions for the definition of OSI services	-	-



IEC 61158-6-4

Edition 4.0 2023-03

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

---

**Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications –  
Part 6-4: Application layer protocol specification – Type 4 elements**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

---

ICS 25.040.40; 35.100.70; 35.110

ISBN 978-2-8322-6632-8

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.**

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
INTRODUCTION.....	7
1 Scope.....	8
1.1 General.....	8
1.2 Specifications .....	8
1.3 Conformance .....	9
2 Normative references .....	9
3 Terms, definitions, symbols, abbreviated terms and conventions .....	10
3.1 Referenced terms and definitions.....	10
3.1.1 ISO/IEC 7498-1 terms.....	10
3.1.2 ISO/IEC 8822 terms.....	10
3.1.3 ISO/IEC 9545 terms.....	10
3.1.4 ISO/IEC 8824-1 terms.....	10
3.1.5 Fieldbus data-link layer terms.....	11
3.2 Abbreviations and symbols .....	11
3.3 Conventions.....	12
3.3.1 General concept .....	12
3.3.2 Conventions for state machines for Type 4 .....	12
4 FAL syntax description .....	13
4.1 FAL-AR PDU abstract syntax .....	13
4.1.1 General .....	13
4.1.2 Abstract syntax of APDU header.....	13
4.1.3 Abstract syntax of APDU body .....	15
4.2 Data types .....	16
5 Transfer syntaxes .....	16
5.1 APDU encoding .....	16
5.1.1 APDU Header encoding.....	16
5.1.2 APDU body encoding.....	18
5.2 Variable object encoding and packing .....	20
5.2.1 Encoding of simple variables .....	20
5.2.2 Encoding of constructed variables .....	21
5.2.3 Alignment .....	22
5.2.4 Variable object attributes .....	24
5.3 Error codes .....	25
6 FAL protocol state machines .....	26
7 AP-context state machine .....	27
8 FAL service protocol machine (FSPM).....	27
8.1 Primitives exchanged between FAL User and FSPM .....	27
8.2 FSPM states .....	27
8.2.1 General .....	27
8.2.2 FSPM proxy object states .....	27
8.2.3 FSPM real object state machine description .....	32
9 Application relationship protocol machine (ARPM).....	34
9.1 Primitives exchanged between ARPM and FSPM .....	34
9.2 ARPM States .....	35
9.2.1 General .....	35

9.2.2	Sender state transitions .....	35
9.2.3	Receiver state transitions .....	36
10	DLL mapping protocol machine (DMPM) .....	37
10.1	Data-link Layer service selection .....	37
10.1.1	General .....	37
10.1.2	DL-UNITDATA request .....	37
10.1.3	DL-UNITDATA indication .....	37
10.1.4	DL-UNITDATA response .....	37
10.1.5	DLM-Set primitive and parameters .....	37
10.1.6	DLM-Get primitive and parameters .....	37
10.2	Primitives exchanged between ARPM and DLPM .....	37
10.3	Primitives exchanged between DLPM and data-link layer .....	38
10.4	DLPM states .....	38
10.4.1	States .....	38
10.4.2	Sender state transitions .....	38
10.4.3	Receiver state transitions .....	39
11	Protocol options .....	40
	Bibliography .....	41
	Figure 1 – State transition diagram .....	12
	Figure 2 – APDU header structure .....	16
	Figure 3 – Subfields of ControlStatus for Request .....	17
	Figure 4 – Subfields of ControlStatus for Response with error .....	17
	Figure 5 – Subfields of ControlStatus for Response with no error .....	18
	Figure 6 – DataFieldFormat encoding .....	18
	Figure 7 – Structure of request APDU body .....	19
	Figure 8 – Structure of response APDU body .....	19
	Figure 9 – Variable identifier .....	19
	Figure 10 – Code subfield of variable identifier .....	19
	Figure 11 – Sequence of data in the APDU body subfield .....	21
	Figure 12 – MSG consists of APDU header and APDU body .....	22
	Figure 13 – Summary of FAL architecture .....	26
	Figure 14 – FSPM proxy object state machine .....	28
	Figure 15 – FSPM real object state machine .....	33
	Figure 16 – ARPM state machine .....	35
	Figure 17 – DLPM state machine .....	38
	Table 1 – State machine description elements .....	12
	Table 2 – APDU header .....	13
	Table 3 – APDU body .....	15
	Table 4 – Transfer syntax for Array .....	23
	Table 5 – Transfer syntax for Structure .....	23
	Table 6 – Common variable object attributes .....	24
	Table 7 – Variable type identifiers .....	24
	Table 8 – FIFO variable object attributes .....	25

Table 9 – Error codes .....	25
Table 10 – Primitives exchanged between FAL-User and FSPM .....	27
Table 11 – REQUEST.req FSPM constraints.....	28
Table 12 – REQUEST.req FSPM actions .....	29
Table 13 – RESPONSE.cnf FSPM constraints .....	31
Table 14 – RESPONSE.cnf FSPM actions .....	31
Table 15 – AR Send.ind proxy FSPM constraints .....	32
Table 16 – AR Send.ind proxy FSPM actions .....	32
Table 17 – AR Send.ind real FSPM constraints.....	33
Table 18 – AR Send.ind real FSPM Actions .....	34
Table 19 – Primitives issued by FSPM to ARPM .....	34
Table 20 – Primitives issued by ARPM to FSPM .....	34
Table 21 – Primitives issued by ARPM to ARPM .....	35
Table 22 – AR Send.req ARPM constraints .....	35
Table 23 – AR Send.req ARPM actions.....	35
Table 24 – AR Acknowledge.req ARPM constraints .....	36
Table 25 – AR Acknowledge.req ARPM actions .....	36
Table 26 – AR Send.ind ARPM constraints .....	36
Table 27 – AR Send.req ARPM actions.....	36
Table 28 – Primitives issued by ARPM to DLPM .....	37
Table 29 – Primitives issued by DLPM to ARPM .....	37
Table 30 – Primitives issued by DLPM to data-link layer .....	38
Table 31 – Primitives issued by data-link layer to DLPM .....	38
Table 32 – AR Send.req DLPM constraints .....	38
Table 33 – AR Send.req DLPM actions .....	39
Table 34 – AR Acknowledge.req DLPM constraints.....	39
Table 35 – AR Acknowledge.req DLPM actions.....	39
Table 36 – DL-UNITDATA.ind DLPM constraints.....	40
Table 37 – DL-UNITDATA.ind DLPM actions.....	40

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION NETWORKS –  
FIELDBUS SPECIFICATIONS –****Part 6-4: Application layer protocol specification –  
Type 4 elements**

## FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as “IEC Publication(s)”). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the use of the associated protocol type is restricted by its intellectual-property-right holders. In all cases, the commitment to limited release of intellectual-property-rights made by the holders of those rights permits a layer protocol type to be used with other layer protocols of the same type, or in other type combinations explicitly authorized by its intellectual-property-right holders.

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

IEC 61158-6-4 has been prepared by subcommittee 65C: Industrial networks, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2019. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Use of extended data size in an APDU body. This extension is restricted to nodes operating on a P-NET IP network.

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

Draft	Report on voting
65C/1204/FDIS	65C/1245/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

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

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under [webstore.iec.ch](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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

## 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 application protocol provides the application service by making use of the services available from the data-link or other immediately lower 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 application entities (AEs) 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:

- as a guide for implementors and designers;
- for use in the testing and procurement of equipment;
- as part of an agreement for the admittance of systems into the open systems environment;
- 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 can work together in any combination.

# INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION NETWORKS – FIELDBUS SPECIFICATIONS –

## Part 6-4: Application layer protocol specification – Type 4 elements

### 1 Scope

#### 1.1 General

The fieldbus application layer (FAL) provides user programs with a means to access the fieldbus communication environment. In this respect, the FAL can be viewed as a “window between corresponding application programs.”

This part of IEC 61158 provides common elements for basic time-critical and non-time-critical messaging communications between application programs in an automation environment and material specific to Type 4 fieldbus. The term “time-critical” is used to represent the presence of a time-window, within which one or more specified actions are required to be completed with some defined level of certainty. Failure to complete specified actions within the time window risks failure of the applications requesting the actions, with attendant risk to equipment, plant and possibly human life.

This document specifies interactions between remote applications and defines the externally visible behavior provided by the Type 4 fieldbus application layer in terms of

- the formal abstract syntax defining the application layer protocol data units conveyed between communicating application entities;
- the transfer syntax defining encoding rules that are applied to the application layer protocol data units;
- the application context state machine defining the application service behavior visible between communicating application entities;
- the application relationship state machines defining the communication behavior visible between communicating application entities.

The purpose of this document is to define the protocol provided to

- define the wire-representation of the service primitives defined in IEC 61158-5-4, and
- define the externally visible behavior associated with their transfer.

This document specifies the protocol of the Type 4 fieldbus application layer, in conformance with the OSI Basic Reference Model (ISO/IEC 7498-1) and the OSI application layer structure (ISO/IEC 9545).

#### 1.2 Specifications

The principal objective of this document is to specify the syntax and behavior of the application layer protocol that conveys the application layer services defined in IEC 61158-5-4.

A secondary objective is to provide migration paths from previously-existing industrial communications protocols. It is this latter objective which gives rise to the diversity of protocols standardized in IEC 61158-6 series.

### 1.3 Conformance

This document do not specify individual implementations or products, nor do they constrain the implementations of application layer entities within industrial automation systems. Conformance is achieved through implementation of this application layer protocol specification.

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

IEC 61158-3-4:2023, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 3-4: Data-link layer service definition – Type 4 elements*

IEC 61158-4-4:2023, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 4-4: Data-link layer protocol specification – Type 4 elements*

IEC 61158-5-4:2023, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 5-4: Application layer service definition – Type 4 elements*

IEC 61158-6-1, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 6-1: Application layer protocol specification – Type 1 elements*

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

ISO/IEC 8822, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Presentation service definition*

ISO/IEC 8824-1, *Information technology – Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) – Part 1: Specification of basic notation*

ISO/IEC 9545, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Application Layer structure*

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

ISO/IEC 9797-1, *Information technology – Security techniques – Message Authentication Codes (MACs) – Part 1: Mechanisms using a block cipher*