

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications –  
Part 6-3: Application layer protocol specification – Type 3 elements**

**Réseaux de communication industriels – Spécifications des bus de terrain –  
Partie 6-3: Spécification du protocole de la couche application – Éléments  
de type 3**



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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION NETWORKS –  
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Type 3 elements**

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International Standard IEC 61158-6-3 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 2010. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- corrections, in Table 4, Table 5, Table 6, and Table 7;

- added references for data types;
- corrected state machine in Table 91 and Table 97;
- updated macro START\_MSAL1M,
- spelling and grammar.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
65C/764/FDIS	65C/774/RVD

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

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## INTRODUCTION

This part of IEC 61158 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 standard 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 standard is concerned, in particular, with the communication and interworking of sensors, effectors and other automation devices. By using this standard together with other standards positioned within the OSI or fieldbus reference models, otherwise incompatible systems may work together in any combination.

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) draws attention to the fact that it is claimed that compliance with this document may involve the use of patents concerning Type 3 elements and possibly other types given in the normative elements of this standard.

The following patent rights for Type 3 have been announced by [SI]:

Publication	Title
EP 1253494	Control device with fieldbus

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## INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION NETWORKS – FIELDBUS SPECIFICATIONS –

### Part 6-3: Application layer protocol specification – Type 3 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 standard 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 3 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 standard defines in an abstract way the externally visible behavior provided by the Type 3 fieldbus application layer in terms of

- a) the abstract syntax defining the application layer protocol data units conveyed between communicating application entities,
- b) the transfer syntax defining the application layer protocol data units conveyed between communicating application entities,
- c) the application context state machine defining the application service behavior visible between communicating application entities; and
- d) the application relationship state machines defining the communication behavior visible between communicating application entities.

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

- a) define the wire-representation of the service primitives specified in IEC 61158-5-3, and
- b) define the externally visible behavior associated with their transfer.

This standard specifies the protocol of the Type 3 fieldbus application layer, in conformance with the OSI Basic Reference Model (ISO/IEC 7498-1) and the OSI Application Layer Structure (ISO/IEC 9545).

FAL services and protocols are provided by FAL application-entities (AE) contained within the application processes. The FAL AE is composed of a set of object-oriented Application Service Elements (ASEs) and a Layer Management Entity (LME) that manages the AE. The ASEs provide communication services that operate on a set of related application process object (APO) classes. One of the FAL ASEs is a management ASE that provides a common set of services for the management of the instances of FAL classes.

Although these services specify, from the perspective of applications, how request and responses are issued and delivered, they do not include a specification of what the requesting and responding applications are to do with them. That is, the behavioral aspects of the

applications are not specified; only a definition of what requests and responses they can send/receive is specified. This permits greater flexibility to the FAL users in standardizing such object behavior. In addition to these services, some supporting services are also defined in this standard to provide access to the FAL to control certain aspects of its operation.

## 1.2 Specifications

The principal objective of this standard is to specify the syntax and behavior of the application layer protocol that conveys the application layer services defined in IEC 61158-5-3.

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 parts of the IEC 61158-6 subparts.

## 1.3 Conformance

This standard does not specify individual implementations or products, nor does it constrain the implementations of application layer entities within industrial automation systems.

There is no conformance of equipment to the application layer service definition standard. Instead, conformance is achieved through implementation of this application layer protocol specification.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. 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.

IEC 61158-3-3:2014, *Industrial communication networks - Fieldbus specifications – Part 3-3: Data-link layer service definition – Type 3 elements*

IEC 61158-4-3:2014, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 4-3: Data-link layer protocol specification – Type 3 elements*

IEC 61158-5-3:2014, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 5-3: Application layer service definition – Type 3 elements*

IEC 61158-5-10:2014, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 5-10: Application layer service definition – Type 10 elements*

IEC 61158-6-10:2014, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 6-10: Application layer protocol specification – Type 10 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): 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*

IEEE 754, *IEEE Standard for Floating-Point Arithmetic*, available at <<http://www.ieee.org>>

### 3 Terms, definitions, abbreviations, symbols and conventions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms, definitions, abbreviations, symbols and conventions apply.

#### 3.1 Referenced terms and definitions

##### 3.1.1 ISO/IEC 7498-1 terms

For the purposes of this document, the following terms as defined in ISO/IEC 7498-1 apply:

- a) application entity
- b) application process
- c) application protocol data unit
- d) application service element
- e) application entity invocation
- f) application process invocation
- g) application transaction
- h) real open system
- i) transfer syntax

##### 3.1.2 ISO/IEC 8822 terms

For the purposes of this document, the following terms as defined in ISO/IEC 8822 apply:

- a) abstract syntax
- b) presentation context

##### 3.1.3 ISO/IEC 9545 terms

For the purposes of this document, the following terms as defined in ISO/IEC 9545 apply:

- a) application-association
- b) application-context
- c) application context name
- d) application-entity-invocation
- e) application-entity-type
- f) application-process-invocation
- g) application-process-type
- h) application-service-element
- i) application control service element