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Industrial communication networks –
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Installation of communication networks in industrial premises
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Réseaux de communication industriels –
IEC 61918:2018
Installation de réseaux de communication dans des locaux industriels
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International Standard IEC 61918 has been prepared by subcommittee 65C: Industrial networks, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2013. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) the reference to ISO/IEC 24702 has been replaced with reference to the new ISO/IEC 11801-3; this affects Table 2;
- b) some terms and abbreviated terms have been modified in Clause 3;
- c) Subclauses 4.1.2, 4.4.2.5, 4.4.3.4.1 and 5.7 have been updated;
- d) Figure 2 and Figure 3 have been updated; Figure 13, Figure 16, Figure 30 and Figure 49 have been added;

- e) Table 7 has been updated;
- f) Annex D and Annex M have been extended to cover additional communication profile families; Annex H has been extended to cover the M12-8 X-coding connector use;
- g) Annex O has been modified by including references to the new edition of the ISO/IEC 11801 series, ISO/IEC TR 11801-9902 and ISO/IEC 14763-4;
- h) Annex P has been added.

This standard is to be used in conjunction with the IEC 61784-5 series with regard to the installation of communication profiles (CPs).

Those standards of the IEC 61784-5 series which are still specified for use in conjunction with IEC 61918:2013 can also be used in conjunction with this edition, provided that the user takes into account the fact that the reference to ISO/IEC 24702 has been replaced with a reference to ISO/IEC 11801-3:2017.

NOTE This solution applies for the installation profiles that are affected only by this modified reference.

This standard is referenced by ISO/IEC 14763-2, which covers installation of generic cabling outside the automation islands in industrial premises.

This standard was developed in cooperation with ISO/IEC JTC1/SC25 which is responsible for the ISO/IEC 11801 series.

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

(FDIS)	Report on Voting
65C/928/FDIS	65C/933/RVD

[IEC 61918:2018](#)

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.
<https://standards.iec.ch/catalog/standards/sist/3e71d9dd-503b-4555-a266-5163c3f0aa8d/iec-61918-2018>

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

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "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.

IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this document indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

Process and factory automation rely increasingly on communication networks and fieldbuses that are inherently designed to cope with the specific environmental conditions of the industrial premises. The networks and fieldbuses provide for an effective integration of applications among the several functional units of the plant/factory. One of the benefits of integrating field-generated data with higher-level management systems is to reduce production costs. At the same time, integrated data helps to maintain or even increase the quantity and quality of production. A correct network installation is an important prerequisite for communications availability, reliability, and performance. This requires proper consideration of safety and security conditions and environmental aspects such as mechanical, liquid, particulate, climatic, chemicals and electromagnetic interference.

The specifications of these communication networks are provided in the following documents.

ISO/IEC 11801-3 specifies design of generic telecommunications infrastructures within industrial premises and provides the foundations for some of the transmission performance specifications of this document. ISO/IEC 11801-3 specifies only the raw bandwidth capability of a channel; it does not specify useful data transfer rate for a specific network using that channel or expected errors after taking account of interference during the communication process, as is needed for industrial automation.

The IEC 61158 fieldbus standard and IEC 62026-3 and their companion standard IEC 61784-1 and IEC 61784-2 jointly specify several Communication Profiles (CPs) suitable for industrial automation. These CPs specify a raw bandwidth capability and in addition, they specify bit modulation and encoding rules for their fieldbus. Some profiles also specify target levels for useful data transfer rate, and maximum values for errors caused by interference during the communication process.

IEC 61918:2018

This document provides a common point of reference for the installation of the media of most used industrial communication networks for most industrial sites.

This document provides a consistent set of installation rules for industrial automation islands where control applications reside. In addition, it offers support for the definition and installation of the interfaces between automation island networks and generic cabling.

One of the problems it seeks to solve is the situation created when different parts of a large automation site are provided by suppliers that use non-homogeneous installation guidelines having different structures and contents. This lack of consistency greatly increases the potential for errors and mismatch situations liable to compromise the communication system.

This document was developed by harmonising the approaches of several user groups and industrial consortia.

The document covers the life cycle of an installation in the following clauses (see the map of the document in Figure 1):

- Clause 4: Installation planning;
- Clause 5: Installation implementation;
- Clause 6: Installation verification and acceptance test;
- Clause 7: Installation administration;
- Clause 8: Installation maintenance and installation troubleshooting.

The methods described in these clauses are written in such a way as to provide installation guidance for a wide range of technician skills.