

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC
61850-7-2

First edition
2003-05

**Communication networks and systems
in substations –**

**Part 7-2:
Basic communication structure
for substation and feeder equipment –
Abstract communication service interface (ACSI)**

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Reference number
IEC 61850-7-2:2003(E)

Publication numbering

As from 1 January 1997 all IEC publications are issued with a designation in the 60000 series. For example, IEC 34-1 is now referred to as IEC 60034-1.

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

PRICE CODE

XH

For price, see current catalogue

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

COMMUNICATION NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS IN SUBSTATIONS –

**Part 7-2: Basic communication structure
for substation and feeder equipment –
Abstract communication service interface (ACSI)**

FOREWORD

- 1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organisation for standardisation comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardisation in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, the IEC publishes International Standards. 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 organisations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organisations.
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International Standard IEC 61850-7-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 57: Power system control and associated communications.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
57/612/FDIS	57/629/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.

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

IEC 61850 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Communication networks and systems in substations*:

- Part 1: Introduction and overview ¹
- Part 2: Glossary ¹
- Part 3: General requirements
- Part 4: System and project management

¹ To be published.

- Part 5: Communication requirements for functions and device models ²
- Part 6: Configuration description language for communication in electrical substations related to IEDs ²
- Part 7-1: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Principles and models
- Part 7-2: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Abstract communication service interface (ACSI)
- Part 7-3: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Common data classes
- Part 7-4: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Compatible logical node classes and data classes
- Part 8-1: Specific communication service mapping (SCSM) – Mappings to MMS (ISO/IEC 9506-1 and ISO/IEC 9506-2) and to ISO/IEC 8802-3 ²
- Part 9-1: Specific communication service mapping (SCSM) – Sampled values over serial unidirectional multidrop point to point link
- Part 9-2: Specific communication service mapping (SCSM) – Sampled values over ISO/IEC 8802-3 ²
- Part 10: Conformance testing ²

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2005. 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.

² To be published.

INTRODUCTION

This document is part of a set of specifications which details a layered substation communication architecture. This architecture has been chosen to provide abstract definitions of classes and services such that the specifications are independent of specific protocol stacks, implementations, and operating systems.

The IEC 61850 series is intended to provide interoperability between a variety of substation and feeder devices. Communication between these devices is achieved by the definition of a hierarchical class model (for example, logical device, logical node, data, data set, report control, or log) and services provided by these classes (for example, get, set, report, define, delete) in parts IEC 61850-7-x.

This part of IEC 61850 defines the abstract communication service interface (ACSI) for use in the utility substation domain that require real-time cooperation of intelligent electronic devices. The ACSI has been defined so as to be independent of the underlying communication systems. Specific communication service mappings³ (SCSM) are specified in part 8-x and part 9-x of this standard.

This part of IEC 61850 defines the abstract communication service interface in terms of

- a hierarchical class model of all information that can be accessed via a communication network,
- services that operate on these classes, and
- parameters associated with each service.

The ACSI description technique abstracts away from all the different approaches to implement the cooperation of the various devices.

NOTE 1 Abstraction in ACSI has two meanings. First, only those aspects of a real device (for example, a breaker) or a real function that are visible and accessible over a communication network are modelled. This abstraction leads to the hierarchical class models and their behaviour defined in IEC 61850-7-2, IEC 61850-7-3, and IEC 61850-7-4. Second, the ACSI abstracts from the aspect of concrete definitions on how the devices exchange information; only a conceptual cooperation is defined. The concrete information exchange is defined in the SCSMs.

NOTE 2 This part of IEC 61850 does not provide comprehensive tutorial material. It is recommended that IEC 61850-5 and IEC 61850-7-1 be read first in conjunction with IEC 61850-7-2 and IEC 61850-7-3.

NOTE 3 Examples use names of classes (e.g. XCBR for a class of a logical node) defined in IEC 61850-7-4 and IEC 61850-7-3. The normative names are defined in IEC 61850-7-4 and IEC 61850-7-3 only.

³ The ACSI is independent of the specific mapping. Mappings to standard application layers or middle ware technologies are possible.

COMMUNICATION NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS IN SUBSTATIONS –

Part 7-2: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Abstract communication service interface (ACSI)

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61850 applies to the ACSI communication in substations and feeder applications. The ACSI provides the following abstract interfaces.

- a) Abstract interface describing communications between a client and a remote server for
 - real-time data access and retrieval,
 - device control,
 - event reporting and logging,
 - publisher/subscriber,
 - self-description of devices (device data dictionary),
 - data typing and discovery of data types, and
 - file transfer.
- b) Abstract interface for fast and reliable system-wide event distribution between an application in one device and many remote applications in different devices (publisher/subscriber) and for transmission of sampled measured values (publisher/subscriber).

This part of IEC 61850 may also be applied to describe device models and functions for additional activities, such as:

- substation to substation information exchange,
- substation to control centre information exchange,
- power plant to control centre information exchange,
- information exchange for distributed generation, or
- information exchange for metering.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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.

IEC 61850-2, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 2: Glossary*

IEC 61850-5, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 5: Communication requirements for functions and devices models*

IEC 61850-7-1, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 7-1: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Principles and models*

IEC 61850-7-3, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 7-3: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Common data classes*

IEC 61850-7-4, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 7-4: Basic communication structure for substation and feeder equipment – Compatible logical node classes and data classes*

IEC 61850-8-1: *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 8-1: Specific communication service mapping (SCSM) – Mappings to MMS (ISO/IEC 9506-1 and ISO/IEC 9506-2) and to ISO/IEC 8802-3*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions provided in IEC 61850-2 and the following definitions apply.

3.1

class

description of a set of objects that share the same attributes, services, relationships, and semantics

3.2

client

entity that requests a service from a server and that receives unsolicited messages from a server

3.3

device

entity that performs control, actuating and/or sensing functions and interfaces to other such entities within an automation system

NOTE Devices alone do not perform energy transport functions.

3.4

external equipment

entity that is stand-alone, or interfaces to an automation system, and that performs energy transport functions

EXAMPLE Transformer, circuit-breaker, line.

NOTE 1 Equipment can contain devices.

NOTE 2 Equipment cannot have a direct connection to the communication network – only devices can be directly connected to the communication network.

3.5

instance (of a class)

entity that has unique identity, to which a set of services can be applied, and which has a state that stores the effects of the services

NOTE Instance is a synonym for the term object.

3.6

Logical device

entity that represents a set of typical substation functions

3.7

Logical node

entity that represents a typical substation function