

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC 61499-1

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Function blocks –

Part 1: Architecture

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

FUNCTION BLOCKS –

Part 1: Architecture

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.
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International Standard IEC 61499-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement and control.

This standard cancels and replaces IEC/PAS 61499-1 published in 2000. This first edition constitutes a technical revision.

The following major technical changes have occurred between the PAS edition and this edition:

- a) Syntax for network segments, links and parameters has been added in Clause B.3 to correspond to the system model of 4.1.
- b) Syntax for parameters instead of constant data connections has been included for parameterization of function blocks, devices and resources in Clauses B.2 and B.3 for better consistency with IEC 61131-3.
- c) The execution control model of 5.2.2.2 has been simplified and updated for consistency with modern models of state machine control.

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

CDV	Report on voting
65/338/CDV	65/346/RVC

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 61499 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Function blocks*:

Part 1: Architecture

Part 2: Software tool requirements

Part 3: Tutorial information

Part 4: Rules for compliance profiles ¹

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the maintenance result 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 standard may be issued at a later date.

¹ Under consideration.

INTRODUCTION

The IEC 61499 series consists of four Parts:

- d) Part 1 (this part of IEC 61499) contains:
- general requirements, including scope, normative references, definitions, and reference models;
 - rules for the declaration of *function block types*, and rules for the behavior of *instances* of the types so declared;
 - rules for the use of function blocks in the *configuration* of distributed Industrial-Process Measurement and Control Systems (IPMCSs);
 - rules for the use of function blocks in meeting the communication requirements of distributed IPMCSs;
 - rules for the use of function blocks in the management of *applications, resources and devices* in distributed IPMCSs.
- e) Part 2 defines requirements for *software tools* to support the following systems engineering tasks enumerated in Clause 1 of this part of IEC 61499:
- the specification of function block types;
 - the functional specification of resource types and device types;
 - the specification, analysis, and validation of distributed IPMCSs;
 - the *configuration, implementation, operation, and maintenance* of distributed IPMCSs;
 - the exchange of *information* among *software tools*.
- f) Part 3 has the purpose of increasing the understanding, acceptance, and both generic and domain-specific applicability of IPMCS architectures and software tools meeting the requirements of the other Parts, by providing:
- answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the IEC 61499 series;
 - examples of the use of IEC 61499 constructs to solve frequently encountered problems in control and automation engineering.
- g) Part 4 defines rules for the development of *compliance profiles* which specify the features of IEC 61499-1 and IEC 61499-2 to be implemented in order to promote the following attributes of IEC 61499-based systems, devices and software tools:
- interoperability of devices from multiple suppliers;
 - portability of software between software tools of multiple suppliers; and
 - configurability of devices from multiple vendors by software tools of multiple suppliers.

FUNCTION BLOCKS –

Part 1: Architecture

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61499 defines a generic architecture and presents guidelines for the use of *function blocks* in distributed Industrial-Process Measurement and Control Systems (IPMCSs). This architecture is presented in terms of implementable reference *models*, textual syntax and graphical representations. These models, representations and syntax can be used for:

- the specification and standardization of *function block types*;
- the functional specification and standardization of system elements;
- the implementation independent specification, analysis, and validation of distributed IPMCSs;
- the *configuration, implementation, operation, and maintenance* of distributed IPMCSs;
- the exchange of *information* among *software tools* for the performance of the above *functions*.

NOTE 1 This part of IEC 61499 does not restrict or specify the functional capabilities of IPMCSs or their system elements, except as such capabilities are represented using the elements defined herein. IEC 61499-4 addresses the extent to which the elements defined in this part of IEC 61499 may be restricted by the functional capabilities of compliant systems, subsystems, and devices.

Part of the purpose of this part of IEC 61499 is to provide reference models for the use of function blocks in other standards dealing with the support of the system life cycle, including system planning, design, implementation, validation, operation and maintenance. The models given in this part of IEC 61499 are intended to be generic, domain independent and extensible to the definition and use of function blocks in other standards or for particular applications or application domains. It is intended that specifications written according to the rules given in this part of IEC 61499 be concise, implementable, complete, unambiguous, and consistent.

NOTE 2 The provisions of this part of IEC 61499 alone are not sufficient to ensure interoperability among devices of different vendors. Standards complying with this part of IEC 61499 may specify additional provisions to ensure such interoperability.

NOTE 3 Standards complying with this part of IEC 61499 may specify additional provisions to enable the performance of *system, device, resource* and *application* management *functions*.

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 60050-351:1998, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 351: Automatic Control*

IEC 61131-3:2003, *Programmable controllers – Part 3: Programming languages*

ISO/IEC 7498-1:1994, *Information Technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Basic Reference Model: The Basic Model*

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

ISO/IEC 8825-1, *Information technology - ASN.1 encoding rules: Specification of Basic Encoding Rules (BER), Canonical Encoding Rules (CER) and Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER)*

ISO/IEC 10646, *Information technology - Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)*

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

ISO/AFNOR, *Dictionary of Computer Science*, 1989, ISBN 2-12-4869111-6