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Edition 2.1 2020-08
CONSOLIDATED VERSION

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Corrected version
2026-08

colour inside

Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 7-1: Basic communication structure – Principles and models

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Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 7-1: Basic communication structure – Principles and models

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COMMUNICATION NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS FOR POWER UTILITY AUTOMATION –

Part 7-1: Basic communication structure – Principles and models

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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This consolidated version of the official IEC Standard and its amendment has been prepared for user convenience.

IEC 61850-7-1 edition 2.1 contains the second edition (2011-07) [documents 57/1121/FDIS and 57/1145/RVD], its amendment 1 (2020-08) [documents 57/2201/FDIS and 57/2221/RVD] and the corrigendum of amendment 1 (2026-08).

International Standard IEC 61850-7-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 57: Power systems management and associated information exchange.

This second edition edition constitutes a technical revision.

Compared to the first edition, this second edition introduces:

- the model for statistical and historical statistical data,
- the concepts of proxies, gateways, LD hierarchy and LN inputs,
- the model for time synchronisation,
- the concepts behind different testing facilities,
- the extended logging function.

It also clarifies the following points:

- the use of numbers for data extension,
- the use of namespaces,
- the mode and behaviour of a logical node,
- the use of range and deadbanded values,
- the access to control actions and others.

Compared to the second edition, this first revision of the second edition:

- provides clarifications and corrections to the second edition of IEC 61850-7-1, based 55 on the tissues = {828, 874, 948, 1060, 1072, 1129, 1151, 1196, 1251, 1268, 1312, 1396, 1437, 1468, 1491};
- re-edit the Clause 8.2.3 on gateways and proxies;
- re-edit the complete Clauses 13 and 14 about namespaces and rules for extension of object classes;
- include three new normative annexes respectively for LGOS/LSVS engineering (G), GOOSE/SMV Subscription Configuration (H) and use case scenarios examples for clarifying the common rules of Clause 14 (J);
- introduces in the informative annex I, the concept of decoupling domain namespaces from basic namespaces in edition 3 of this document;

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

A list of all parts of the IEC 61850 series, under the general title: *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment will remain unchanged until the stability 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.

IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication 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

This part of the IEC 61850 series provides an overview of the architecture for communication and interactions between systems for power utility automation such as protection devices, breakers, transformers, substation hosts etc.

This document is part of a set of specifications which details a layered communication architecture for power utility automation. This architecture has been chosen to provide abstract definitions of classes (representing hierarchical information models) and services such that the specifications are independent of specific protocol stacks, implementations, and operating systems.

The goal of the IEC 61850 series is to provide interoperability between the IEDs from different suppliers or, more precisely, between functions to be performed by systems for power utility automation but residing in equipment (physical devices) from different suppliers. Interoperable functions may be those functions that represent interfaces to the process (for example, circuit breakers) or substation automation functions such as protection functions. This part of the IEC 61850 series uses simple examples of functions to describe the concepts and methods applied in the IEC 61850 series.

This part of the IEC 61850 series describes the relationships between other parts of the IEC 61850 series. Finally this part defines how interoperability is reached.

NOTE Interchangeability is the ability to replace a device from the same vendor, or from different vendors, utilising the same communication interface and as a minimum, providing the same functionality, with no impact on the rest of the system. If differences in functionality are accepted, the exchange may also require some changes somewhere else in the system. Interchangeability implies a standardisation of functions and, in a strong sense, of devices which are outside the scope of this standard. Interchangeability is outside the scope, but it will be supported following this standard for interoperability.

This part of the IEC 61850 series is intended for all stakeholders of standardised communication and standardised systems in the utility industry. It provides an overview of and an introduction to IEC 61850-7-4, IEC 61850-7-3, IEC 61850-7-2, IEC 61850-6, and IEC 61850-8-1.

COMMUNICATION NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS FOR POWER UTILITY AUTOMATION –

Part 7-1: Basic communication structure – Principles and models

1 Scope

This part of the IEC 61850 series introduces the modelling methods, communication principles, and information models that are used in the various parts of the IEC 61850-7-x series. The purpose of this part of the IEC 61850 series is to provide – from a conceptual point of view – assistance to understand the basic modelling concepts and description methods for:

– substation-specific information models for power utility automation systems,

– device functions used for power utility automation purposes, and

– communication systems to provide interoperability within power utility facilities.

Furthermore, this part of the IEC 61850 series provides explanations and provides detailed requirements relating to the relation between IEC 61850-7-4, IEC 61850-7-3, IEC 61850-7-2 and IEC 61850-5. This part explains how the abstract services and models of the IEC 61850-7-x series are mapped to concrete communication protocols as defined in IEC 61850-8-1.

The concepts and models provided in this part of the IEC 61850 series may also be applied to describe, among others, information models and functions for:

– hydroelectric power plants,

– substation to substation information exchange,

– information exchange for distributed automation,

– substation to control centre information exchange,

– information exchange for metering,

– condition monitoring and diagnosis, and

– information exchange with engineering systems for device configuration.

Table – Published version of the standard

Edition	Publication date	Webstore
Edition 1.0	2003-07	IEC 61850-7-1:2003
Edition 2.0	2011-07	IEC 61850-7-1:2011
Amendment 1 of Edition 2.0	2020-08	IEC 61850-7-1:2011/AMD1
Edition 2.1	2020-08	IEC 61850-7-1:2011+AMD1:2020 CSV
Amendment 1 of Edition 2.0/COR1	2025-04	IEC 61850-7-1:2011/AMD1/COR1:2025

NOTE 1 This part of IEC 61850 uses examples and excerpts from other parts of the IEC 61850 series. These excerpts are used to explain concepts and methods. These examples and excerpts are informative in this part of IEC 61850.

NOTE 2 Examples in this part use names of classes (e.g. XCBR for a class of a logical node) defined in IEC 61850-7-4, IEC 61850-7-3, and service names defined in IEC 61850-7-2. The normative names are defined in IEC 61850-7-4, IEC 61850-7-3, and IEC 61850-7-2 only.

NOTE 3 This part of IEC 61850 does not provide a comprehensive tutorial. It is recommended that this part be read first – in conjunction with IEC 61850-7-4, IEC 61850-7-3, and IEC 61850-7-2. In addition, it is recommended that IEC 61850-1 and IEC 61850-5 also be read.

NOTE 4 This part of IEC 61850 does not discuss implementation issues.

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.

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

IEC 61850-3, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 3: General requirements*

IEC 61850-4, *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 4: System and project management*

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

IEC 61850-6, *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 6: Configuration description language for communication in electrical substations related to IEDs*

IEC 61850-7-2, *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 7-2: Basic information and communication structure – Abstract communication service interface (ACSI)*

IEC 61850-7-3, *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 7-3: Basic communication structure – Common data classes*

IEC 61850-7-4, *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 7-4: Basic communication structure – Compatible logical node classes and data object classes*

IEC 61850-8-1, *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 8-1: Specific Communication Service Mapping (SCSM) – Mappings to MMS (ISO 9506-1 and ISO 9506-2) and to ISO/IEC 8802-3*

IEC 61850-9-2, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 9-2: Specific Communication Service Mapping (SCSM) – Sampled values over ISO/IEC 8802-3*

IEC 61850-10, *Communication networks and systems in substations – Part 10: Conformance testing*

ISO/IEC 8802-3, *Information technology – Telecommunications and information exchange between systems – Local and metropolitan area networks – Specific requirements – Part 3: Carrier sense multiple access with collision detection (CSMA/CD) access method and physical layer specifications*

ISO/IEC 8825 (all parts), *Information technology – ASN.1 encoding rules*

ISO 9506-1, *Industrial automation systems – Manufacturing Message Specification – Part 1: Service definition*

ISO 9506-2, *Industrial automation systems – Manufacturing Message Specification – Part 2: Protocol specification*

Bibliography

IEC 60050-101:1998, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 1: Mathematics*

IEC 61346-1, *Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products – Structuring principles and reference designations – Part 1:* Basic rules (withdrawn)

IEC 61346-2, *Industrial systems, installations and equipment and industrial products – Structuring principles and reference designations – Part 2: Classification of objects and codes for classes* (withdrawn)

IEC 61850-10-3: *Communication networks and systems for power utility automation – Part 10-3: Functional testing of IEC 61850 systems*

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