



BSI Standards Publication

**Industrial-process  
measurement, control and  
automation — Reference  
model for representation  
of production facilities  
(digital factory)**

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### National foreword

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A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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# TECHNICAL REPORT



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**Industrial-process measurement, control and automation – Reference model for representation of production facilities (digital factory)**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

### INDUSTRIAL-PROCESS MEASUREMENT, CONTROL AND AUTOMATION –

#### Reference model for representation of production facilities (digital factory)

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IEC 62794, which is a technical report, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation.

The text of this technical report is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
65/499/DTR	65/508/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical report 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.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication 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- withdrawn,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.

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## 0 INTRODUCTION

### 0.1 Rationale for the digital factory reference model

A number of efforts have addressed the development of business and manufacturing enterprise models to aid in understanding the different aspects of the enterprise to improve enterprise operations. Additionally, enterprise-control system models have been developed to support the production operations, but gaps remain in the development of models to bridge from the manufacturing system design environments to the process, equipment, and devices used in the manufacturing operations.

In the enterprise models, various initiatives have addressed the complexity of modelling the manufacturing and business enterprise by delineating the different domains, dimensions, and views associated with the people, processes, and resources used to achieve the enterprise mission. Those activities that endeavour to identify various distinct aspects for a particular area of concern have been called “modelling the digital enterprise”. The resultant efforts have developed a universe of discourse that provides common terms and constructs to describe the manufacturing and business enterprise. By using similar modelling approaches, a model for the “digital factory” is envisioned.

While the approaches of the modelling activities vary according to the scope of the effort, there are some common characteristics to the modelling approaches that can be drawn upon to expedite the understanding of the modelling concepts.

Interoperability in the digital factory is a prime area of focus for developing concepts for the subset of activities of the digital enterprise. These concepts are important to the digital factory for making and delivering products and services.

NOTE Enterprise modelling concepts are further described in standards referenced in the Bibliography (for example ISO 15704, ISO 11354-1).

Some entities of the digital enterprise may exchange information with entities of the digital factory or may need information about the automation assets and their relationships.

### 0.2 Approach to the digital factory

A general concept is developed for the automation assets and their relationships, as well as relationships to other assets as a base for a digital factory reference model. This conceptual model of the automation assets supports an electronic representation for utilization in the design of process plants, manufacturing plants or even building automation.

Work started more than 10 years ago with the idea to replace paper data sheets with an electronic description of electronic components (as a list of properties), and to use it in software tools for electronic wiring and assembly (for example when designing electronic boards). Additionally, concepts were developed for profiling of devices, in order to describe parameters and behavioural aspects to facilitate integration and reduce engineering costs, providing guides for standards developers.

NOTE 1 See device profile guideline (IEC/TR 62390).

These efforts were to address interoperability barriers encountered in designing a process or manufacturing plant due to inconsistencies in the information and data describing those automation assets to be deployed in the facility. To overcome those barriers, specific solutions addressing the business, process, service, and information (data) are needed. An approach to addressing these conceptual aspects is proposed to develop an automation asset model.

Digital factory repositories will save these electronic descriptions of the automation assets, together with other aspects and the technical disciplines associated with any process of the

digital factory that use the automation assets. Activities (such as engineering, configuration, and maintenance) associated with the digital factory will access, update, and use the master data in these repositories in order to support the whole plant lifecycle. This allows a consistent information interchange between all processes involved.

Figure 1 shows an example of a digital factory, with the various IEC, ISO and ISA committees involved in related standards.

NOTE 2 Within the digital enterprise, the ISO TC 184 scope of work focuses on the design, manufacturing, and processing applications and the lifecycle and supply chain aspects of the systems. These systems support the applications; especially the interoperability, the integration and the architectures of the applications as well as the supporting systems and environments (e.g. see ISO 15704 for the requirements of enterprise reference architectures and methodologies).

NOTE 3 Several IEC and ISO standards provide methodologies for describing master data and exchanging information about automation assets involved in the manufacturing applications. These standards address different levels and aspects of the automation lifecycle from procurement to installation and operation. Examples of these are IEC 61360-1 and IEC 61360-2, ISO 22745, and ISO 8000, which may be used to describe properties of electric and automation devices.

NOTE 4 Actual properties of automation devices are being specified in the IEC 61987 series, as well as in IEC 62683 on low-voltage switchgear and controlgear. Other TC's in charge of automation assets (outside the scope of TC 65 (for example SC 22G "adjustable speed drive systems incorporating semiconductor power converters") are invited to use this framework and contribute within their scope.



## INDUSTRIAL-PROCESS MEASUREMENT, CONTROL AND AUTOMATION –

### Reference model for representation of production facilities (digital factory)

## 1 Scope

This Technical Report describes a reference model which comprises the abstract description for:

- automation assets;
- structural and operational relationships.

NOTE Examples of automation assets are machines, equipment, devices and software.

The reference model is the basis for the electronic representation of certain aspects of a plant. It covers the systems (excluding facilities) used to make products, but it does not cover raw production material, work pieces in process, nor end products.

The corresponding information which is stored in digital factory repositories represents aspects of the digital factory. This information may be used throughout the plant lifecycle. The reference model may be applied to process plants, manufacturing plants or even building automation.

## 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.

IEC 626831, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Product data and properties for information exchange*

## 3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms

### 3.1 Terms and definitions

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

NOTE Relationships between definitions are shown in Annex A.

#### 3.1.1

#### **activity**

#### **lifecycle activity**

set of tasks for a specific purpose

EXAMPLE Corresponding automation activities are design, asset selection or asset configuration. Examples of lifecycle activities are engineering or maintenance.

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<sup>1</sup> To be published.