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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications –  
Part 6-8: Application layer protocol specification – Type 8 elements**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION NETWORKS –  
FIELDBUS SPECIFICATIONS –

## Part 6-8: Application layer protocol specification – Type 8 elements

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IEC draws attention to the fact that it is claimed that compliance with this standard may involve the use of patents as follows, where the [x.x] notation indicates the holder of the patent right:

Type 8:

DE 197 39 297 C2 [PxC] "Automatisierungssystem und Steuervorrichtung zur transparenten Kommunikation zwischen verschiedenen Netzwerken."

US 6002/0042845 A1 [PxC] "Automation System and connecting Apparatus for the Transparent Communication between two Networks."

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[PxC]: Phoenix Contact GmbH & Co. KG  
Intellectual Property Licenses & Standards  
Flachsmarktstr. 8  
D-32825 Blomberg,  
Germany

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International Standard IEC 61158-6-8 has been prepared by subcommittee 65C: Industrial networks, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation.

This first edition and its companion parts of the IEC 61158-6 subseries cancel and replace IEC 61158-6:2003.. This edition of this part constitutes a technical revision.

This edition of IEC 61158-6 includes the following significant changes from the previous edition:

- a) deletion of the former Type 6 fieldbus for lack of market relevance;
- b) addition of new types of fieldbuses;
- c) partition of part 6 of the third edition into multiple parts numbered -6-2, -6-3, ...

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

FDIS	Report on voting
65C/476/FDIS	65C/487/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 ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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.

NOTE The revision of this standard will be synchronized with the other parts of the IEC 61158 series.

The list of all the parts of the IEC 61158 series, under the general title *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications*, can be found on the IEC web site.

## INTRODUCTION

This part of IEC 61158 is one of a series produced to facilitate the interconnection of automation system components. It is related to other standards in the set as defined by the “three-layer” fieldbus reference model described in IEC/TR 61158-1.

The application protocol provides the application service by making use of the services available from the data-link or other immediately lower layer. The primary aim of this standard is to provide a set of rules for communication expressed in terms of the procedures to be carried out by peer application entities (AEs) at the time of communication. These rules for communication are intended to provide a sound basis for development in order to serve a variety of purposes:

- as a guide for implementors and designers;
- for use in the testing and procurement of equipment;
- as part of an agreement for the admittance of systems into the open systems environment;
- as a refinement to the understanding of time-critical communications within OSI.

This standard is concerned, in particular, with the communication and interworking of sensors, effectors and other automation devices. By using this standard to complement with other standards positioned within the OSI or fieldbus reference models, otherwise incompatible systems may work together in any combination.

## INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION NETWORKS – FIELDBUS SPECIFICATIONS –

### Part 6-8: Application layer protocol specification – Type 8 elements

#### 1 Scope

##### 1.1 General

The fieldbus application layer (FAL) provides user programs with a means to access the fieldbus communication environment. In this respect, the FAL can be viewed as a “window between corresponding application programs.”

This standard provides common elements for basic time-critical and non-time-critical messaging communications between application programs in an automation environment and material specific to Type 8 fieldbus. The term “time-critical” is used to represent the presence of a time-window, within which one or more specified actions are required to be completed with some defined level of certainty. Failure to complete specified actions within the time window risks failure of the applications requesting the actions, with attendant risk to equipment, plant and possibly human life.

This standard specifies interactions between remote applications and defines the externally visible behavior provided by the Type 8 fieldbus application layer in terms of

- a) the formal abstract syntax defining the application layer protocol data units conveyed between communicating application entities;
- b) the transfer syntax defining encoding rules that are applied to the application layer protocol data units;
- c) the application context state machine defining the application service behavior visible between communicating application entities;
- d) the application relationship state machines defining the communication behavior visible between communicating application entities.

The purpose of this standard is to define the protocol provided to

- 1) define the wire-representation of the service primitives defined in IEC 61158-5-8, and
- 2) define the externally visible behavior associated with their transfer.

This standard specifies the protocol of the Type 8 fieldbus application layer, in conformance with the OSI Class Reference Model (ISO/IEC 7498) and the OSI application layer structure (ISO/IEC 9545).

##### 1.2 Specifications

The principal objective of this standard is to specify the syntax and behavior of the application layer protocol that conveys the application layer services defined in IEC 61158-5-8.

A secondary objective is to provide migration paths from previously-existing industrial communications protocols. It is this latter objective which gives rise to the diversity of protocols standardized in the IEC 61158-6 series.

##### 1.3 Conformance

This standard does not specify individual implementations or products, nor does it constrain the implementations of application layer entities within industrial automation systems.

Conformance is achieved through implementation of this application layer protocol specification.

## 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 60559, *Binary floating-point arithmetic for microprocessor systems*

IEC 61158-3-8, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 3-8. Data-link layer service definition – Type 8 elements*

IEC 61158-4-8, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 4-8. Data-link layer protocol specification – Type 8 elements*

IEC 61158-5-8, *Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications – Part 5-8: Application layer service definition – Type 8 elements*

ISO/IEC 7498 (all parts), *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Basic Reference Model*

ISO/IEC 8822, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Presentation service definition*

ISO/IEC 8824, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Specification of Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)*

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

ISO/IEC 9545, *Information technology – Open Systems Interconnection – Application Layer structure*