

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Field device tool (FDT) interface specification -
Part 1: Overview and guidance**

**Spécification des interfaces des outils des dispositifs de terrain (FDT) -
Partie 1: Vue d'ensemble et guide**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

Field device tool (FDT) interface specification - Part 1: Overview and guidance

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IEC 62453-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 65E: Devices and integration in enterprise systems, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2016. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) introduction of a new implementation technology (defined in IEC TS 62453-43);
- b) introduction of an OPC UA information model for FDT (defined in IEC 62453-71).

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
65E/1173/FDIS	65E/1176/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts of the IEC 62453 series, under the general title *Field Device Tool (FDT) interface specification*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
- revised.

INTRODUCTION

Enterprise automation employs two main data flows: a “vertical” data flow from enterprise level down to the field devices including signals and configuration data, and a “horizontal” communication between field devices operating on the same or different communication technologies.

With the integration of fieldbuses into control systems, there are a few additional tasks to be performed. They can result in a large number of fieldbus- and device-specific tools in addition to system and engineering tools. Integration of these tools into higher-level system-wide planning or engineering tools is an advantage. In particular, for use in extensive and heterogeneous control systems, typically in the area of the process industry, the unambiguous definition of engineering interfaces that are easy to use for all those involved is of great importance.

Several different manufacturer specific tools are used. The data in these tools are often invisible data islands from the viewpoint of system life-cycle management and plant-wide automation.

To ensure the consistent management of a plant-wide control and automation technology, it is important to fully integrate fieldbuses, devices and sub-systems as a seamless part of a wide range of automation tasks covering the whole automation life cycle.

IEC 62453 provides an interface specification for developers of FDT¹ (Field Device Tool) components to support function control and data access within a client/server architecture. The availability of this standard interface facilitates development of servers and clients by multiple manufacturers and supports open interoperation.

A device or module-specific software component, called a DTM (Device Type Manager) is supplied by a manufacturer with the related device type or software entity type. Each DTM can be integrated into engineering tools via defined FDT interfaces. This approach to integration is in general open for all fieldbuses and thus supports integration of different devices and software modules into heterogeneous control systems.

The IEC 62453 common application interface supports the interests of application developers, system integrators, and manufacturers of field devices and network components. It also simplifies procurement, reduces system costs and helps manage the lifecycle. Significant savings are available in operating, engineering and maintaining the control systems.

The objectives of the IEC 62453 series are to support:

- universal plant-wide tools for life-cycle management of heterogeneous fieldbus environments, multi-manufacturer devices, function blocks and modular sub-systems for all automation domains (e.g. process automation, factory automation and similar monitoring and control applications);
- integrated and consistent life-cycle data exchange within a control system including its fieldbuses, devices, function blocks and modular sub-systems;
- simple and powerful manufacturer-independent integration of different automation devices, function blocks and modular sub-systems into the life-cycle management tools of a control system.

¹ FDT® is a registered trade name of FDT Group AISBL. This information is given for the convenience of users of this document and does not constitute an endorsement by IEC of the trademark holder or any of its products. Compliance to this document does not require use of the trade name. Use of the trade name requires permission of the trade name holder.

The FDT concept supports planning and integration of monitoring and control applications, it does not provide a solution for other engineering tasks such as "electrical wiring planning", "mechanical planning". Plant management subjects such as "maintenance planning", "control optimization", "data archiving", are not part of this FDT standard. Some of these aspects can be included in future editions of FDT publications.

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1 Scope

This part of IEC 62453 presents an overview and guidance for the IEC 62453 series. It

- explains the structure and content of the IEC 62453 series (see Clause 5);
- provides explanations of some aspects of the IEC 62453 series that are common to many of the parts of the series;
- describes the relationship to some other standards;
- provides definitions of terms used in other parts of the IEC 62453 series.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms, definitions, symbols, abbreviated terms and conventions

3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document and of the IEC 62453 series, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1.1

actor

coherent set of roles that users of use cases play when interacting with these use cases

Note 1 to entry: An actor has one role for each use case with which it communicates.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 19501:2005, 4.11.2.1]

3.1.2

address

communication protocol specific access identifier

3.1.3

application

software functional unit that is specific to the solution of a problem in industrial-process measurement and control

Note 1 to entry: An application may be distributed among resources, and may communicate with other applications.

3.1.4

business object

object representing specific behaviour (e.g. DTM, BTM and channel)

Note 1 to entry: The term business object has been defined originally as part of the design pattern three-tier architecture, where the business object is part of the business layer.

3.1.5

Block Type Manager

BTM

specialized DTM to manage and handle a block