

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**OPC unified architecture –  
Part 4: Services**

**Architecture unifiée OPC –  
Partie 4: Services**



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**OPC UNIFIED ARCHITECTURE –****Part 4: Services****FOREWORD**

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International Standard IEC 62541-4 has been prepared by subcommittee 65E: Devices and integration in enterprise systems, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2015. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Added ability to resend all data of monitored items in a Subscription using the ResendData Method.
- b) Added support for durable Subscriptions (lifetime of hours or days).
- c) Added Register2 and FindServersOnNetwork Services to support network-wide discovery using capability filters.
- d) Removed definition of software certificates. Will be defined in a future edition.

- e) Extended and partially revised the redundancy definition. Added sub-range definitions for ServiceLevel and added more terms for redundancy.
- f) Added a section on how to use Authorization Services to request user access tokens.
- g) Added JSON Web Tokens (JWTs) as a new user token.
- h) Added the concept of session-less service invocation.
- i) Added a generic structure that allows passing any number of attributes to the AddNodes Service.
- j) Added requirement to protect against user identity token attacks.
- k) Added new EncryptedSecret format for user identity tokens.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
65E/716/FDIS	65E/732/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

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

Throughout this document and the other parts of the IEC 62541 series, certain document conventions are used:

*Italics* are used to denote a defined term or definition that appears in Clause 3 in one of the parts of the series.

*Italics* are also used to denote the name of a service input or output parameter or the name of a structure or element of a structure that are usually defined in tables.

The *italicized terms and names* are also, with a few exceptions, written in camel-case (the practice of writing compound words or phrases in which the elements are joined without spaces, with each element's initial letter capitalized within the compound). For example the defined term is *AddressSpace* instead of Address Space. This makes it easier to understand that there is a single definition for *AddressSpace*, not separate definitions for Address and Space.

A list of all parts of the IEC 62541 series, published under the general title *OPC Unified Architecture*, 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 "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document 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.**

# OPC UNIFIED ARCHITECTURE –

## Part 4: Services

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 62541 defines the OPC Unified Architecture (OPC UA) *Services*. The *Services* defined are the collection of abstract Remote Procedure Calls (RPC) that are implemented by OPC UA *Servers* and called by OPC UA *Clients*. All interactions between OPC UA *Clients* and *Servers* occur via these *Services*. The defined *Services* are considered abstract because no particular RPC mechanism for implementation is defined in this document. IEC 62541-6 specifies one or more concrete mappings supported for implementation. For example, one mapping in IEC 62541-6 is to XML Web Services. In that case the *Services* described in this document appear as the Web service methods in the WSDL contract.

Not all OPC UA *Servers* will need to implement all of the defined *Services*. IEC 62541-7 defines the *Profiles* that dictate which *Services* need to be implemented in order to be compliant with a particular *Profile*.

### 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 TR 62541-1, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 1: Overview and Concepts*

IEC TR 62541-2, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 2: Security Model*

IEC 62541-3, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 3: Address Space Model*

IEC 62541-5, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 5: Information Model*

IEC 62541-6, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 6: Mappings*

IEC 62541-7, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 7: Profiles*

IEC 62541-8, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 8: Data Access*

IEC 62541-11, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 11: Historical Access*

IEC 62541-12<sup>1</sup>, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 12: Discovery and Global Services*

IEC 62541-13, *OPC Unified Architecture – Part 13: Aggregates*

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<sup>1</sup> Under preparation. Stage at the time of publication: IEC CDV 62541-12:2018.