

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Industrial communication networks – Fieldbus specifications –  
Part 6-15: Application layer protocol specification – Type 15 elements**

**Réseaux de communication industriels – Spécifications des bus de terrain –  
Partie 6-15: Spécification des protocoles des couches d'application – Eléments  
de type 15**





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de type 15**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
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## INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION NETWORKS – FIELD BUS SPECIFICATIONS –

### Part 6-15: Application layer protocol specification – Type 15 elements

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International Standard IEC 61158-6-15 has been prepared by subcommittee 65C: Industrial networks, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement, control and automation.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2007. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- editorial corrections.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
65C/607/FDIS	65C/621/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.

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

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- withdrawn;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.

NOTE 2 The revision of this standard will be synchronized with the other parts of the IEC 61158 series.

## 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 implementers 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 together 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 6-15: Application layer protocol specification – Type 15 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 15 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 defines in an abstract way the externally visible behavior provided by the Type 15 fieldbus Application Layer in terms of

- a) the abstract syntax defining the application layer protocol data units conveyed between communicating application entities,
- b) the transfer syntax defining the application layer protocol data units conveyed between communicating application entities,
- c) the application context state machine defining the application service behavior visible between communicating application entities; and
- d) the application relationship state machines defining the communication behavior visible between communicating application entities; and.

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

- a) define the wire-representation of the service primitives defined in IEC 61158-5-15, and
- b) define the externally visible behavior associated with their transfer.

This standard specifies the protocol of the Type 15 IEC fieldbus Application Layer, in conformance with the OSI Basic 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 61158-5-15.

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 IEC 61158-6.