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Precision clock synchronization protocol for networked measurement and control systems

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

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CONTENTS

Foreword xi
IEEE introduction xiv

1. Overview 1
   1.1 Scope 1
   1.2 Purpose 2
   1.3 Layout of the document 2

2. Normative references 3

3. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations 4
   3.1 Definitions 4
   3.2 Acronyms and abbreviations 7

4. Conventions 8
   4.1 Descriptive lexical form syntax 8
   4.2 Word usage 9
   4.3 Behavioral specification notation 10

5. Data types and on-the-wire formats in a PTP system 11
   5.1 General 11
   5.2 Primitive data type specifications 11
   5.3 Derived data type specifications 12
   5.4 On-the-wire formats 15

6. Clock synchronization model 16
   6.1 General 16
   6.2 Principle assumptions about the network and implementation recommendations 16
   6.3 PTP systems 17
   6.4 PTP message classes 17
   6.5 PTP device types 18
   6.6 Synchronization overview 29
   6.7 PTP communications overview 37

7. Characterization of PTP entities 41
   7.1 Domains 41
   7.2 PTP timescale 41
   7.3 PTP communications 42
   7.4 PTP communication media 46
   7.5 PTP ports 47
   7.6 PTP device characterization 53
   7.7 PTP timing characterization 61

8. PTP data sets 63
   8.1 General specifications for data set members 63
   8.2 Data sets for ordinary and boundary clocks 65
   8.3 Data sets for transparent clocks 74

9. PTP for ordinary and boundary clocks 76
   9.1 General protocol requirements for PTP ordinary and boundary clocks 76
   9.2 State protocol 76
   9.3 Best master clock algorithm 83
   9.4 Grandmaster clocks 92
   9.5 Message processing semantics 93
   9.6 Changes in the local clock 107

10. PTP for transparent clocks 107
   10.1 General requirements for both end-to-end and peer-to-peer transparent clocks 107
   10.2 End-to-end transparent clock requirements 108

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10.3 Peer-to-peer transparent clock requirements ... 108

11. Clock offset, path delay, residence time, and asymmetry corrections ... 108
11.1 General specifications ... 108
11.2 Computation of clock offset in ordinary and boundary clocks ... 109
11.3 Delay request-response mechanism ... 110
11.4 Peer delay mechanism ... 112
11.5 Transparent clock residence time correction for PTP version 2 events ... 117
11.6 Asymmetry correction for PTP version 2 event messages ... 120

12. Synchronization and syntonization of clocks ... 122
12.1 Syntonization ... 122
12.2 Synchronization ... 123

13. PTP message formats ... 124
13.1 General ... 124
13.2 General message format requirements ... 124
13.3 Header ... 124
13.4 Suffix ... 128
13.5 Announce message ... 128
13.6 Sync and Delay_Req messages ... 130
13.7 Follow_Up message ... 130
13.8 Delay_Resp message ... 130
13.9 Pdelay_Req message ... 131
13.10 Pdelay_Resp message ... 131
13.11 Pdelay_Resp_Follow_Up message ... 132
13.12 Signaling message ... 132
13.13 Management message ... 133

14. TLV entity specifications ... 133
14.1 General requirements ... 133
14.2 Experimental TLVs ... 134
14.3 Vendor and standard organization extension TLVs ... 135

15. Management ... 135
15.1 General ... 135
15.2 PTP management mechanism ... 136
15.3 Processing of management messages ... 136
15.4 Management message format ... 137
15.5 Management TLVs ... 138

16. General optional features ... 158
16.1 Unicast message negotiation (optional) ... 158
16.2 Path trace (optional) ... 163
16.3 Alternate timescales (optional) ... 165

17. State configuration options ... 169
17.1 General ... 169
17.2 Data types for options ... 169
17.3 Grandmaster clusters (optional) ... 170
17.4 Alternate master (optional) ... 172
17.5 Unicast discovery (optional) ... 173
17.6 Acceptable master table (optional) ... 175

18. Compatibility requirements ... 177
18.1 Compatibility between version 2 and future versions ... 177
18.2 Compatibility between version 1 and version 2 ... 177
18.3 Message formats and data types ... 178
18.4 Naming changes ... 183
18.5 Restrictions on mixed version 1 and version 2 systems ... 183

Withdrawn

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19. Conformance 184
19.1 Conformance objective 184
19.2 PTP conformance requirements 184
19.3 PTP profiles 185
Annex A (informative) Using PTP 187
Annex B (informative) Timescales and epochs in PTP 197
Annex C (informative) Examples of residence and asymmetry corrections 200
Annex D (normative) Transport of PTP over User Datagram Protocol over Internet Protocol Version 4 . 219
Annex E (normative) Transport of PTP over User Datagram Protocol over Internet Protocol Version 6.. 221
Annex F (normative) Transport of PTP over IEEE 802.3 /Ethernet 223
Annex G (normative) Transport of PTP over DeviceNET 225
Annex H (normative) Transport of PTP over ControlNET 228
Annex I (normative) Transport of PTP over IEC 61158 Type 10 230
Annex J (normative) Default PTP profiles 237
Annex K (informative) Security protocol (experimental) 241
Annex L (informative) Transport of cumulative frequency scale factor offset (experimental) 264
Annex M (informative) Bibliography 268
Annex N (informative) List of partcipants 270

Withdrawn

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TABLES

Table 1 —Primitive PTP data types 12
Table 2 —domainNumber 41
Table 3 —networkProtocol enumeration 46
Table 4 —Non-EUI-64 addressTechnology enumeration 51
Table 5 —clockClass specifications 55
Table 6 —clockAccuracy enumeration 56
Table 7 —timeSource enumeration 57
Table 8 —PTP state enumeration 73
Table 9 —Delay mechanism enumeration 74
Table 10 —PTP portState definition 77
Table 11 —Event applicability in boundary clocks 83
Table 12 —Information sources for data set comparison algorithm 88
Table 13 —Updates for state decision code M1 and M2 91
Table 14 —Updates for state decision code M3 91
Table 15 —Updates for state decision code P1, and P2 91
Table 16 —Updates for state decision code S1 92
Table 17 —Source identity comparisons 95
Table 18 —Common message header 124
Table 19 —Values of messageType field 125
Table 20 —Values of flagField 126
Table 21 —correctionField semantics 127
Table 22 —References for sequenceId value exceptions 127
Table 23 —controlField enumeration 128
Table 24 —Values of logMessageInterval field 128
Table 25 —Announce message fields 129
Table 26 —Sync and Delay_Req message fields 130
Table 27 —Follow_Up message fields 130
Table 28 —Delay_Resp message fields 130
Table 29 —Pdelay_Req message fields 131
Table 30 —Pdelay_Resp message fields 131
Table 31 —Pdelay_Resp_Follow_Up message fields 132
Table 32 —Acceptance of signaling messages 132
Table 33 —Signaling message fields 133

Withdrawn

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Table 34 —tlvType values 134
Table 35 —Organization specific TLV fields 135
Table 36 —Acceptance of management messages 136
Table 37 —Management message fields 137
Table 38 —Values of the actionField 138
Table 39 —Management TLV fields 139
Table 40 —managementId values 140
Table 41 —CLOCK_DESCRIPTION management TLV data field 141
Table 42 —clockType specification 142
Table 43 —USER_DESCRIPTION management TLV data field 144
Table 44 —INITIALIZE management TLV data field 145
Table 45 —INITIALIZATION_KEY enumeration 145
Table 46 —Fault log severityCode enumeration 145
Table 47 —FAULT_LOG management TLV data field 146
Table 48 —TIME management TLV data field 147
Table 49 —CLOCK_ACCURACY management TLV data field 147
Table 50 —DEFAULT_DATA_SET management TLV data field 148
Table 51 —PRIORITY1 management TLV data field 148
Table 52 —PRIORITY2 management TLV data field 149
Table 53 —DOMAIN management TLV data field 149
Table 54 —SLAVE_ONLY management TLV data field 149
Table 55 —CURRENT_DATA_SET management TLV data field 149
Table 56 —PARENT_DATA_SET management TLV data field 150
Table 57 —TIME_PROPERTIES_DATA_SET management TLV data field 151
Table 58 —UTC_PROPERTIES management TLV data field 152
Table 59 —TRACEABILITY_PROPERTIES management TLV data field 152
Table 60 —TIMESCALE_PROPERTIES management TLV data field 152
Table 61 —PORT_DATA_SET management TLV data field 153
Table 62 —LOG_ANNOUNCE_INTERVAL management TLV data field 154
Table 63 —ANNOUNCE_RECEIPT_TIMEOUT management TLV data field 154
Table 64 —LOG_SYNC_INTERVAL management TLV data field 154
Table 65 —DELAY_MECHANISM management TLV data field 155
Table 66 —LOG_MIN_PDELAY_REQ_INTERVAL management TLV data field 155
Table 67 —VERSION_NUMBER management TLV data field 155
Table 68 —TRANSPARENT_CLOCK_DEFAULT_DATA_SET management TLV data field 156

Withdrawn

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Table 69 —PRIMARY_DOMAIN management TLV data field 156
Table 70 —TRANSPARENT_CLOCK_PORT_DATA_SET management TLV data field 157
Table 71 —MANAGEMENT_ERROR_STATUS TLV format 157
Table 72 —managementErrorId enumeration 158
Table 73 —REQUEST_UNICAST_TRANSMISSION TLV format 160
Table 74 —GRANT_UNICAST_TRANSMISSION TLV format 161
Table 75 —CANCEL_UNICAST_TRANSMISSION TLV format 161
Table 76 —ACKNOWLEDGE_CANCEL_UNICAST_TRANSMISSION TLV format 162
Table 77 —UNICAST_NEGOTIATION_ENABLE management TLV data field 162
Table 78 —PATH_TRACE TLV format 164
Table 79 —PATH_TRACE_LIST management TLV data field 164
Table 80 —PATH_TRACE_ENABLE management TLV data field 164
Table 81 —ALTERNATE_TIME_OFFSET_INDICATOR TLV format 166
Table 82 —ALTERNATE_TIME_OFFSET_ENABLE management TLV data field 167
Table 83 —ALTERNATE_TIME_OFFSET_NAME management TLV data field 167
Table 84 —ALTERNATE_TIME_OFFSET_MAX_KEY management TLV data field 168
Table 85 —ALTERNATE_TIME_OFFSET_PROPERTIES management TLV data field 168
Table 86 —GRANDMASTER_CLUSTER_TABLE management TLV data field 171
Table 87 —Alternate master attributes 173
Table 88 —ALTERNATE_MASTER management TLV data field 173
Table 89 —UNICAST_MASTER_TABLE management TLV data field 174
Table 90 —UNICAST_MASTER_MAX_TABLE_SIZE management TLV data field 175
Table 91 —Operation of acceptable master table option 176
Table 92 —ACCEPTABLE_MASTER_TABLE management TLV data field 176
Table 93 —ACCEPTABLE_MASTER_MAX_TABLE_SIZE management TLV data field 177
Table 94 —ACCEPTABLE_MASTER_TABLE_ENABLED management TLV data field 177
Table 95 —Version 1 stratum to version 2 class 178
Table 96 —Version 2 clockClass to version 1 stratum 178
Table 97 —Version 1 to version 2 translation of grandmasterIsPreferred field 179
Table 98 —Version 2 to version 1 translation of the priority1 field 179
Table 99 —Version 1 clock identifier to version 2 clockAccuracy 179
Table 100 —Version 2 clockAccuracy to version 1 clock identifier 179
Table 101 —Version 1 to version 2 translation of grandmasterIsBoundaryClock field 180
Table 102 —Version 2 to version 1 translation of the priority2 field 180
Table 103 —Version 1 control field and version 2 messageType field mappings 180
Table 104 —Translation of flagField from version 1 to version 2 181

Withdrawn

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Table 105 —Translation of flagField from version 2 to version 1 181
Table 106 —Version 2 fields with no version 1 counterpart 182
Table 107 —Version 1 fields with no version 2 counterpart 183
Table 108 —Name correspondence 183
Table 109 —Mixed system restrictions 184
Table B.1—Relationships between timescales 199
Table C.1—Interpretation of Figure C.1 key values 202
Table C.2—Interpretation of Figure C.2 key values 203
Table C.3—Interpretation of Figure C.3 key values 205
Table C.4—Interpretation of Figure C.4 key values 207
Table C.5—Interpretation of Figure C.5 key values 209
Table C.6—Interpretation of Figure C.6 key values 210
Table C.7—Interpretation of Figure C.7 key values 211
Table C.8—Interpretation of Figure C.8 key values 213
Table C.9—Interpretation of Figure C.9 key values 215
Table C.10—Interpretation of Figure C.10 key values 217
Table C.11—Interpretation of Figure C.11 key values 218
Table D.1—IPv4 multicast addresses 219
Table D.2—transportSpecific field values 220
Table E.1—IPv6 multicast addresses 222
Table F.1—Multicast MAC addresses 223
Table F.2—Ethernet transport specific field 224
Table G.1—DeviceNet clockIdentity octets 0 through 7 226
Table G.2—DeviceNet headers for all PTP message packets 226
Table H.1—ControlNet clockIdentity octets 2 through 7 228
Table I.1—Mapping of messages 231
Table I.2—IEEE 802.3 DLPDU syntax 232
Table I.3—Multicast MAC address 233
Table I.4—LT (Length/Type) 234
Table I.6—Mapping of the parameter and attribute names 235
Table I.7—Translation of flagField from PTP version 2 to PROFINET 236
Table K.1—flagField.SECURE flag 242
Table K.2—AUTHENTICATION TLV 260
Table K.3—algorithmId values 261
Table K.4—ICV and pad length 261
Table K.5—AUTHENTICATION_CHALLENGE TLV 262

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Table K.6—challengeType values 262
Table K.7—SECURITY_ASSOCIATION_UPDATE TLV 263
Table K.8—addressType values 263
Table L.1—CUM_FREQ_SCALE_FACTOR_OFFSET TLV format 266

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FIGURES

Figure 1 —Mealy state transition diagram 10
Figure 2 —Model of an ordinary clock 19
Figure 3 —Model of a boundary clock 21
Figure 4 —Model of an end-to-end transparent clock 22
Figure 5 —End-to-end residence time correction model 23
Figure 6 —Combined ordinary and end-to-end transparent clock 25
Figure 7 —Model of a peer-to-peer transparent clock 27
Figure 8 —Peer-to-peer residence time and link delay correction model 28
Figure 9 —Combined ordinary and peer-to-peer transparent clock. 30
Figure 10 —Simple master–slave clock hierarchy 32
Figure 11 —Pruned mesh topology 33
Figure 12 —Basic synchronization message exchange 34
Figure 13 —Link delay measurement 35
Figure 14 —Timestamp generation model 36
Figure 15 —Hierarchical topology 37
Figure 16 —Linear topology 38
Figure 17 —Multiply connected topology 39
Figure 18 —Bridging disparate technologies 40
Figure 19 —Definition of latency constants 45
Figure 20 —Propagation asymmetry 47
Figure 21 —Port model 48
Figure 22 —Scaled log variance hysteresis 60
Figure 23 —State machine for a full implementation 78
Figure 24 —State machine for a slave-only implementation 79
Figure 25 —STATE_DECISION_EVENT logic 81
Figure 26 —State decision algorithm 87
Figure 27 —Data set comparison algorithm, part 1 89
Figure 28 —Data set comparison algorithm, part 2 90
Figure 29 —Receipt of Announce message logic 96
Figure 30 —Receipt of Sync message logic 98
Figure 31 —Receipt of Follow_Up message logic 100
Figure 32 —Receipt of Delay_Req message logic 101
Figure 33 —Receipt of Delay_Resp message logic 103
Figure 34 —Delay request-response path length measurement 110

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Figure 35 —Peer delay link measurement 113

Figure 36 —Permitted mixed system configuration 183

Figure 37 —Profile print form 186

Figure C.1—Master, end-to-end, and slave one-step clocks; no asymmetry correction 201

Figure C.2—Master, end-to-end, and slave one-step clocks; with asymmetry correction 202

Figure C.3—Master two-step and end-to-end transparent and slave one-step clocks; with asymmetry correction 204

Figure C.4—Master and end-to-end transparent, two-step, and one-step, slave clocks; with asymmetry correction 206

Figure C.5—One-step master, two-step end-to-end transparent, and one-step slave clocks; with asymmetry correction 208

Figure C.6—One-step peer responder, end-to-end transparent, and peer requestor clocks; with asymmetry correction 210

Figure C.7—One-step peer responder, two-step end-to-end transparent, and one-step peer requestor clocks; with asymmetry correction 211

Figure C.8—Two-step peer responder, two-step end-to-end transparent, and one-step peer requestor clocks: option 1; with asymmetry correction 212

Figure C.9—Two-step peer responder, two-step end-to-end transparent, and one-step peer requestor clocks: option 2; with asymmetry correction 214

Figure C.10—Two-step peer responder, one-step end-to-end transparent, and one-step peer requestor clocks: option 2; with asymmetry correction 216

Figure C.11—One-step peer master, two-step peer-to-peer transparent, and one-step peer slave clocks; time computation 217

Figure G.1— Event message timestamp point 225

Figure I.1—PROFINET region combined with domains 231

Figure K.1—PTP secure message processing 252

Figure K.2—Challenge processing 254

Figure K.3—Secure transmit processing 256

Figure K.4—Secure event processing 258

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

IEEE Std	FDIS	Report on voting
1588 (2008)	65C/510/FDIS	65C/517/RVD

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IEEE Standard for a Precision Clock Synchronization Protocol for Networked Measurement and Control Systems

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Sponsor

Technical Committee on Sensor Technology (TC-9)

of the

IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society

Approved 27 March 2008

IEEE-SA Standards Board

Abstract: A protocol is provided in this standard that enables precise synchronization of clocks in measurement and control systems implemented with technologies such as network communication, local computing, and distributed objects. The protocol is applicable to systems communicating via packet networks. Heterogeneous systems are enabled that include clocks of various inherent precision, resolution, and stability to synchronize. System-wide synchronization accuracy and precision in the sub-microsecond range are supported with minimal network and local clock computing resources. Simple systems are installed and operated without requiring the management attention of users because the default behavior of the protocol allows for it.

Keywords: boundary clock, clock, distributed system, master clock, measurement and control system, real-time clock, synchronized clock, transparent clock

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IEEE Introduction

This standard defines a protocol enabling precise synchronization of clocks in measurement and control systems implemented with technologies such as network communication, local computing, and distributed objects. The clocks communicate with each other over a communication network. The protocol generates a master–slave relationship among the clocks in the system. All clocks ultimately derive their time from a clock known as the grandmaster clock. In its basic form, this protocol is intended to be administration free.

History

Measurement and control applications are increasingly using distributed system technologies such as network communication, local computing, and distributed objects. Without a standardized protocol for synchronizing the clocks in these devices, it is unlikely that the benefits will be realized in the multivendor system component market. Existing protocols for clock synchronization are not optimum for these applications. For example, Network Time Protocol (NTP) targets large distributed computing systems with millisecond synchronization requirements. The protocol proposed in this standard specifically addresses the following needs of measurement and control systems:

— Spatially localized

— Microsecond to sub-microsecond accuracy and precision

— Administration free

— Accessible for both high-end devices and low-cost, low-end devices

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1.2 Purpose

Measurement and control applications are increasingly employing distributed system technologies such as network communication, local computing, and distributed objects. Many of these applications will be enhanced by having an accurate system-wide sense of time achieved by having local clocks in each sensor, actuator, or other system device. Without a standardized protocol for synchronizing these clocks, it is unlikely that the benefits will be realized in the multivendor system component market. Existing protocols for clock synchronization are not optimum for these applications. For example, the Network Time Protocol (NTP) targets large distributed computing systems with millisecond synchronization requirements. The protocol in this standard specifically addresses the needs of measurement and control and operational systems in the fields of test and measurement, industrial automation, military systems, manufacturing systems, power utility systems, and certain telecommunications applications. These applications need:

— Spatially localized systems with options for larger systems

— Microsecond to sub-microsecond accuracy

— Administration-free operation

— Applicability for both high-end devices and low-cost, low-end devices

— Provisions for the management of redundant and fault-tolerant systems

Several different application areas such as industrial automation, telecommunication, semiconductor manufacturing, military systems, and utility power generation have emerged that require the standard to be revised.

1.3 Layout of the document

This standard, which defines the Precision Time Protocol (PTP), is divided into 19 clauses:

Clause	Purpose
1	Provides the scope and benefits of this standard
2	Lists references to other standards
3	Provides definitions that are either not found in other standards or have been modified for use with this standard
4	Provides conventions for the notation used in this standard
5	Defines the data types used in this standard
6	Provides an overview of PTP
7	Defines characteristics of PTP entities
8	Defines PTP data sets
9	Defines PTP for ordinary and boundary clocks
10	Defines PTP for transparent clocks
11	Specifies PTP time computations and corrections
12	Specifies how to syntonize and synchronize clocks
13	Defines the format of messages passed between participating clocks
14	Specifies type, length, value (TLV) formats
15	Specifies management TLVs
16	Defines general optional features of this standard
17	Defines state configuration options of this standard
18	Defines forward and backward compatibility between versions
19	Defines requirements for conformance

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Annexes are provided as follows:

Annex	Purpose
Annex A	Using PTP
Annex B	Defines timescales and epochs in PTP
Annex C	Examples of timing computations and message fields
Annex D	Defines mappings of PTP to User Datagram Protocol (UDP) over Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4)
Annex E	Defines mappings of PTP to UDP over Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)
Annex F	Defines mappings of PTP over IEEE 802.3
Annex G	Defines mappings of PTP to DeviceNet™[1]
Annex H	Defines mappings of PTP to ControlNet™[2]
Annex I	Defines mappings of PTP to PROFINET™[3]
Annex J	Default PTP Profile
Annex K	Defines an experimental security option
Annex L	Defines an experimental cumulative frequency TLV
Annex M	Bibliography

2. Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document (i.e., they must be understood and used, so each referenced document is cited in text and its relationship to this document is explained). For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments or corrigenda) applies.

IEC 61158-3-2:2007, Industrial communication networks—Fieldbus specifications—Part 3-2: Data-link layer service definition—Type 2 elements.[4]

IEC 61158-4-2:2007, Industrial communication networks—Fieldbus specifications—Part 4-2: Data-link layer protocol specification—Type 2 elements.

IEC 61158-5-2:2007, Industrial communication networks—Fieldbus specifications—Part 5-2: Application layer service definition—Type 2 elements.

IEC 61158-5-10:2007, Industrial communication networks—Fieldbus specifications—Part 5-10: Application layer service definition—Type 10 elements.

IEC 61158-6-2:2007, Industrial communication networks—Fieldbus specifications—Part 6-2: Application layer protocol specification—Type 2 elements.

IEC 61158-6-10:2007, Industrial communication networks—Fieldbus specifications—Part 6-10: Application layer protocol specification—Type 10 elements.

[1]DeviceNet™ is a trade name of Open DeviceNet Vendor Association, Inc. This information is given for the convenience of users of this standard and does not constitute an endorsement by the IEEE or IEC of these products. Equivalent products may be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.
[2]ControlNet™ is a trade name of ControlNet International, Ltd. This information is given for the convenience of users of this standard and does not constitute an endorsement by the IEEE or IEC of these products. Equivalent products may be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.
[3]PROFINET™ is the trade name of the non-profit organization PROFIBUS Nutzerorganisation e.V. (PNO). This information is given for the convenience of users of this standard and does not constitute an endorsement by the IEEE or IEC of these products. Equivalent products may be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.
[4]IEC publications are available from the Sales Department of the International Electrotechnical Commission, Case Postale 131, 3, rue de Varembé, CH-1211, Genève 20, Switzerland/Suisse (http://www.iec.ch/). IEC publications are also available in the United States from the Sales Department, American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, USA (http://www.ansi.org/).

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IEC 61784-1:2007, Industrial communication networks—Profiles—Part 1: Fieldbus profiles.

IEC 61784-2:2007, Industrial communications networks—Profiles—Part 2: Additional fieldbus profiles for real-time networks based on ISO/IEC 8802-3.

IEC 62026-3:2008, Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear—Controller-device interfaces (CDIs)—Part 3: DeviceNet.

IEEE Std 802®, IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks: Overview and Architecture.[5, 6]

IEEE Std 802.1AB™, IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks—Part 1AB: Station and Media Access Control Connectivity Discovery.

IEEE Std 802.1Q™-2005, IEEE Standard for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks—Part 1Q: Virtual bridged local area networks.

IEEE Std 802.3™-2005, IEEE Standard for Information Technology—Telecommunications and information exchange between systems—Local and metropolitan area networks—Specific requirements—Part 3: Carrier sense multiple access with collision detection (CSMA/CD) access method and Physical Layer specifications.

ISO/IEC 10646:2003, Information technology—Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS)[7].

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[5]IEEE publications are available from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854, USA (http://standards/ieee.org/).
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