INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC 61131-1

Second edition
2003-05

Programmable controllers –

Part 1:
General information

Automates programmables –

Partie 1:
Informations générales

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

PROGRAMMABLE CONTROLLERS –

Part 1: General information

FOREWORD

1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, the IEC publishes International Standards. Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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International Standard IEC 61131-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 65B: Devices, of IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement and control.

This second edition of IEC 61131-1 cancels and replaces the first edition published in 1992 and constitutes a technical revision.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
65B/484/FDIS	65B/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 the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

IEC 61131 consists of the following parts under the general title: *Programmable controllers.*

Part 1: General information

Part 2: Equipment requirements and tests

Part 3: Programming languages

Part 4: User guidelines

Part 5: Communications

Part 6: Reserved

Part 7: Fuzzy-control programming

Part 8: Guidelines for the application and implementation of programming languages for programmable controllers

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2007. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this standard may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

This Part of IEC 61131 constitutes Part 1 of a series of standards on programmable controllers and their associated peripherals and should be read in conjunction with the other parts of the series.

Where a conflict exists between this and other IEC standards (except basic safety standards), the provisions of this standard should be considered to govern in the area of programmable controllers and their associated peripherals.

The purposes of this standard are:

Part 1 establishes the definitions and identifies the principal characteristics relevant to the selection and application of programmable controllers and their associated peripherals;

Part 2 specifies equipment requirements and related tests for programmable controllers (PLC) and their associated peripherals;

Part 3 defines, for each of the most commonly used programming languages, major fields of application, syntactic and semantic rules, simple but complete basic sets of programming elements, applicable tests and means by which manufacturers may expand or adapt those basic sets to their own programmable controller implementations;

Part 4 gives general overview information and application guidelines of the standard for the PLC end-user;

Part 5 defines the communication between programmable controllers and other electronic systems;

Part 6 is reserved;

Part 7 defines the programming language for fuzzy control;

Part 8 gives guidelines for the application and implementation of the programming languages defined in Part 3.

PROGRAMMABLE CONTROLLERS –

Part 1: General information

1 Scope

This Part of IEC 61131 applies to programmable controllers (PLC) and their associated peripherals such as programming and debugging tools (PADTs), human-machine interfaces (HMIs), etc., which have as their intended use the control and command of machines and industrial processes.

PLCs and their associated peripherals are intended to be used in an industrial environment and may be provided as open or enclosed equipment. If a PLC or its associated peripherals are intended for use in other environments, then the specific requirements, standards and installation practices for those other environments must be additionally applied to the PLC and its associated peripherals.

The functionality of a programmable controller can be performed as well on a specific hardware and software platform as on a general-purpose computer or a personal computer with industrial environment features. This standard applies to any products performing the function of PLCs and/or their associated peripherals. This standard does not deal with the functional safety or other aspects of the overall automated system. PLCs, their application programme and their associated peripherals are considered as components of a control system.

Since PLCs are component devices, safety considerations for the overall automated system including installation and application are beyond the scope of this Part. However, PLC safety as related to electric shock and fire hazards, electrical interference immunity and error detecting of the PLC-system operation (such as the use of parity checking, self-testing diagnostics, etc.), are addressed. Refer to IEC 60364 or applicable national/local regulations for electrical installation and guidelines.

This Part of IEC 61131 gives the definitions of terms used in this standard. It identifies the principal functional characteristics of programmable controller systems.

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 61131-2, *Programmable controllers – Part 2: Equipment requirements and tests*[1]

IEC 61131-3:2003, *Programmable controllers – Part 3: Programming languages*

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[1] To be published.