

Programmable controllers —

Part 1: General information

The European Standard EN 61131-1:2003 has the status of a British Standard

ICS 25.040.40; 35.240.50

National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 61131-1:2003. It is identical with IEC 61131-1:2003. It supersedes BS EN 61131-1:1994 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted by Technical Committee GEL/65, Measurement and control, to Subcommittee GEL/65/2, Elements of systems, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible international/European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

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Cross-references

The British Standards which implement international or European publications referred to in this document may be found in the *BSI Catalogue* under the section entitled “International Standards Correspondence Index”, or by using the “Search” facility of the *BSI Electronic Catalogue* or of British Standards Online.

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, the EN title page, pages 2 to 18, an inside back cover and a back cover.

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Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 8 August 2003

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ISBN 0 580 42395 6

English version

Programmable controllers
Part 1: General information
(IEC 61131-1:2003)

Automates programmables
Partie 1: Informations générales
(CEI 61131-1:2003)

Speicherprogrammierbare Steuerungen
Teil 1: Allgemeine Informationen
(IEC 61131-1:2003)

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Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

CENELEC

European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

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Foreword

The text of document 65B/484/FDIS, future edition 2 of IEC 61131-1, prepared by SC 65B, Devices, of IEC TC 65, Industrial-process measurement and control, was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 61131-1 on 2003-07-01.

This European Standard supersedes EN 61131-1:1994.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the EN has to be implemented
at national level by publication of an identical
national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2004-04-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting
with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 2006-07-01

Annexes designated "normative" are part of the body of the standard.
In this standard, annex ZA is normative.
Annex ZA has been added by CENELEC.

Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 61131-1:2003 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

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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*

¹ To be published.