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Space data and information transfer systems — Space link extension — Application program interface for return channel frames service

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National foreword

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Space data and information transfer systems — Space link extension — Application program interface for return channel frames service

Systémes de transfert des informations et données spatiales — Extension de liaisons spatiales — Interface du programme d'application pour service de réseau pour liaison retour

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Foreword

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ISO 18443 was prepared by the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS) (as CCSDS 915.2-M-2, September 2015) and was adopted (without modifications except those stated in clause 2 of this International Standard) by Technical Committee ISO/TC 20, *Aircraft and space vehicles*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Space data and information transfer systems*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 18443:2013), which has been technically revised.

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CCSDS Recommendations take two forms: **Recommended Standards** that are prescriptive and are the formal vehicles by which CCSDS Agencies create the standards that specify how elements of their space mission support infrastructure shall operate and interoperate with others; and **Recommended Practices** that are more descriptive in nature and are intended to provide general guidance about how to approach a particular problem associated with space mission support. This **Recommended Practice** is issued by, and represents the consensus of, the CCSDS members. Endorsement of this **Recommended Practice** is entirely voluntary and does not imply a commitment by any Agency or organization to implement its recommendations in a prescriptive sense.

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FOREWORD

This document is a technical **Recommended Practice** for use in developing ground systems for space missions and has been prepared by the **Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems** (CCSDS). The Application Program Interface described herein is intended for missions that are cross-supported between Agencies of the CCSDS.

This **Recommended Practice** specifies service type-specific extensions of the Space Link Extension Application Program Interface for Transfer Services specified by CCSDS (reference [3]). It allows implementing organizations within each Agency to proceed with the development of compatible, derived Standards for the ground systems that are within their cognizance. Derived Agency Standards may implement only a subset of the optional features allowed by the **Recommended Practice** and may incorporate features not addressed by the **Recommended Practice**.

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Document	Title	Date	Status
CCSDS 915.2-M-1	Space Link Extension—Application Program Interface for Return Channel Frames Service, Recommended Practice, Issue 1	October 2008	Original issue, superseded
CCSDS 915.2-M-2	Space Link Extension—Application Program Interface for Return Channel Frames Service, Recommended Practice, Issue 2	September 2015	Current issue: – updates text to accommodate changes in current version of SLE service specification; – differentiates applicability by SLE service specification version; – updates references.

NOTE – Substantive changes from the previous issue are marked with change bars in the inside margin.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

The Recommended Practice *Space Link Extension—Application Program Interface for Transfer Services—Core Specification* (reference [3]) specifies a C++ API for CCSDS Space Link Extension Transfer Services. The API is intended for use by application programs implementing SLE transfer services.

Reference [3] defines the architecture of the API and the functionality on a generic level, which is independent of specific SLE services and communication technologies. It is thus necessary to add service type-specific specifications in supplemental Recommended Practices. The purpose of this document is to specify extensions to the API needed for support of the Return Channel Frames (RCF) service defined in reference [2].

1.2 SCOPE

This Recommended Practice defines extensions to the SLE API in terms of:

a) the RCF-specific functionality provided by API components;

b) the RCF-specific interfaces provided by API components; and

c) the externally visible behavior associated with the RCF interfaces exported by the components.

It does not specify:

a) individual implementations or products;

b) the internal design of the components; and

c) the technology used for communications.

This Recommended Practice defines only interfaces and behavior that must be provided by implementations supporting the Return Channel Frames service in addition to the specification in reference [3].

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1.3 APPLICABILITY

The Application Program Interface specified in this document supports three versions of the Return Channel Frames service, namely:

a) Generation 1 identified by the version number 1 in the BIND operation, as specified by reference [C2];

b) Generation 2 identified by the version number 2 in the BIND operation, as specified by reference [C3];

c) Generation 3 identified by the version number 4 in the BIND operation, as specified by reference [2].

NOTE – The use of the term 'Generation' follows the definition in the API Core Specification (reference [3]) where it is used to classify all SLE Transfer Services.

Support for Generation 1 and Generation 2 of this service is included for backward compatibility purposes for a limited time and may not be continued in future versions of this specification. Support for Generation 1 (i.e., version 1 of the RCF service) implies that SLE API implementations of this specification are able to interoperate with peer SLE systems that comply with the specification of the Transport Mapping Layer (TML) in 'Specification of a SLE API Proxy for TCP/IP and ASN.1', ESOC, SLES-SW-API-0002-TOS-GCI, Issue 1.1, February 2001. For Generation 2 and 3 of these services, SLE API implementations of this specification are able to interoperate with peer SLE systems that comply with the specification of the Transport Mapping Layer (TML) in reference [C5].

Provisions within this Recommended Practice that are specific for one or more generations are marked as follows:

– [Gn:] for provisions specific to Generation n;

– [Gn,m:] for provisions specific to Generation n and Generation m.

Provisions that apply to all generations are not marked.

1.4 RATIONALE

This Recommended Practice specifies the mapping of the RCF service specification to specific functions and parameters of the SLE API. It also specifies the distribution of responsibility for specific functions between SLE API software and application software.

The goal of this Recommended Practice is to create a standard for interoperability between:

a) application software using the SLE API and SLE API software implementing the SLE API; and

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b) service user and service provider applications communicating with each other using the SLE API on both sides.

This interoperability standard also allows exchangeability of different products implementing the SLE API, as long as they adhere to the interface specification of this Recommended Practice.

1.5 DOCUMENT STRUCTURE

1.5.1 ORGANIZATION

This document is organized as follows:

- section 1 provides purpose and scope of this specification, identifies conventions, and lists definitions and references used throughout the document;
- section 2 provides an overview of the RCF service and describes the API model extension including support for the RCF service;
- section 3 contains detailed specifications for the API components and for applications using the API;
- annex A provides a formal specification of the API interfaces and data types specific to the RCF service;
- annex B lists all acronyms used within this document;
- annex C lists informative references.

1.5.2 SLE SERVICE DOCUMENTATION TREE

The SLE suite of Recommended Standards is based on the cross support model defined in the SLE Reference Model (reference [1]). The services defined by the reference model constitute one of the three types of Cross Support Services:

a) Part 1: SLE Services;

b) Part 2: Ground Domain Services; and

c) Part 3: Ground Communications Services.

The SLE services are further divided into SLE service management and SLE transfer services.

The basic organization of the SLE services and SLE documentation is shown in figure 1-1. The various documents are described in the following paragraphs.

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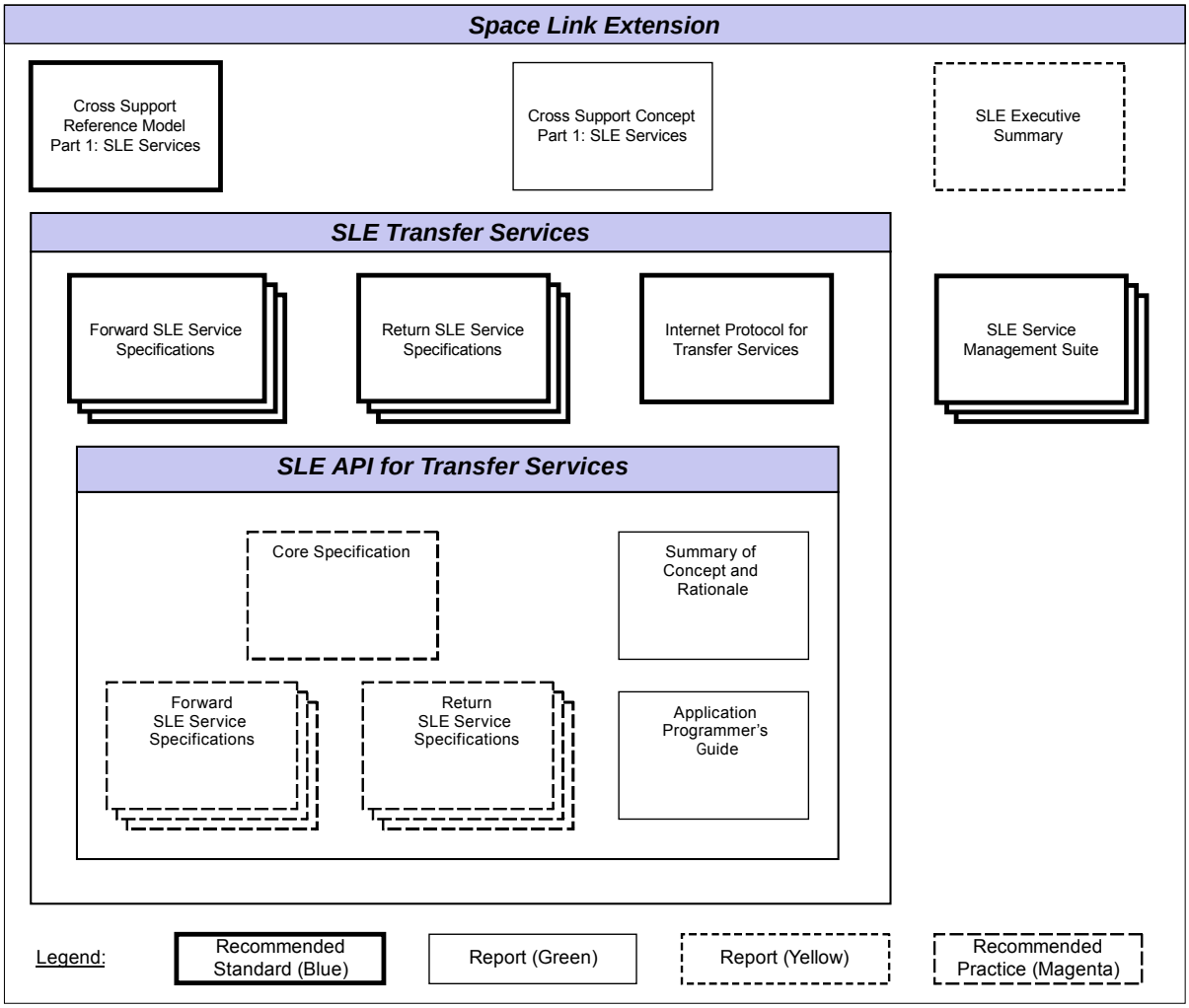

Figure 1-1: SLE Services and SLE API Documentation

a) *Cross Support Reference Model—Part 1: Space Link Extension Services*, a Recommended Standard that defines the framework and terminology for the specification of SLE services.

b) *Cross Support Concept—Part 1: Space Link Extension Services*, a Report introducing the concepts of cross support and the SLE services.

c) *Space Link Extension Services—Executive Summary*, an Administrative Report providing an overview of Space Link Extension (SLE) Services. It is designed to assist readers with their review of existing and future SLE documentation.

d) *Forward SLE Service Specifications*, a set of Recommended Standards that provide specifications of all forward link SLE services.

e) *Return SLE Service Specifications*, a set of Recommended Standards that provide specifications of all return link SLE services.

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f) *Internet Protocol for Transfer Services*, a Recommended Standard providing the specification of the wire protocol used for SLE transfer services.

g) *SLE Service Management Specifications*, a set of Recommended Standards that establish the basis of SLE service management.

h) *Application Program Interface for Transfer Services—Core Specification*, a Recommended Practice document specifying the generic part of the API for SLE transfer services.

i) *Application Program Interface for Transfer Services—Summary of Concept and Rationale*, a Report describing the concept and rationale for specification and implementation of a Application Program Interface for SLE Transfer Services.

j) *Application Program Interface for Return Services*, a set of Recommended Practice documents specifying the service type-specific extensions of the API for return link SLE services.

k) *Application Program Interface for Forward Services*, a set of Recommended Practice documents specifying the service type-specific extensions of the API for forward link SLE services.

l) *Application Program Interface for Transfer Services—Application Programmer's Guide*, a Report containing guidance material and software source code examples for software developers using the API.

1.6 DEFINITIONS, NOMENCLATURE, AND CONVENTIONS

1.6.1 DEFINITIONS

1.6.1.1 Definitions from SLE Reference Model

This Recommended Practice makes use of the following terms defined in reference [1]:

a) Return Channel Frames service (RCF service);

b) operation;

c) service provider (provider);

d) service user (user);

e) SLE transfer service instance;

f) SLE transfer service production;

g) SLE transfer service provision.

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1.6.1.2 Definitions from RCF Service

This Recommended Practice makes use of the following terms defined in reference [2]:

a) association;

b) communications service;

c) confirmed operation;

d) delivery mode;

e) global VCID;

f) invocation;

g) latency limit;

h) lock status;

i) notification;

j) offline processing latency;

k) parameter;

l) performance;

m) permitted global VCID set;

n) port identifier;

o) production status;

p) return;

q) service instance provision period;

r) transfer buffer;

s) unconfirmed operation;

t) virtual channel.

1.6.1.3 Definitions from ASN.1 Specification

This Recommended Practice makes use of the following term defined in reference [5]:

a) Object Identifier;

b) Octet String.

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1.6.1.4 Definitions from UML Specification

This Recommended Practice makes use of the following terms defined in reference [C9]:

a) Attribute;

b) Base Class;

c) Class;

d) Data Type;

e) Interface;

f) Method.

1.6.1.5 Definitions from API Core Specification

This Recommended Practice makes use of the following terms defined in reference [3]:

a) Application Program Interface;

b) Component.

1.6.2 NOMENCLATURE

1.6.2.1 Normative Text

The following conventions apply for the normative specifications in this Recommended Standard:

a) the words 'shall' and 'must' imply a binding and verifiable specification;

b) the word 'should' implies an optional, but desirable, specification;

c) the word 'may' implies an optional specification;

d) the words 'is', 'are', and 'will' imply statements of fact.

NOTE – These conventions do not imply constraints on diction in text that is clearly informative in nature.

1.6.2.2 Informative Text

In the normative sections of this document, informative text is set off from the normative specifications either in notes or under one of the following subsection headings:

– Overview;

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– Background;

– Rationale;

– Discussion.

1.6.3 CONVENTIONS

This document applies the conventions defined in reference [3].

The RCF-specific model extensions in section 2 are presented using the Unified Modeling Language (UML) and applying the conventions defined in reference [3].

The RCF-specific specifications for API components in section 3 are presented using the conventions specified in reference [3].

The RCF-specific data types and interfaces in annex A are specified in the notation of the C++ programming language using the conventions defined in reference [3].

1.7 REFERENCES

The following publications contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this document. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All publications are subject to revision, and users of this document are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the publications indicated below. The CCSDS Secretariat maintains a register of currently valid CCSDS publications.

NOTE – A list of informative references is provided in annex C.

[1] *Cross Support Reference Model—Part 1: Space Link Extension Services*. Issue 2. Recommendation for Space Data System Standards (Blue Book), CCSDS 910.4-B-2. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, October 2005.

[2] *Space Link Extension—Return Channel Frames Service Specification*. Issue 2. Recommendation for Space Data System Standards (Blue Book), CCSDS 911.2-B-2. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, January 2010.

[3] *Space Link Extension—Application Program Interface for Transfer Services—Core Specification*. Issue 2. Recommendation for Space Data System Practices (Magenta Book), CCSDS 914.0-M-2. Washington, D.C.: CCSDS, September 2015.

[4] *Programming Languages—C++*. 3rd ed. International Standard, ISO/IEC 14882:2011. Geneva: ISO, 2011.

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[5] *Information Technology—Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Specification of Basic Notation*. 4th ed. International Standard, ISO/IEC 8824-1:2008. Geneva: ISO, 2008.

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2 OVERVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This section describes the extension of the SLE API model in reference [3] for support of the RCF service. Extensions are needed for the API components API Service Element and SLE Operations.

In addition to the extensions defined in this section, the component API Proxy must support encoding and decoding of RCF-specific protocol data units.

2.2 PACKAGE RCF SERVICE INSTANCES

2.2.1 GENERAL

The RCF extensions to the component API Service Element are defined by the package RCF Service Instances. Figure 2-1 provides an overview of this package. The diagram includes classes from the package API Service Element specified in reference [3], which provide applicable specifications for the RCF service.

The package adds two service instance classes:

a) RCF SI User, supporting the service user role; and

b) RCF SI Provider, supporting service provider role.

These classes correspond to the placeholder classes I<SRV>_SI User and I<SRV>_SI Provider defined in reference [3].

Both classes are able to handle the specific RCF operations.

For the class RCF SI User, this is the only extension of the base class SI User.

The class RCF SI Provider adds two new interfaces:

a) `IRCF_SIAdmin` by which the application can set RCF-specific configuration parameters; and

b) `IRCF_SIUpdate` by which the application must update dynamic status information, required for generation of status reports.

These interfaces correspond to the placeholder interfaces `I<SRV>_SIAdmin` and `I<SRV>_SIUpdate` defined in reference [3].

RCF-specific configuration parameters are defined by the internal class RCF Configuration. The class RCF Status Information defines dynamic status parameters maintained by the service instance.

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All specifications provided in this section refer to a single service instance. If more than one service instance is used, each service instance must be configured and updated independently.

2.2.2 COMPONENT CLASS RCF SI USER

The class defines a RCF service instance supporting the service user role. It ensures that SLE PDUs passed by the application and by the association are supported by the RCF service and handles the RCF operation objects defined in 2.3. It does not add further features to those provided by the base class SI User.

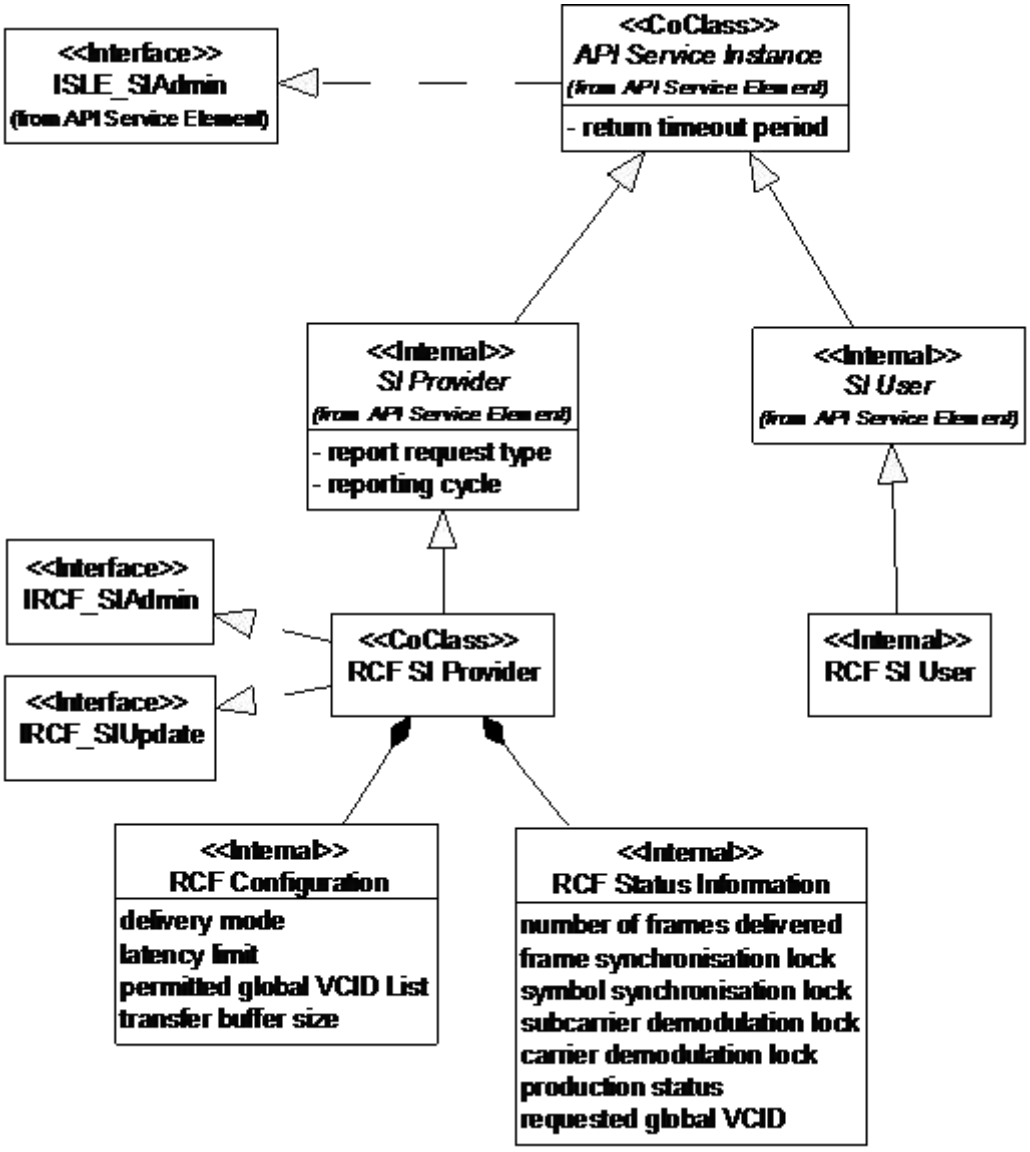

Figure 2-1: RCF Service Instances

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2.2.3 COMPONENT CLASS RCF SI PROVIDER

2.2.3.1 General

The class defines a RCF service instance supporting the service provider role. It exports the interfaces `IRCF_SIAdmin` for configuration of the service instance after creation and `IRCF_SIUpdate` for update of dynamic status parameters during operation.

2.2.3.2 Responsibilities

2.2.3.2.1 Service Specific Configuration

The service instance implements the interface `IRCF_SIAdmin` to set the RCF-specific configuration parameters defined by the class RCF Configuration. The methods of this interface must be called after creation of the service instance. When all configuration parameters (including those set via the interface `ISLE_SIAdmin`) have been set, the method `ISLE_SIAdmin::ConfigCompleted()` must be called. This method verifies that all configuration parameters values are defined and are in the range defined in reference [2].

In addition, the interface `IRCF_SIAdmin` provides read access to the configuration parameters.

2.2.3.2.2 Update of Dynamic Status Parameters

The class implements the interface `IRCF_SIUpdate`. The methods of this interface update status parameters defined by the class RCF Status Information. In order to ensure that the status information is always up to date, all changes of status parameters must be reported to the service instance during its complete lifetime, independent of the state of the service instance.

In addition, the class derives some of the parameters in RCF Status Information from RCF PDUs exchanged between the service provider and the service user. The method used to update each of the parameters is defined in 2.2.5.

The interface `IRCF_SIUpdate` provides read access to all status parameters.

2.2.3.2.3 Handling of the RCF–GET-PARAMETER Operation

The class responds autonomously to RCF–GET–PARAMETER invocations. It generates the appropriate RCF–GET–PARAMETER return using the parameters maintained by the classes RCF Configuration and RCF Status Information.

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