

IEC SEG 8

COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES AND ARCHITECTURES OF ELECTROTECHNICAL SYSTEMS

The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) has recently created a new Standardization Evaluation Group (SEG) on Communication Technologies and Architectures of Electrotechnical Systems. The mission of SEGs is to identify new technical areas and anticipate emerging technology and market trends that might impact the activities of IEC committees. SEGs are broadly open groups, in which participation of experts from both within and outside the IEC is strongly encouraged.

Key objectives of SEG 8 include:

- Monitor new or emerging communication technologies and architectures that are specified or standardized outside the IEC (e.g. 5G, Low Power Wide Area Networking, Deterministic Networking, Edge Computing/Intelligence, Management & Orchestration, and others).
- Monitor new market trends (e.g. IT/OT convergence) and analyse new business and development models (e.g. Open Source, DevOps) related to communication technologies and assess their impact on IEC activities.
- Take into account additional essential aspects of communication technologies such as security, reliability, safety, privacy, energy efficiency, and others.
- Evaluate the impact of these technologies, architectures and trends on current and foreseen IEC work, in particular on systems related activities, and engage with the concerned IEC committees by raising awareness and making technical recommendations.
- Be the IEC focal point for spectrum management related issues and coordinate with ITU-R and regional spectrum policy organizations.
- Evaluate gaps in standardization of communication technologies based on requirements provided by selected IEC use cases, and take appropriate actions within the IEC or through collaboration with external bodies.

SEG 8 is organized into three active working groups to focus and accelerate the progress of specific deliverables:

- **WG 1: Trend monitoring** – which addresses market, business and technology trends and their impacts on IEC activities.
- **WG2: Collaboration** – which addresses the collaboration within the IEC and with external bodies, as well as the evaluation of standardization gaps of communication technologies.
- **WG3: Spectrum policy** – which addresses spectrum management related issues and coordinates with ITU-R and regional spectrum policy organizations.

To meet these objectives, SEG 8 is looking for additional expertise in the broad area of communication technologies and architectures.

SEG 8 is foreseen to operate for a two year period, after which a recommendation to the IEC Standardization Management Board will be made on how to continue this work. Members of SEG 8 will be expected to participate in three face to face meetings per year as well as conference calls.

Experts are invited to register their interest from: www.iec.ch/seg8 (→ Register link).

Additional information can be obtained from the SEG 8 Convenors (pwetterw@cisco.com, rudolf.brandner@vde.com) or the SEG 8 Secretary (gth@iec.ch).