The Open Process Automation™ Forum is delivering a standards-based, open, secure, and interoperable process control architecture through the collaboration of global leaders in process industries, system integrators, suppliers, integrated DCS vendors, academia, and other standards organizations.

Small investment, BIG return in security, flexibility, and profitability

Make multi-vendor work for you!
Why the Open Process Automation™ Forum

Industrial manufacturers are always under pressure, both to lower the capital and lifecycle costs of their process control systems and to improve the profitability of their operations. Today’s proprietary control systems are costly to integrate with best-in-class third-party components and expensive to upgrade and maintain. Additionally, today’s systems generally lack the intrinsic cybersecurity to defend against growing threats.

Open, interoperable, and secure-by-design process automation systems architectures address all of these issues. We are ensuring future automation systems meet standards of true heterogeneity and provide intrinsic security, multi-vendor interoperability, and an easy pathway for systems migration. End users will reap significant new value and profitability from the operations they control.

What We Do

To achieve this goal, the Forum is implementing standards in four key areas to:

- Support industry value chains and business models to ensure sustainable business models for all stakeholders in the process control automation ecosystem, enabling a “win-win” for all
- Develop a “standard of standards” that delivers the interoperability and application portability that end users are seeking
- Develop a conformance program that makes it easy to identify products which comply with the technology standards created by the Forum
- Promote adoption of the standards globally

Structured Approach

Adhering to a proven and well structured approach, the Open Process Automation Forum is developing technical standards and business practices to implement the open process architecture.

The structured approach is based on member organization acknowledgment of key governing principles and associated Quality Attributes (non-functional characteristics that influence the system quality and drive architectural decisions).

These Quality Attributes will guide us to:

- Select technical requirements and business practices based on stakeholder needs
- Form the basis of requirements traceability
- Enumerate the technical requirements and business processes

“The best way to predict the future is to invent it.” – Dennis Gabor, Novel Physicist, 1963

Open Process Automation Scope

Become a Member

Experts from both the customer and supplier sides of industry (end users, system integrators, suppliers), government, academia, and other standards organizations are invited to join the Forum. The Open Process Automation Forum provides a vendor-neutral environment for the development of industry standards and accreditation programs, utilizing the global reach of The Open Group to build awareness, recognition, and adoption.

To join: www.opengroup.org/open-process-automation/membership

Check out our growing membership: http://reports.opengroup.org/membership_report_OPA_forum.pdf
Benefits of Open Process Automation

End Users
- Increases profitability from operations
- Enables continuous innovation
- Reduces system integration costs and delays
- Maintains pervasive and modern security
- Empowers workforce
- Reduces total cost of ownership

Suppliers
Grows the top line by:
- Reaching new markets and customers
- Remaining relevant to your existing customers
- Creating new goods and services for expanded markets
Grows the bottom line by:
- Increasing margins
- Reducing cost
- Eliminating non-differentiated products

Open Systems Architecture Vision
A System of Systems

“We already have communication standards for the field devices. Now, we are working on The Open Group Standard for modular DSC/SCADA systems, with components made by different vendors, upgradable for decades, and cyber secured by design! FINALLY!”

Karel J. Cerny
Director, GP Automation Innovation, Georgia Pacific
About The Open Group

Leading the development of open, vendor-neutral technology standards and certifications

The Open Group is a global consortium that enables the achievement of business objectives through technology standards. Our diverse membership of more than 600 organizations includes customers, systems and solutions suppliers, tool vendors, integrators, academics and consultants across multiple industries.

Vision

Boundaryless Information Flow™ achieved through global interoperability in a secure, reliable, and timely manner.

Mission

The mission of The Open Group is to drive the creation of Boundaryless Information Flow™ achieved by:

- Working with customers to capture, understand, and address current and emerging requirements, establish policies, and share best practices
- Working with suppliers, consortia, and standards bodies to develop consensus, and facilitate interoperability to evolve and integrate specifications and open source technologies
- Offering a comprehensive set of services to enhance the operational efficiency of consortia
- Developing and operating the industry’s premier certification service and encouraging procurement of certified products

Key facts include:

- Over 600 Member organizations, with 43,000+ participants in The Open Group activities from 126 countries
- Our Platinum Members are DXC Technology, Fujitsu, HCL, Huawei, IBM, Micro Focus, Oracle, and Philips
- Services provided include strategy, management, innovation and research, standards, certification, and test development
- Over 85,000 TOGAF® 9 certifications worldwide

Further information on The Open Group can be found at www.opengroup.org.