



Contact: Jennifer Infantino  
(919) 990-9287  
jinfantino@isa.org

#### ISA Standards Committee Launches EDDL Website

Research Triangle Park, NC (17 April 2007) - ISA's Electronic Device Description Language (EDDL) standards committee, ISA-SP104, has launched a new website, [www.eddl.org](http://www.eddl.org), that gives information about the standard and offers resources for learning more about EDDL technology.

The Electronic Device Description Language (EDDL) standard advances interoperability of devices in control systems and handheld communicators. Integration of all functionality in simple sensors through complex drives using different protocols is facilitated. Device diagnostics, asset management, and user interface displays enabled by EDDL enhance reliability and performance.

"EDDL is an important subject in the industry today, and we're proud of the work that we're doing to further the understanding of how this standard is used to make plants more competitive," said ISA-SP104 Committee Chair Terry Blevins of Emerson Process. "This website will offer viewers the chance to see the benefits and history, how it is used, common questions and answers, and who the supporting organizations are."

Electronic Device Description Language (EDDL) technology is used by major manufacturers to describe the information that is accessible in digital devices. Electronic device descriptions are available for over 15 million devices that are currently installed in the process industry. The technology is used by the major process control systems and maintenance tool suppliers to support device diagnostics and calibration.

The ISA-SP104 committee and the ISA Standards and Practices Board have recently approved ISA-61804-3 (104.00.01), Function Blocks (FB) for Process Control - Part 3: Electronic Device Description Language (EDDL). This standard, which is an identical adoption of the IEC standard of the same title, specifies EDDL as a generic language for describing the properties of automation system components. The standard is now before the American National Standards Institute for final approval. ISA expects to publish the standard next month.

The website is a good way for interested parties to learn how to ensure long-term viability of device management solutions, protect their investment in these systems and easily keep it current, ensure security and robustness, according to Blevins. The site also features links to training, technical articles about EDDL, online tutorials, and other related standards efforts.

#### \*\*\*\*\* About ISA \*\*\*\*\*

Founded in 1945, ISA ([www.isa.org](http://www.isa.org)) is a leading, global, nonprofit organization that is setting the standard for automation by helping over 30,000 worldwide members and other professionals solve difficult technical problems, while enhancing their leadership and personal career capabilities. Based in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, ISA develops standards; certifies industry professionals; provides education and training; publishes books and technical articles; and hosts the largest conference and exhibition for automation professionals in the Western Hemisphere. ISA is the founding sponsor of The Automation Federation ([www.automationfederation.org](http://www.automationfederation.org)).

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**ISA**  
67 Alexander Drive  
P.O. Box 12277  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709  
PHONE (919) 549-8411  
FAX (919) 549-8288  
E-MAIL [info@isa.org](mailto:info@isa.org)  
[www.isa.org](http://www.isa.org)