

Certified Open PLC Engineer Course

Manufacturer-Independent Control System Programming using the International Standard IEC 61131-3. Accredited by PLC Open

Why should I attend this course?

Until recently, the manufacturers of Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) developed their own programming languages. This situation has in the past tended to lock users to a particular manufacturer because of existing software, maintenance and training etc. The international standard, IEC61131-3, provides the open standard for programming of a wide range of industrial control systems in a universal, vendor-independent way. The majority of PLC systems are now programmed using IEC61131-3 languages.

Is this just another programming language?

Definitely not! The IEC61131-3 standard supports modern software engineering methods that mean improved programs, easier maintenance and fault finding, reusable and transportable code. The result is a significant reduction in the number of programming errors and more reliable and maintainable control system software. Many end-users now require that their control systems be programmed using IEC61131-3.



IEC61131-3 incorporates five different approaches to programming control systems, each as a simple language aimed at a particular type of problem or application area. The languages can be easily

combined in a rich variety of ways to produce good-quality readable code. These simplify and standardise the programming across different manufacturers and different types of control system (for example: programmable drives, intelligent sensors, SCADA packages, process controllers etc).

Who should attend?

This 3-day Certified Open-PLC Engineer Course is aimed at Engineers who want an internationally recognised qualification in open-PLC programming. Some prior experience with programmable control systems is necessary. However, those with little experience can take the 2-day Basic PLC Programmer course before hand. We always run these two courses together, so those who want to get up to speed quickly can take both courses in one week.

What does the course cover?

The course uses a very practical approach, with about half the time dedicated to hand-on activities with "real controllers" and "real processes" to control. Each pair of students has their own PLC and PC-based programming environment. The course covers all five programming languages that are defined in the standard, as well as common elements and software transferability issues.

Certification Tests

The course includes a multiple-choice written test and a practical programming test. These tests ensure that the attendees understand the material and are competent in applying IEC 61131-3. We try to make sure that everyone is competent at programming studying many different examples, extensive case studies and lots of hands-on practice. The course includes a tutorial session and practice programming to help prepare for the tests.

For dates, costs and booking information contact:

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