


14.6 IEC 60870-5-104 Slave

 Since firmware version 1.8.3, multiple signals with different data types can have the same ioa address.

IEC 60870-5-104 Slave is designed not to lose data acquired from Master protocols. The data that arrives from Master protocols is stored in the cache. This data is checked every second to manage further data sending. The data that leaves IEC 60870-5-104 Slave has output caches. They're built to provide switching between multiple sessions (redundant SCADA). If a new connection arrives, the old one is dropped, but data, that is stored in a cache, not sent and not confirmed by SCADA is transferred to the new connection.

Configuring IEC 104 Slave data points

To use IEC 60870-5-104 Slave in WCC Lite, it has to be configured via an Excel configuration. This configuration contains two Excel sheets where parameters have to be filled in Devices and Signals.

IEC 60870-5-104 Slave parameters for *Devices* tab

Parameter	Type	Description	Required	Default value (when not specified)	Range	
					Min	Max
name	string	User-friendly name for a device	Yes			
description	string	Description of a device	No			
device_alias	string	Alphanumeric string to identify a device	Yes			
enable	boolean	Enabling/disabling of a device	No	1	0	1
protocol	string	Protocol to be used	Yes		IEC 60870-5-104 slave	
asdu_size	integer	Common address size in bytes	No	2	1	2
time_sync	boolean	Enable/disable (1 or 0) time synchronization	Yes			
port	integer	TCP port	No	2404	0	65535
ioa_size	integer	Information object address (IOA) size in bytes	No	3	1	3
swt	integer	Send window (SWT)	No	12		
rwt	integer	Receive window (RWT)	No	8		
cot_size	integer	Cause of transmission (COT) size in bytes	No	2	1	3
host	string	Space-separated remote host IP addresses (ipv4)	Yes			
bind_address	string	Bind to local IP address (ipv4)	No	0.0.0.0		
t1	integer	Acknowledge timeout t1 (sec)	No	15	1	255

t2	integer	Connection ACKRSN clock t2 (sec), t2 should be less than t1	No	10	1	254
t3	integer	Connection TESTFR clock t3 (sec)	No	20	1	172800
message_size	boolean	The maximum length of a message	No	253	0	255
cache_size	integer	Amount of data to be cached	No	100	0	1000
tls	boolean	Enable/disable the use of TLS	No	0	0	1
tls_local_certificate	string	Local certificate for TLS connection	Yes (for TLS)			
tls_peer_certificate	string	Certificate authority file for TLS connection	No			
tls_private_key	string	A file consisting of the private key for TLS connection	No			
command_timeout_ms	integer	Time to execute a command before responding negatively.	No	30000	0	
command_age_ms	integer	The amount of time shift allowed for the command to still be executed.	No	0	0	

IEC 60870-5-104 Slave parameters for *Signals* tab

Parameter	Type	Description	Required	Default value (when not specified)	Range	
					Min	Max
signal_name	string	User-friendly signal name	Yes			
device_alias	string	Alphanumeric string to identify a device	Yes			
signal_alias	string	Unique alphanumeric name of the signal to be Yes used	Yes			
source_device_alias	string	device_alias of a source device	For commands			
source_signal_aliases	string	signal_alias of a source signal	For commands			
enable	boolean	Enabling/disabling of an individual signal	No	1	0	1
log	integer	Allow signal to be logged. If the log is 0, the signal will not be logged. If the log is more than 0, the signal will be logged	No	0	0	1

gi	boolean	Including/excluding (1 or 0) signals from General Interrogation	No	0	0	1
common_address	integer	Address of a destination device	Yes			
info_address	integer	Information object address	Yes			
data_type	integer	ASDU type id.	Yes		1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13, 21, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63	
select_ms	integer	Time limit in milliseconds for command execution. Command selection has to be performed before execution if this parameter is specified. Direct command execution can be performed only if this field is left empty or set to zero.	No	0		
periodic_update_ms	integer	Signal value is published periodically according to the value set.	No	-	-	-
tag_job_todo	string	The device status signal can be configured by providing given value	No	No	communication_status	

Device status signals

IEC 60870-5-104 has an additional signal which can be configured to show communication status. It indicates if the master device has disconnected from the slave (WCC Lite). To configure such signal for IEC 60870-5-104 protocol, tag_job_todo field with string value is required. For IEC 60870-5-104 slave required parameters for status, the signal will be: **signal_name**, **device_alias**, **signal_alias**, and **tag_job_todo**. Tag_job_todo must be: **communication_status**. If the signal returns the value of 1 - the device or protocol connection is on and working correctly, if 2 - the device is off or the protocol is disconnected.

Debugging an IEC 60870-5-104 Slave application

If the configuration for IEC 60870-5-104 devices is set up, the handler for the protocol will start automatically. If a configuration is missing parameters or contains errors, the protocol will not start. It is done intentionally to decrease unnecessary memory usage.

If IEC 60870-5-104 does not work properly (e.g. no communication between devices, data is corrupted, etc.), a user can launch a debug session from the command-line interface and find out why the link is not functioning properly or use WCC Utility to do that.

To launch a debugging session, a user should stop the *iec104-slave* process and run the *iec104-slave* command with respective flags.

- Step 1: Service must be stopped by entering the following command into the WCC Lite:

```
/etc/init.d/iec104-slave stop
```

- Step 2: After the service is stopped it must be started with the preferred configuration file (JSON files found in /etc/ folder) and a debug level 7:

```
iec104-slave -c /etc/iec104-slave/0_0_0_0_502.json -d7
```

(0_0_0_0 - bind_address, 502 - port)

- Step 3: Once the problem is diagnosed normal operations can be resumed with the following command:

```
/etc/init.d/iec104-slave start
```

IEC 60870-5-104 command-line debugging options

```
-h [ -help ] Display help information
-V [ -version ] Show version
-d<debug level> Set debugging level
-c [ -config ] Config path
-e [ -redis ] Show redis message
```

🔄Revision #3

★Created 27 February 2025 08:00:39 by Gabriele

✎Updated 20 March 2025 12:07:56 by Tomas