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Joint Deterministic Scheduling Requirements for Industrial
Field/Backhaul Networks
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Abstract

This document analyzes the joint deterministic scheduling requirements for industrial field/backhaul networks, mainly including the determinacy, time synchronization, compatibility and scalability demands.

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1. Introduction

Using three industrial wireless networking standards: ISA100[ISA100.11a], WirelessHART[WirelessHART] and WIA-PA[WIA-PA], a deterministic network can be constructed by industrial field network. However, this industrial field networks belonging to small and medium-size networks whose network coverage is constant, for example, a range of plant. Therefore, Industrial backhaul network can be introduced to make the industrial field network access higher-level network, or transit to other industrial field networks. Thus, a new architecture network, the deterministic industrial field networks - backhaul network is proposed in this draft. Some questions of deterministic network have been described in the draft [draft-finn-detnet-problem-statement-04], and architecture and application have been illustrated in [draft-finn-detnet-architecture-04] and [draft-bas-usecase-detnet-02] separately.

Used in industrial production, it has a very high demand on the network data packet loss ratio, low jitter and deterministic and so on. Besides, due to the backhaul network is heterogeneous with field

Network. The backhaul industry network, has a centralized controller, can schedule network resources such as bandwidth and cache. However, for some industrial field networks such as ISA100, WirelessHART, these networks have their own system manager. At the same time, there are some networks which have no system manager. Therefore, it is an issue to be studied about how to carry out joint scheduling.

2. Network Structure

As shown in the figure 1, it is a typical deterministic industrial field networks - backhaul networks structure. The field network is composed of ISA100, which is the standard of the international industrial wireless network. This network standard uses TDMA mechanism to make the network time slot, and provides the deterministic guarantee for the data. Then the field networks can be access to industrial backhaul networks. At the other end of industrial backhaul networks, can be another industrial field networks, and can also be access to the Internet application, or into enterprise information management system like MES/ERP.

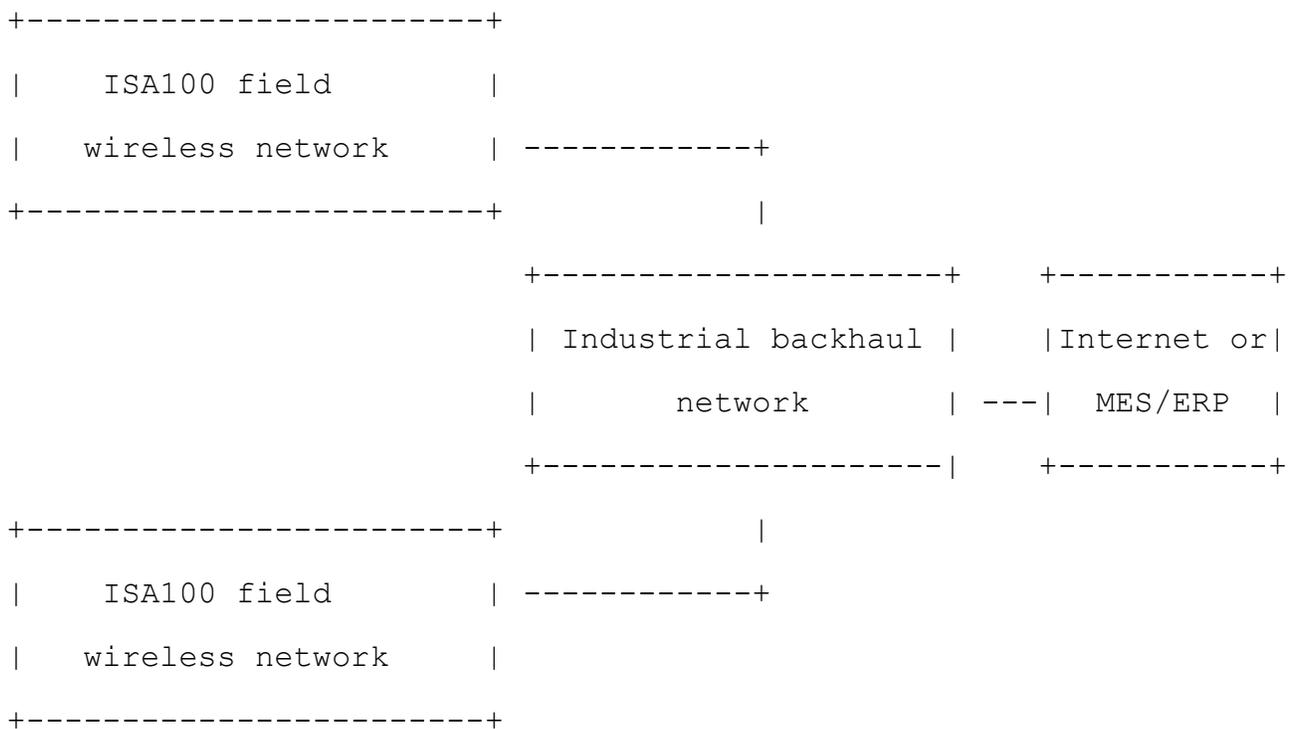


Figure 1. Typical network structure

Thus, in such a network structure, the former field network nodes deployed in a plant can communicate with the field network nodes deployed in another plant through the industrial backhaul network. At the same time, the Internet and information management system can manage the sensor nodes of the field network remotely through the industrial backhaul network.

3. Joint scheduling requirements

3.1. Determinacy

The data of industrial field network directly related to the monitoring and control of industrial production process, so the requirement of data determinism is very high, need data to arrive at a certain time. Industrial field network-backhaul network is also a kind of network which is mainly used in the process of industrial production, so also need to meet the needs of the data determinism in the joint scheduling.

3.2. Time Synchronization

Since the industrial field/backhaul network is a converged network and need some scheduling methods to ensure deterministic data stream. So it requires high time synchronization accuracy between devices in the network. The time synchronization accuracy should be in a range of 10ns to 10ms according to different network applications. At present, the existing time synchronization protocol include IEEE1588 and IEEE802.1 As, which is developed by following Time Sensitive Networking (TSN) Task Group

3.3. Compatibility

Industrial field network and backhaul network are both heterogeneous networks. Industrial field networks such as ISA100, WirelessHART usually have built-in systems management, which can allocate network communication resources to conduct deterministic scheduling. Some field networks have no system manager. While industrial backhaul network is able to control the network with central controller, so some mechanisms, interfaces, etc. will be necessary when conducting joint scheduling to be compatibility with industrial field/backhaul network.

3.4. Scalability

Generally, the field network data cannot be transmitted across domain or across network, while in the deterministic industrial field/backhaul network, the characteristic of cross-networks should

be supported. So data scalability should be ensured during joint scheduling process.

4. Security Considerations

This memo includes no request to IANA.

5. IANA Considerations

This memo includes no request to IANA.

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