

Automation systems and integration — Digital twin framework for manufacturing — Part 6: Digital twin composition

*Systèmes d'automatisation industrielle et intégration — Cadre technique de jumeau numérique
dans un contexte de fabrication — Partie 6: Composition d'un jumeau numérique*

CD stage

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee [or Project Committee] ISO/TC 184, *Automation systems and integration*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Industrial data*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 23247 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

The ISO 23247 series defines a framework to support the creation of digital twins of observable manufacturing elements, including personnel, equipment, materials, manufacturing processes, facilities, environment, products, and supporting documents.

A digital twin assists with detecting anomalies in manufacturing processes to achieve functional objectives such as real-time monitoring and control, predictive maintenance, in-process adaptation, Big Data analytics, and machine learning. A digital twin monitors its observable manufacturing element by constantly updating relevant operational and environmental data. The visibility into process and execution enabled by a digital twin enhances manufacturing operations and business cooperation.

The type of manufacturing supported by implementing the ISO 23247 framework depends on the standards and technologies available to model the observable manufacturing elements. Different manufacturing domains can use different data standards. As a framework, this document does not prescribe specific data formats and communication protocols.

The scopes of the four parts of this series are defined below:

- ISO 23247-1: General principles and requirements for developing digital twins in manufacturing;
- ISO 23247-2: Reference architecture with functional views;
- ISO 23247-3: List of basic information attributes for the observable manufacturing elements;
- ISO 23247-4: Technical requirements for information exchange between entities within the reference architecture;
- ISO 23247-5: Requirements and guidance to use digital threads for connecting manufacturing lifecycle data to digital twin;
- ISO 23247-6: Requirements and guidance for performing digital twin composition for communication, collaboration, and interoperation between digital twins in manufacturing.

Figure 1 —shows how the six parts of the series are related.

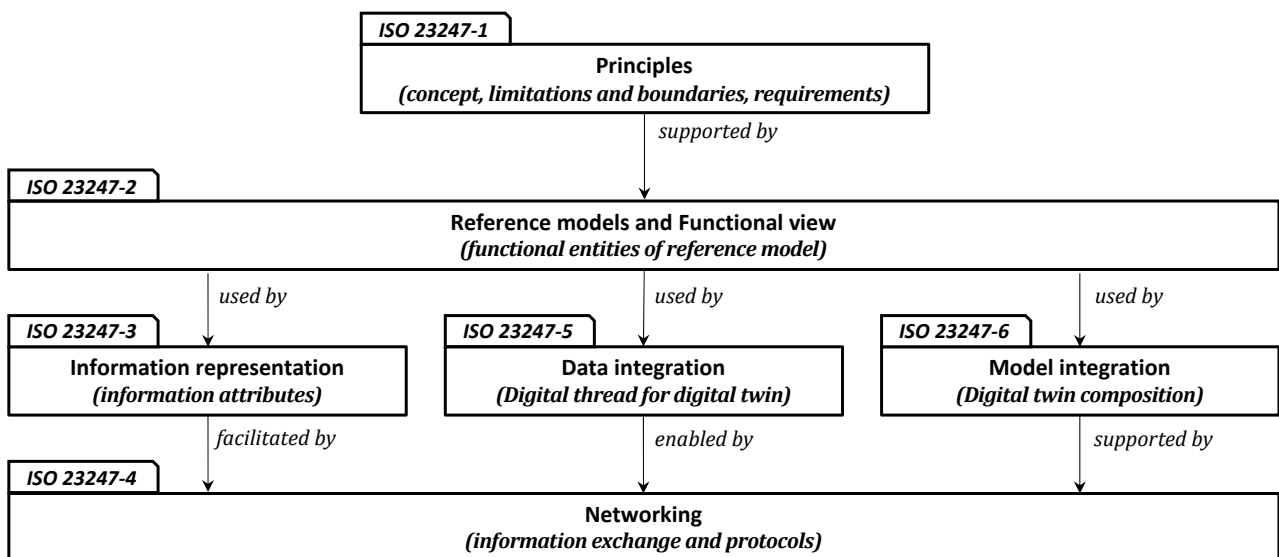


Figure 1 — ISO 23247 structure

This document proposes to address the digital twin composition needs in manufacturing by defining principles, describing methodologies, and providing use-case examples, so that digital twins can be configured for communication, aggregation, and interoperation throughout the product lifecycle. With

digital twin composition, individual digital twins can collaborate together to enable reusability and scalability.

Manufacturing involves complex systems. One approach to managing a complex system is to create a large digital twin encompassing all related assets. However, it is impossible to build a single gigantic digital twin that includes all the requirements for a factory floor or a supply chain. Multiple digital twins for complex system elements will need to work together. In addition, manufacturers oftentimes receive digital twins from various vendors and third parties, and the composition of these digital twins is inevitable. Therefore, depending on the specific purpose and scenario, there are different kinds of digital twin compositions.

This document identifies classifications of various digital twin composition cases and develop requirements and implementation procedures for combining these digital twins. It offers a structured approach to integrating multiple digital twins, enabling manufacturers to manage complex systems with enhanced scalability and flexibility. By employing standardized protocols and methodologies for digital twin composition, manufacturers can ensure seamless interoperability between digital twins from various parties (vendors, solution providers, in-house developers). One significant achievement of digital twin composition is the reusability of digital twins, which helps reduce efforts and costs by allowing individual digital twins to be used for multiple times and purposes rather than created from scratch.

This document provides comprehensive requirements and procedures for integrated, unified, and federated approaches to digital twin composition. It includes step-by-step implementation guidelines and real-world use cases demonstrating the practical application of these guidelines. By following the analyses and guidelines in this document, manufacturers will be able to determine appropriate approaches to create scalable, flexible, and interoperable digital twin systems, effectively managing and analysing complex manufacturing processes and enhancing overall productivity and efficiency.

1 Automation systems and integration — Digital twin framework for 2 manufacturing — Part 6: Digital twin composition

3 1 Scope

4 This document specifies digital twin composition in manufacturing by defining principles, describing
5 methodologies, and providing use-case examples of digital twin communication, aggregation, and
6 interoperation for manufacturing.

7 2 Normative references

8 The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes
9 requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references,
10 the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

11 ISO 11354-1, *Requirements for establishing manufacturing enterprise process interoperability — Part 1:
12 Framework for enterprise interoperability*

13 ISO 23247-2, *Automation systems and integration — Digital twin framework for manufacturing — Part 2:
14 Reference architecture*

15 3 Terms and definitions

16 For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 23247-1, ISO 23247-2 and the
17 following apply.

18 ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

19 — ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

20 — IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

21 3.1

22 digital twin composition

23 DTC

24 process of selecting(determining), connecting, and combining multiple digital twins

25 3.2

26 observable manufacturing element

27 OME

28 item that has an observable physical presence or operation in manufacturing

29 Note 1 to entry: Observable manufacturing elements include personnel, equipment, material, process, facility,
30 environment, product, and supporting document.

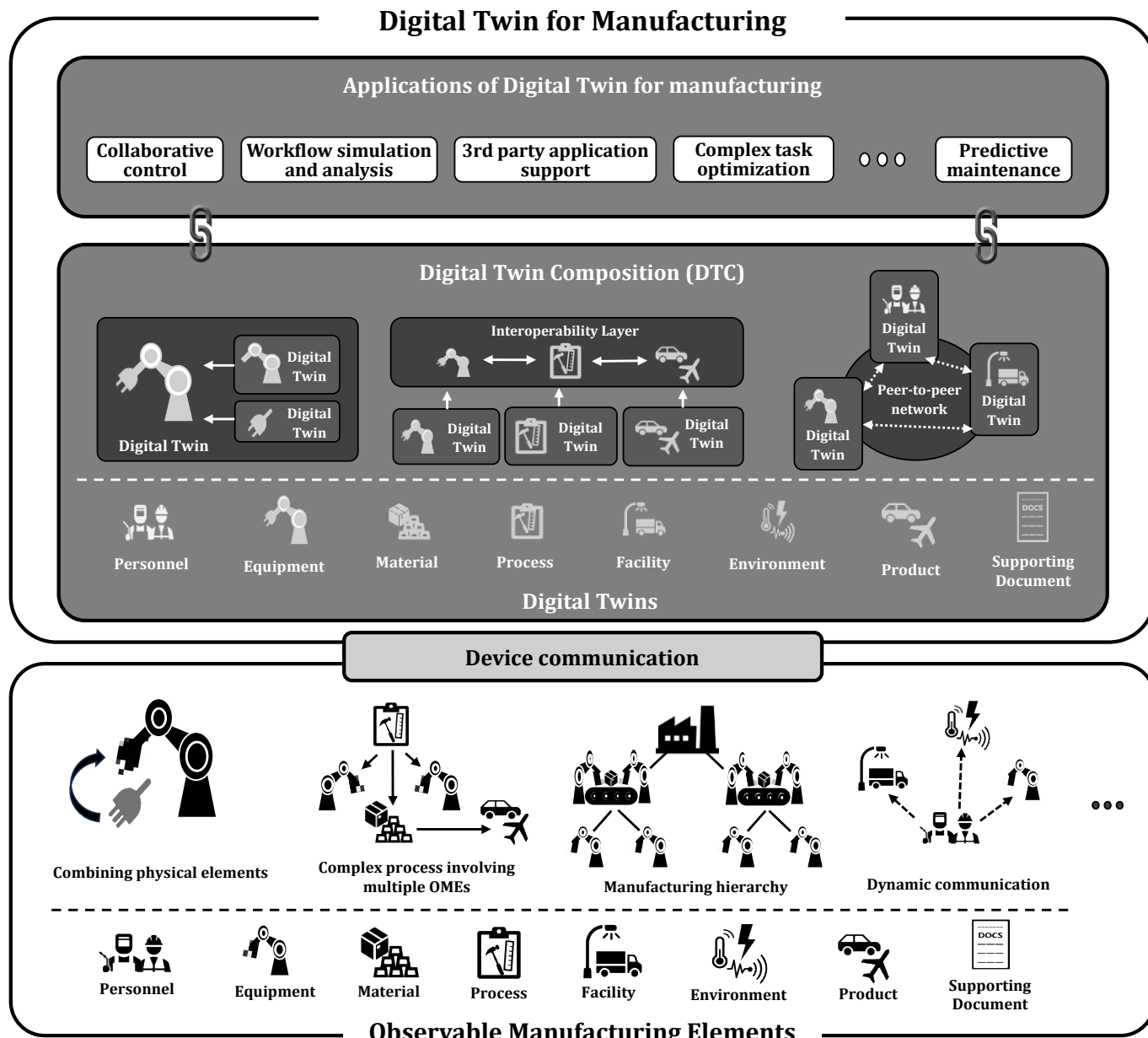
31 [SOURCE: ISO 23247-1:2021(en), 3.2.5]

32 **4 Overview and benefits of digital twin composition**

33 **4.1 Concept of digital twin composition**

34 Digital twin composition (DTC) refers to the process of selecting, connecting, and combining digital twins to
 35 achieve complicated tasks through cooperation, as shown in Figure 2 —.

36



37

38

Figure 2 — Concept of digital twin composition

39 In manufacturing, there are thousands of OMEs, which may connect to each other in various ways depending
 40 on their purposes and characteristics. Digital twin composition (DTC) highlights different approaches to
 41 represent the interoperability of digital twins, reflecting the interoperability across physical elements. This
 42 interoperability could include combining physical elements into a single piece of equipment, managing
 43 complex processes involving multiple OMEs, establishing manufacturing hierarchies, and enabling dynamic
 44 communication through networks.

45 To increase operational efficiency and reusability of digital twins, DTC allows the integration of existing digital
46 twins from the manufacturing floor or suppliers instead of designing and deploying digital twins from scratch.
47 By facilitating real-time data exchange with interoperability approaches, DTC enhances the ability to monitor,
48 simulate, and optimize manufacturing operations, ultimately improving efficiency, decision-making, and
49 performance across the entire manufacturing lifecycle. DTC supports a range of applications such as
50 collaborative control, sequence workflow analysis, third-party application support, complex task
51 optimization, and predictive maintenance.

52 **4.1.1 General**

53 DTC enables individual digital twin models to cooperate for representing complicated tasks and achieving new
54 goals. Reusing individual digital twins enhances flexibility, modularity, scalability, and efficiency in creating
55 manufacturing digital twins.

56 **4.1.2 Improving efficiency**

57 Using DTC, a digital twin for complex systems can be efficiently and effectively generated to perform real-time
58 monitoring and analysing the performance of a production line or the entire factory to determine how changes
59 in one machine can improve the overall efficiency of production.

60 **4.1.3 Increasing flexibility**

61 DTC allows the composition of digital twins in a flexible way, making it easy to test and evaluate different
62 scenarios and configurations, enabling them to optimize production and adapt to changing conditions on the
63 shop floor.

64 **4.1.4 Enhancing decision-making**

65 DTC provides holistic, optimized decisions about production, maintenance, and manufacturing operations.
66 The composition consists of multiple digital twins, each represents a different part of the system. It can be
67 used to identify and analyse the synergies and interactions between different parts of the system.

68 **4.1.5 Reusability**

69 Digital twins are designed to be fit-for-purpose in a specific product lifecycle and application environment.
70 Therefore, digital twins are often created from scratch, even for the same physical element in different
71 applications or different manufacturing stages.

72 DTC reuses digital twin models without the constraints from their modelling languages, application platforms,
73 running environments. It enhances interoperations between digital twins and avoid the duplicated efforts for
74 digital twin development.

75 **4.1.6 Reducing cost**

76 DTC reduces time and costs for designing, developing, and operating digital twins by reusing the existing
77 digital twins.

78 **4.1.7 Fast deployment of digital twins**

79 DTC enables rapid instantiations and interconnections of digital twins in manufacturing systems.

80 **4.1.8 Flexibility and customization**

81 DTC fosters the plug-and-play capabilities of digital twins to formulate a new digital twin through easier
82 interfacing and configuration. These plug-and-play capabilities also facilitate customization of digital twins for
83 specific use cases.

84 **4.1.9 Scalability and extensibility**

85 By utilising individual digital twins as building blocks to represent a complex physical manufacturing system,
86 DTC can easily support scalability and extensibility.

87 DTC supports a wide range of manufacturing applications, from process monitoring and control to operational
88 analytics and energy management. In addition, DTC also enables integration and adaptation across various
89 processes and applications, including supply chains, which involve multiple partners and stakeholders.

90 **4.1.10 Efficiency in trouble shooting**

91 DTC helps troubleshoot complicated tasks of the manufacturing system by identifying problems and
92 diagnosing causes. For example, performance degradation of a single machine affects the performance of the
93 entire factory, a digital twin that helps fix the issue also help improve the overall efficiency of the production.

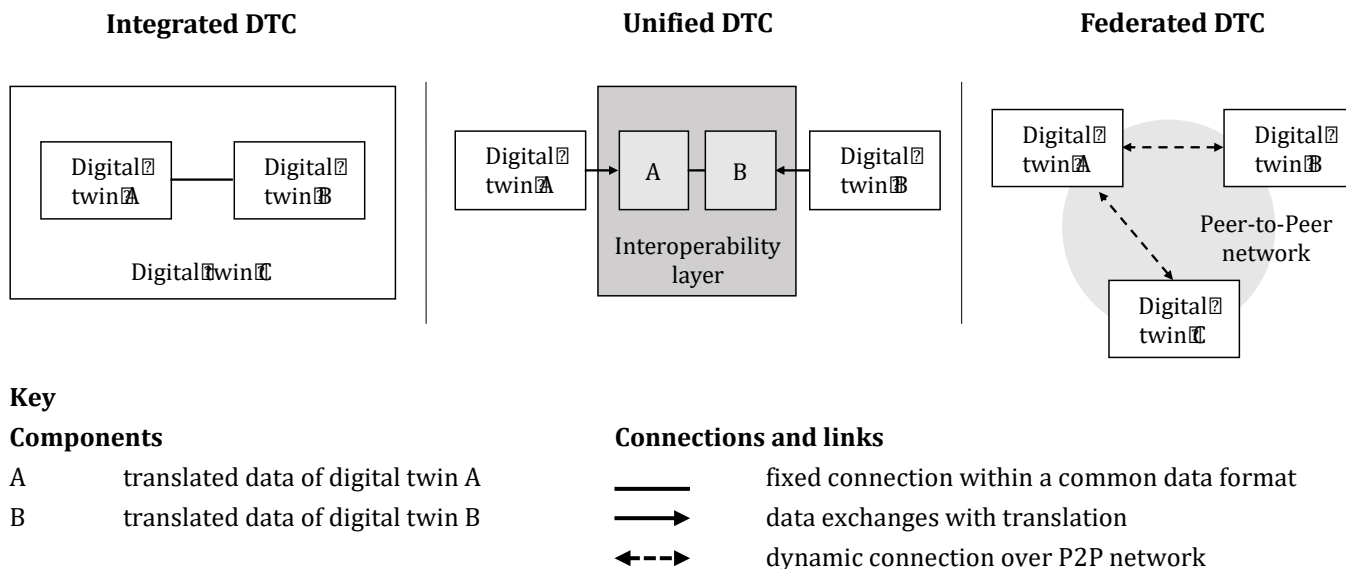
94 **5 Classification of digital twin composition**

95 **5.1 General**

96 DTC can be classified into three different types according to the interoperability approaches defined in ISO
97 11354-1. The classification of DTC is listed in below.

- 98 1. **Integrated DTC:** Digital twin composition supports the 'integrated' interoperability approach.
- 99 2. **Unified DTC:** Digital twin composition supports the 'unified' interoperability approach.
- 100 3. **Federated DTC:** Digital twin composition supports the 'federated' interoperability approach.

101 Figure 3 — describes three types of DTC.



102

103

Key

Components

- A translated data of digital twin A
- B translated data of digital twin B

Connections and links

- fixed connection within a common data format
- data exchanges with translation
- ←--> dynamic connection over P2P network

104

Figure 3 — Types of digital twin composition

105 **5.2 Integrated digital twin composition**

106 An integrated DTC involves creating a single, comprehensive digital twin model that consolidates all data and
107 functionalities from other individual digital twins into one overarching digital twin system. All digital twins
108 conform to a common data schema and standardized protocols. It has a centralized control to govern the data
109 and processes, ensuring consistency and uniformity. However, integrated DTC could become complex and less
110 flexible as the number of sub-digital twins grows. An integrated DTC is ideal for cases where digital twins need
111 centralized control or uniformity, such as a robot digital twin that is composed of a robot arm digital twin and
112 a gripper digital twin.

113 Characteristics of an integrated DTC are listed below.

- 114 — **Interoperability design:**
- 115 Through centralized control of data and processes
- 116 — **Representation format:**
- 117 Uniform representation using common data schema and standardized protocols
- 118 — **Identification:**
- 119 Local identifiers for sub-entities within the integrated digital twin
- 120 — **Independency:**
- 121 Low independency because digital twins use the same data model and control logic, and are aligned with
- 122 the same system, ensuring consistency and up-to-date status throughout the operation
- 123 — **Data exchanges:**
- 124 Fully supportive because digital twins communicate through a common data model and information
- 125 system, ensuring consistent and standardized data flow across all integrated components
- 126 — **Digital thread connection:**
- 127 Digital thread ensures a seamless data flow and traceability of all entities through integrated digital twins.

128 5.3 Unified digital twin composition

129 A unified DTC involves connecting multiple digital twins while allowing them to maintain their individual
 130 models and schemas. Middleware, Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), or data integration platforms
 131 will be used for data exchange and interoperability between digital twins. It is more flexible than the
 132 integrated DTC, as each digital twin can maintain its specific characteristics and technologies. Interoperability
 133 can be achieved through the data mapping and translation layers. Complexity can be balanced by enabling
 134 diverse digital twins to communicate without forcing a single standard model. Unified DTC is ideal for cases
 135 where digital twins are developed independently but need to share data, such as equipment twins on a factory
 136 floor. For example, a process digital twin generated by compositing a product digital twin, a machine digital
 137 twin, tooling digital twins, and a material digital twin.

138 Characteristics of a unified DTC are listed below.

- 139 — **Interoperability design:**
- 140 Data mapping and translation layers are used to facilitate interoperability.
- 141 — **Representation format:**
- 142 A connectivity layer is used to map and translate between different formats of various digital twins.
- 143 — **Identification:**
- 144 Shared identification services or protocols across digital twins need to be used. Identifiers should be
- 145 unique between, at least across shared services or protocols.
- 146 — **Independency:**
- 147 Independencies between digital twins are represented through shared interfaces and data models.
- 148 — **Data exchanges:**
- 149 Efficient and compatible because digital twins operate on shared data models, which facilitate data
- 150 exchange through connectivity layers that handle translations and mappings.
- 151 — **Digital thread connection:**
- 152 Digital threads are linked through a connectivity layer that maps data flow across different digital twins.

153 5.4 Federated digital twin composition

154 In a federated DTC, digital twins interact directly with each other without a central coordinating entity. Each
 155 digital twin can request and provide services and data to other digital twins in the network. Because of no
 156 central control, each digital twin operates independently while communicating directly with other digital
 157 twins, allowing for dynamic and flexible interactions. Federated DTC could be very scalable, as new digital
 158 twins can join the network with minimal integration effort, but more preparation is needed. However,
 159 managing data consistency can be challenging due to the lack of central control. Ideally, this type of

160 composition is suitable for decentralized cases where autonomy and direct interaction are important, such as
 161 IoT ecosystems with diverse and distributed devices.

162 Characteristics of a federated DTC are listed below.

- 163 — **Interoperability design:**
 164 Flexible interfaces and mutual adjustments are used to enable interoperability.
- 165 — **Representation format:**
 166 Independent formats are allowed, the DTC realizes digital twin connections through flexible interfaces.
- 167 — **Identification:**
 168 A global unique identifier for each digital twin enables the discovering and connecting other specified
 169 digital twins.
- 170 — **Independency:**
 171 Each digital twin operates on its unique data, models, and control logic, closely aligned with its specific
 172 system or application.
- 173 — **Data exchanges:**
 174 Data is exchanged peer-to-peer based on agreements through standard interfaces.
- 175 — **Digital thread connection:**
 176 Each digital twin can be linked to its own independent digital thread.

177 Table 1 —summarizes aspects for each type of DTC.

178 **Table 1 — Summary of digital twin composition types**

Aspects	Integrated DTC	Unified DTC	Federated DTC
Objectives	Creating a single, comprehensive digital twin by integrating individual digital twins	Connecting multiple digital twins while maintaining their individual models	Dynamically collaborating between independent digital twins without centralized coordination
Relations	Hierarchical and tightly coupled relationships; Representing assets that are physically combined	Loosely coupled but fixed relationship; Representing assets that are physically connected	Peer-to-peer relationships; Representing assets that are temporarily connected
Scalability	Limited, as adding more new elements requires significant reconfiguration	Moderate, allowing for the addition of new twins with minimal reconfiguration due to the use of middleware and APIs	High, with new digital twins quickly joining the network without significant changes to the existing systems
Flexibility	Low, due to rigid, centralized structure	Moderate, as each digital twin maintains its independence, allowing easier adaptation and integration	High, with decentralized interactions, accommodating new digital twins and changes without extensive reconfiguration
Reliability	High, due to centralized control and common protocols	Moderate, middleware manages interactions and failures across digital twins in a centralized manner	Low, depends on peer-to-peer interactions and network capabilities
Reusability	Limited, due to the highly integrated nature	Moderate, as individual digital twins can be reused in different compositions and contexts	High, allowing for flexible decomposition and use in various scenarios

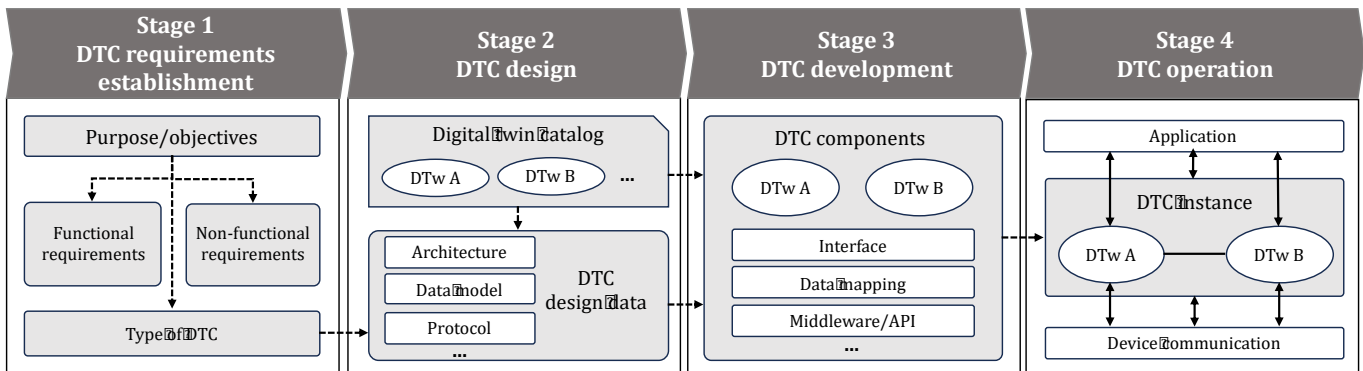
Security	Centralized control ensures robust protection within the integrated system.	Middleware ensures data protection and access control across connected digital twins.	Decentralized security protocols focus on peer-to-peer encryption and access control to protect data integrity.
Complexity	High, due to the need of a centralized control system	Moderate, with middleware and standardized APIs handling most interactions	Low, in terms of central management but high, in ensuring consistent peer-to-peer communications
Challenges	To design and maintain an integrated system	To ensure seamless interoperability through middleware configuration and integration	To ensure robust peer-to-peer communication and interactions
Examples	robot digital twin composed of robot arm and gripper digital twins	Equipment twins on a factory floor or a process digital twin composed with digital twins of product, machine, tools, and material Coordination in networked manufacturing where various manufacturing processes, systems, and entities are linked	Virtual enterprises and ad-hoc project teams Decentralized IoT ecosystems

179 **6 Lifecycle of DTC**

180 **6.1 General**

181 The lifecycle of a DTC is divided into four steps: DTC requirement establishment, DTC design, DTC
182 development, and DTC operation, as shown in Figure 4 —.

183



184

185 **Key**

- > operation flow
- connection between digital twins
- ↔ Interface between entities

186

187

Figure 4 — The Lifecycle of digital twin composition

188 6.2 Lifecycle Stage 1: DTC requirements establishment

189 This stage defines the purpose and objectives of digital twin composition. The appropriate type of DTC is
190 determined depending on specific requirements or constraints. This stage is divided into several sub-steps as
191 below.

- 192 — Define purposes and objectives that are to be achieved with DTC.
- 193 — Establish functional requirements of DTC such as resulted DTC functionalities, data types and interfaces.
- 194 — Set up non-functional requirements of DTC. (e. g., performance criteria, Key Performance Indicators
195 (KPIs), energy efficiencies)
- 196 — Select appropriate DTC type to achieve goals and meet requirements.

197 6.3 Lifecycle Stage 2: DTC design

198 This stage strategizes the composition of digital twins, informed by the requirements and selected DTC type
199 in the previous step. This stage is divided into several sub-steps as below.

- 200 — Catalog the existing digital twins with their functionalities, data formats, technology, and interfaces.
- 201 — Generate DTC design data depending on the selected DTC type and functional requirements. DTC design
202 data includes common data standards and formats, an architecture framework to support selected DTC
203 types, and communication protocols to exchange data between digital twins.

204 6.4 Lifecycle Stage 3: DTC Development

205 This stage identifies and selects appropriate digital twins that align with the established DTC design step. This
206 stage is divided into several sub-steps as below.

- 207 — Deploy digital twins that will be involved to DTC.
- 208 — Deploy middleware and APIs to support DTC.
- 209 — Establish data exchanges and data mappings.
- 210 — Create interfaces they need.
- 211 — Conduct testing and evaluation.

212 6.5 Lifecycle Stage 4: DTC Operation

213 This stage executes the implemented DTC in parallel with the corresponding manufacturing operation.

- 214 — Digital twin components such as data models, simulation algorithms, and user interfaces are integrated
215 based on the previously defined plan.
- 216 — Components digital twins need to be connected, data streams between them need to be configured, and the
217 synchronization between virtual and physical systems need to be realized.
- 218 — Keep the DTC during manufacturing with continuously updates.
- 219 — Establish monitoring and maintenance process during DTC.

220 7 Requirements and development procedures of digital twin composition

221 7.1 Common requirements for all types of digital twin composition

222 Based on the fundamental principles of DTC, there are several common requirements belonging to all DTC
223 types. Common requirements are listed below. Some of the requirements may be different in detail depending
224 on the types of DTC.

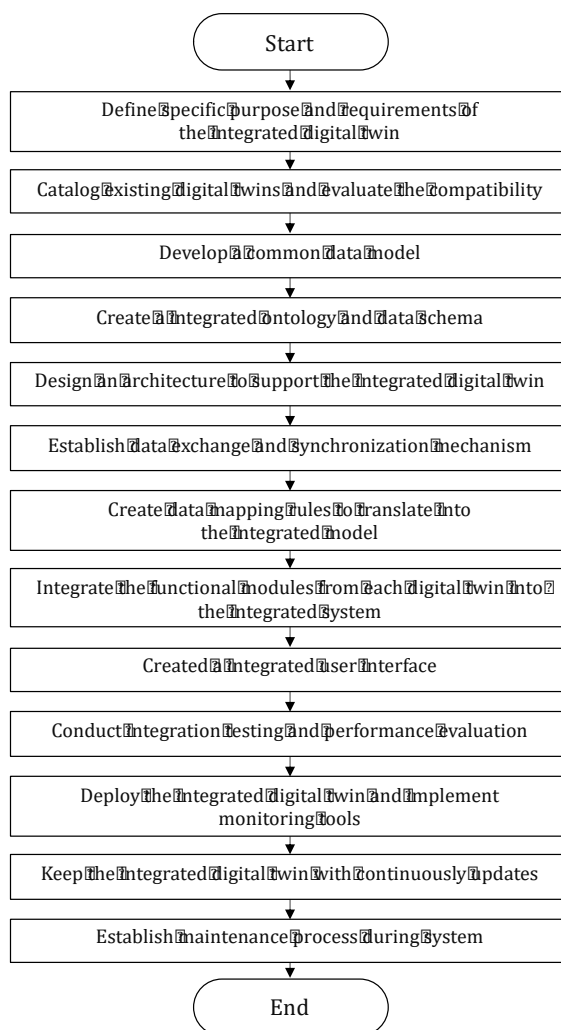
- 225 — **REQ_COM_01:**
- 226 A catalog shall be deployed for all digital twins to indicate their functionalities, data models, technologies,
- 227 and interfaces.
- 228 — **REQ_COM_02:**
- 229 Common data standards and formats shall be established to ensure compatibility and uniformity in data
- 230 exchange between digital twins.
- 231 — **REQ_COM_03:**
- 232 Standardized communication protocols and APIs shall be implemented to facilitate data exchange and
- 233 communication between digital twins.
- 234 — **REQ_COM_04:**
- 235 A scalable architecture shall be designed and developed to allow for the composition of additional digital
- 236 twins without significant reconfiguration.
- 237 — **REQ_COM_05:**
- 238 Event-driven architectures or communication mechanisms shall be used to handle real-time data
- 239 processing and updates ensuring the digital twin is always current.
- 240 — **REQ_COM_06**
- 241 Data synchronization mechanisms shall be used to ensure that updates in individual digital twins are
- 242 reflected promptly in the system.
- 243 — **REQ_COM_07:**
- 244 Processes for supporting data consistency and quality across the digital twins shall be implemented.
- 245 — **REQ_COM_08:**
- 246 Authentication and authorization mechanisms shall be implemented to control access and ensure secure
- 247 data exchanges.
- 248 — **REQ_COM_09:**
- 249 Data encryption shall be used to protect data, ensuring privacy and security.
- 250 — **REQ_COM_10:**
- 251 Data governance policies shall be established to manage data quality, ownership, and lifecycle.
- 252 — **REQ_COM_11:**
- 253 Maintenance procedures shall be established to monitor performance of digital twin systems and
- 254 regularly update, improve, and optimize the system addressing any issues that arise.

255 **7.2 Requirements and development procedures of integrated digital twin composition**

256 Creating an integrated digital twin by compositing multiple individual component digital twins involves
257 several requirements to ensure seamless integration, consistency, and functionality. Based on these generic
258 requirements, each use case must have its own specific objectives and requirement.

- 259 — **REQ_INT_01:**
- 260 A common data model shall be developed for all component digital twins to adhere to, ensuring
- 261 consistency in data formats, structures, and semantics.
- 262 — **REQ_INT_02:**
- 263 Standardized data ontologies shall be selected to define relationships and hierarchies within the data,
- 264 ensuring common understanding across digital twins.
- 265 — **REQ_INT_03:**
- 266 Modular design approaches shall be taken to allow component digital twins to be updated or replaced
- 267 without affecting the integrated system.
- 268 — **REQ_INT_04:**
- 269 Data mapping and transformation mechanisms shall be developed to translate data from individual
- 270 digital twins into the integrated digital twin.
- 271 — **REQ_INT_05:**
- 272 A graphical user interface shall be developed to provide a comprehensive view of the integrated data and
- 273 functionalities.

274 Implementation procedures or steps for developing an integrated DTC are shown in Figure 5 —. By following
 275 these steps, an integrated DTC can be implemented to consolidate the strengths and capabilities of multiple
 276 digital twins into a single, powerful digital twin that provides comprehensive, consistent, and real-time
 277 insights and functionalities. Depending on the specific purpose and requirements, some use cases may not
 278 need all the steps (e.g., an integrated user interface may not be required)



279
280

Figure 5 — Development procedures of integrated digital twin composition

7.3 Requirements and development procedures of unified digital twin composition

Creating a unified digital twin involves several key requirements to ensure seamless integration, interoperability, and functionality. These requirements are critical for combining data and functionalities from different digital twins into a cohesive, unified system. Here are the primary requirements.

- **REQ_UNI_01:**
Mechanisms for data mapping and transformation shall be identified or developed to translate data from individual digital twins into a unified format.
- **REQ_UNI_02:**
Middleware solutions shall be used to implement an interoperability layer that facilitates data integration and communication between different digital twins.
- **REQ_UNI_03:**
APIs and connectors shall be developed and used to enable interoperability between digital twins and interoperability layer.
- **REQ_UNI_04:**
A modular design approach shall be taken to enable individual digital twins to be updated or replaced with minimum impact to the entire system.
- **REQ_UNI_05:**
Data synchronization mechanisms shall be implemented to ensure that updates in individual digital twins are promptly reflected across the unified system.
- **REQ_UNI_06:**
The user interface shall be intuitive and user-friendly, providing easy access to the combined capabilities of the digital twins.
- **REQ_UNI_07:**
The performance of the unified digital twin shall be continuously optimized to handle large volumes of data and real-time processing demands efficiently.

Implementation procedures for developing a unified DTC are shown in Figure 6 —. Unifying multiple digital twins involves a structured approach to ensure interoperability, consistency, and efficient data exchange among different digital twins. By following these steps, a unified digital twin system can be developed by leveraging combined capabilities of individual digital twins for enhanced operational efficiency and decision-making. Depending on the specific purpose and requirements, some use cases may not need all the steps.

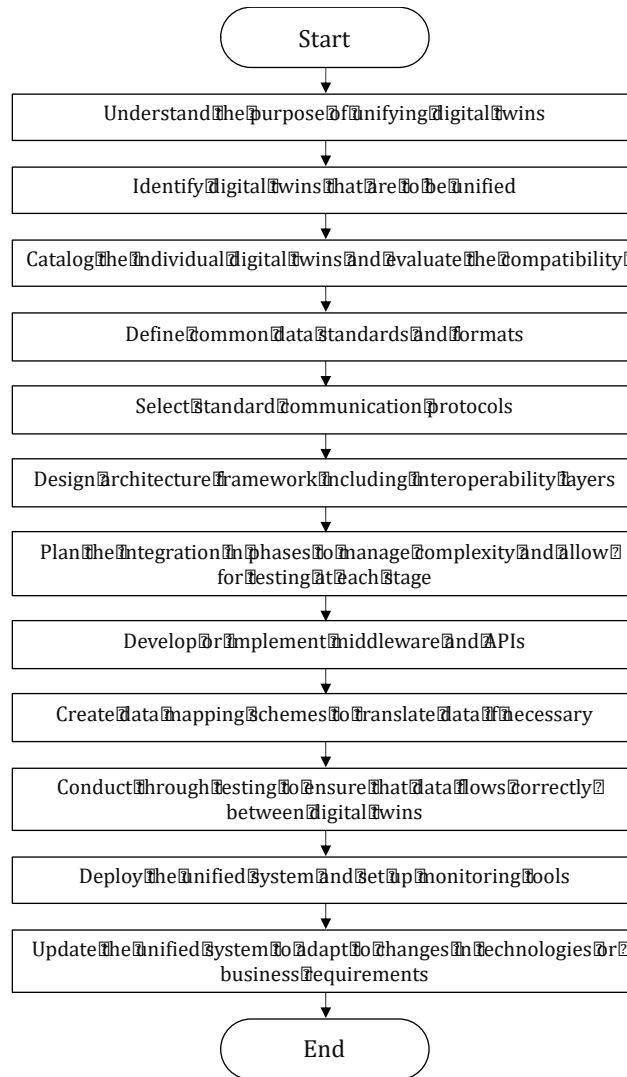


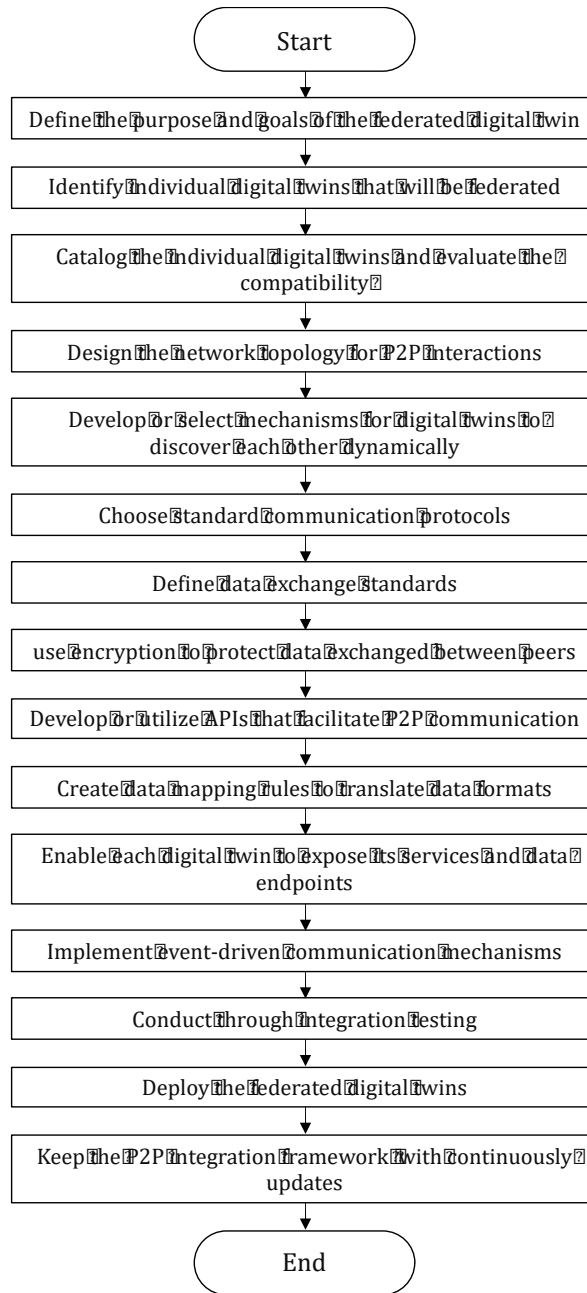
Figure 6 — Development procedures of unified digital twin composition

7.4 Requirements and development procedures of federated digital twin composition

Creating a federated DTC involves several key requirements to ensure seamless integration, interoperability, and functionality. These requirements are critical for combining data and functionalities from different digital twins into a cohesive, collaborated system. Here are some primary requirements:

- 317 — **REQ_FED_01:**
- 318 Standard communication frameworks or protocols for peer-to-peer messaging shall be used.
- 319 — **REQ_FED_02:**
- 320 A decentralized network topology shall be designed and developed to allow digital twins to communicate
- 321 directly with each other without a central coordinating entity.
- 322 — **REQ_FED_03:**
- 323 Peer discovery mechanisms shall be implemented for individual digital twins to dynamically discover
- 324 each other.
- 325 — **REQ_FED_04:**
- 326 Data consistency strategies shall be implemented to manage data consistency across the peer-to-peer
- 327 (P2P) network.
- 328 — **REQ_FED_05:**
- 329 Flexible interaction models shall be used to allow digital twins dynamically form and dissolve connections
- 330 based on needs and conditions.
- 331 — **REQ_FED_06:**
- 332 The network and communication protocols shall be optimized to minimize latency and ensure real-time
- 333 or near-real-time interactions between digital twins.
- 334 — **REQ_FED_07:**
- 335 The network shall be resilient to failures, ensuring that the failure of one or more peers does not disrupt
- 336 the entire federated system.
- 337 — **REQ_FED_08:**
- 338 Fault tolerance mechanisms (e.g., redundancy, failover, and load balancing) shall be implemented to
- 339 enhance network reliability.
- 340 — **REQ_FED_09:**
- 341 Distributed data storage solutions shall be used to store and manage data across the network, ensuring
- 342 availability and redundancy.
- 343 — **REQ_FED_10:**
- 344 Data sharing policies shall be defined for data sharing and access control to manage how data is shared
- 345 between digital twins.

346 Implementation procedures for developing a federated DTC are shown in Figure 7 —. A federated DTC
 347 involves a decentralized approach where each digital twin interacts directly with others without a central
 348 coordinating entity. By following these steps, A P2P integration of multiple digital twins can be realized by
 349 leveraging their combined capabilities in a decentralized and autonomous manner. Depending on the specific
 350 purpose and requirements, some use cases may not need all the steps.



351
352 **Figure 7 — Development procedures of federated digital twin composition**

353 **8 Mapping requirements to the digital twin reference architecture**

354 **8.1 General**

355 As shown in Figure 1, this document is related to ISO 23247-2 digital twin reference architecture in the aspect
356 of using functionalities of digital twin reference architecture. This clause provides the mapping of DTC
357 requirements to relevant functionalities of the digital twin framework architecture.

358 Table 2 — summarizes the mappings of DTC requirements to relevant functionalities. Functional entities with
359 check marks indicate that they should provide enhancements to meet DTC requirements. However, this does
360 not mean that functional entities without mark lack support or relevance for DTC. The related sub-clauses are
361 also indicated with marks.

Table 2 — Summary of mapping DTC requirements to relevant functionalities

Functional entity (FE)		Common requirements	Integrated DTC requirements	Unified DTC requirements	Federated DTC requirements
Data collection Sub-entity	Data collecting FE	-	-	-	-
	Data pre-processing FE	-	-	-	-
	Collection identification FE	-	-	-	-
Device control Sub-entity	Controlling FE	-	-	-	-
	Actuation FE	-	-	-	-
	Control identification FE	-	-	-	-
Operation and management Sub-entity	Digital representation FE	✓ (8.2.1)	✓ (8.3.1)	-	-
	Presentation FE	✓ (8.2.2)	✓ (8.3.2)	-	-
	Synchronization FE	✓ (8.2.3)	-	✓ (8.3.1)	-
	Maintenance FE	✓ (8.2.4)	-	✓ (8.4.2)	-
Application and service Sub-entity	Simulation FE	-	-	-	-
	Analytic service FE	-	-	-	-
	Reporting FE	-	-	-	-
	Application support FE	-	-	-	-
Resource access and interchange Sub-entity	Interoperability support FE	✓ (8.2.5)	-	✓ (8.4.3)	✓ (8.5.1)
	Plug & play support FE	-	✓ (8.3.3)	✓ (8.4.4)	✓ (8.5.2)
	Peer interface FE	✓ (8.2.6)	-	-	✓ (8.5.3)
	Access control FE	✓ (8.2.7)	-	-	-
User entity	User Interface FE	-	✓ (8.3.4)	✓ (8.4.5)	-
Cross-system entity	Data translation FE	-	✓ (8.3.5)	✓ (8.4.6)	✓ (8.5.4)
	Data assurance FE	✓ (8.2.8)	-	-	✓ (8.5.5)
	Security support FE	✓ (8.2.9)	-	-	✓ (8.5.6)

363 8.2 Mapping requirements for all types of digital twin composition

364 8.2.1 Digital representation FE

365 — From REQ_COM_01:

366 The digital representation FE provides catalogs of all existing digital twins to indicate their
367 characteristics such as functionalities, data models, technologies and interfaces.

368 8.2.2 Presentation FE:

369 — From REQ_COM_02:

370 The presentation FE establishes common data standards and formats for component digital twins to
371 exchange data between digital twins.

372 8.2.3 Synchronization FE:

373 — From REQ_COM_05 and REQ_COM_06:

374 The synchronization FE provides synchronization between digital twins, ensuring all digital twins in
375 the system are always current by reflecting related status promptly.

376 8.2.4 Maintenance FE:

377 — From REQ_COM_11:

378 The maintenance FE uses monitoring tools that especially focus on operational monitoring between
379 digital twins to update, improve and optimize between digital twins addressing issues that arise.

380 8.2.5 Interoperability support FE:

381 — From REQ_COM_04:

382 The interoperability support FE ensures to provide scalable architecture to allow for joining digital
383 twins to the composited system without significant reconfigurations.

384 8.2.6 Peer interface FE:

385 — From REQ_COM_03:

386 The peer interface FE provides interface between digital twins by using standardized communication
387 protocols and APIs.

388 NOTE As standard communication protocols, it could be used MQTT, HTTP, REST, OPC-UA, etc.

389 8.2.7 Access control FE:

390 — From REQ_COM_08:

391 The access control FE controls access of digital twin from other digital twins and secure data exchanges
392 between digital twins.

393 8.2.8 Data assurance FE:

394 — From REQ_COM_07 and REQ_COM_10:

395 The data assurance FE ensures data consistency and quality across digital twins, and establishes data
396 governance policies for managing data ownership and lifecycle.

397 8.2.9 Security support FE:

398 — From REQ_COM_09:

399 The security support FE uses data encryption to protect data, ensuring privacy and security.

400

401 Mapping requirements for integrated digital twin composition

402 8.2.10 Interoperability support FE

403 — **From REQ_UNI_02 and REQ_UNI_03:**

404 The interoperability support FE uses middleware solution to implement interoperability layer
405 including APIs and connectors.

406 8.2.11 Plug and play support FE

407 — **From REQ_UNI_04:**

408 The plug and play support FE enables modular design to allow individual digital twins to be updated
409 or replaced without affecting the unified system including interoperability layer.

410 8.2.12 User interface FE

411 — **From REQ_UNI_06:**

412 The user interface FE interfaces to interoperability layer, providing easy access to the combined
413 capabilities of the digital twins.

414 8.2.13 Data translation FE

415 — **From REQ_UNI_01:**

416 The data translation FE implements mechanisms in the interoperability layer that translates data from
417 individual digital twins into common format available in a unified system.

418 8.3 Mapping requirements for federated digital twin composition

419 8.3.1 Interoperability support FE

420 — **From REQ_FED_02:**

421 The interoperability support FE enables to develop a decentralized network for federated system that
422 allows direct communication between digital twins without central coordination.

423 8.3.2 Plug and play support FE

424 — **From REQ_FED_03:**

425 The plug and play support FE uses peer discovery mechanisms to allow digital twins to dynamically
426 discover each other.

427 NOTE peer discovery mechanisms could be implemented using decentralized directories, DHTs
428 (Distributed Hash Tables), or gossip protocols.

429 — **From REQ_FED_05:**

430 The plug and play support FE enables flexible interactions that allows digital twins dynamically form
431 and dissolve connections within the federated system.

432 8.3.3 Peer interface FE

433 — **From REQ_FED_01:**

434 The peer interface FE provides peer-to-peer messaging with standardized communication protocols
435 and framework.

436 NOTE peer-to-peer messaging protocol could be MQTT or WebSockets.

437 — **From REQ_FED_06 and REQ_FED_06:**

438 The peer interface FE ensures minimized latency for real-time or near-real-time interactions, fault
439 tolerance for reliabilities in communication between digital twins.

440 8.3.4 Data translation FE

441 — **From REQ_FED_10:**

442 The data translation FE implements data sharing policies between digital twins.

443 **8.3.5 Data assurance FE:**

444 — **From REQ_FED_04:**

445 The data assurance FE uses network consistency mechanisms for peer-to-peer network in federated
446 system where data is exchanged between digital twins.

447 NOTE Data consistency strategies for peer-to-peer network could be consensus algorithms or conflict
448 resolution mechanisms.

449 — **From REQ_FED_09:**

450 The data assurance FE uses distributed data storage solutions to manage data across the network,
451 ensuring availability and redundancy.

452 **8.3.6 Security support FE:**

453 — **From REQ_UNI_07:**

454 The security support FE ensures resiliency of the federated system that failure of one or more peers
455 does not disrupt the entire system.

456 **9 Summary**

457 This document describes digital twin composition for manufacturing, enabling interoperability between
458 digital twins to manage complex tasks. Depending on the target digital twins or systems, an appropriate type
459 of DTC—integrated, unified, or federated—can be selected. This document provides guidance on
460 requirements and deployment procedures for each DTC type. Aligning these requirements with the ISO 23247
461 digital twin framework clarifies the necessary functionalities. Practical use cases for each DTC type are
462 detailed in the Annex.

Annex A (informative)

Unified digital twin composition use case — Robot arm with gripper

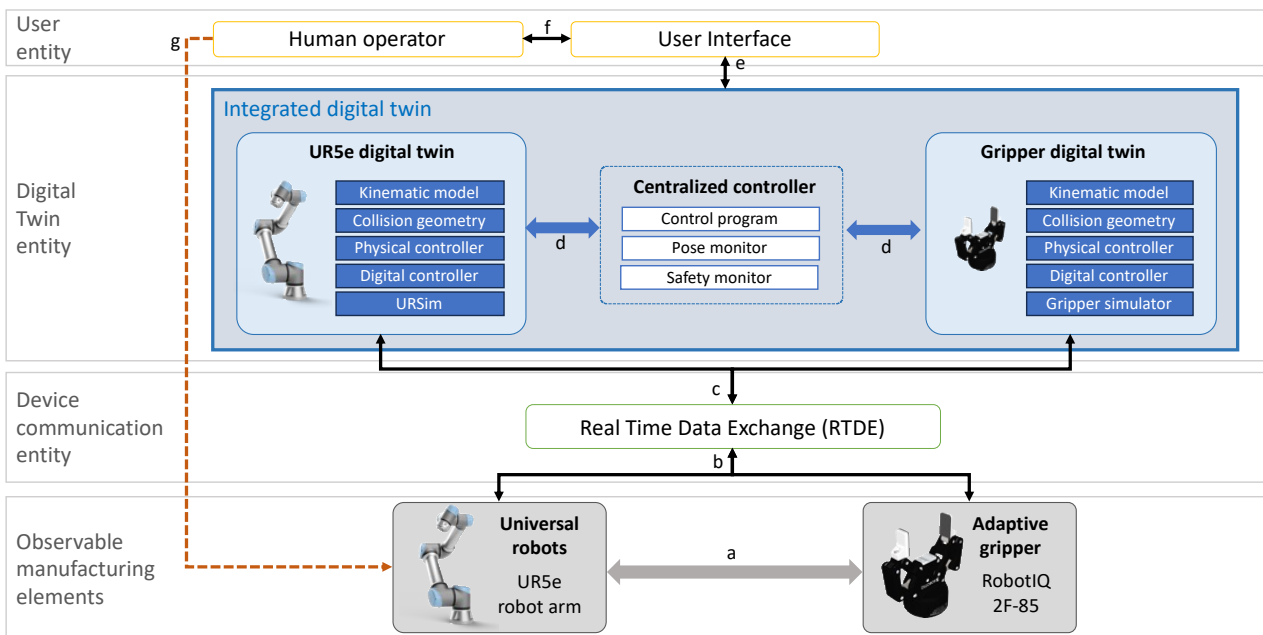
A.1 Overview

Use case name	Robot arm and gripper digital twin composition
Scope	Composition of two individual digital twins (i.e., a robot arm digital twin and a gripper digital twin) from different sources to enable core functionalities of an integrated robot digital twin system. The composition allows for the gripper component to be swapped for a different type easily. This integrated digital twin could then be used in any manufacturing environment to achieve various objectives. The use case follows requirements and procedures in this part of the standard and demonstrates the feasibility, usefulness, and efficiency of the guideline.
Initial (Problem) situation	Robot arms or grippers on their own have limited capabilities, so they need to be combined to manipulate surrounding objects and achieve practical goals. A digital twin that simulates the whole robot arm and gripper system as a single entity must be developed. However, individual digital twins for robot arms and grippers are often developed by different vendors, and they normally have high variability in their shapes and functions. Creating a single digital twin to represent both the robot arm and the gripper for every new configuration could be very costly and would result in duplicated efforts.
Objective(s)	To reduce the effort required to create a digital twin of the whole robot system, a composition of two existing digital twins, one for the robot arm and one for the gripper, would be more efficient and support reusability and scalability. For example, if each digital twin is developed by its hardware vendor, then the only required development effort will be interoperability between the two.
Composition type	Integrated DTC
Short description	We have two separate digital twins, one for the robot arm and one for the gripper, from the vendors or third parties. The use case demonstrates how they can be integrated together according to the guidelines discussed in this part of ISO 23247. The individual digital twins can operate independently. The robot arm twin can monitor the motion of the arm in space. The gripper twin can monitor the state of the gripper as it is controlled. A single, integrated digital twin is developed to combine the two individual twins. The integrated digital twin is responsible for controlling the robot arm because it knows the gripper's constraints for safe configurations of the robot arm. Therefore, it operates the robot arm in a safer manner. The integrated digital twin can be used to verify that the physical robot arm is correctly executing its motion, notify human operators, or issue a protective stop in the event there is a significant deviation, as well as potentially support predictive maintenance.
Stakeholders	Production managers, system integrators, robot arm vendors, gripper vendors, machine operators, maintenance personnel

<p>Relevant standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 23247 Digital Twin Framework for Manufacturing to support the development of individual and integrated digital twins. • Robot Operating System (ROS) as an industry standard for robotics applications. ROS is an open-source software development kit that provides a standardized platform for developers to use across industries. • Unified Robot Description Format (URDF), a standardized format used in ROS for describing and modelling robots. URDF is an XML specification that allows users to describe a robot's kinematic properties, visual representation, and collision model. • Transmission Control Protocol: TCP is a protocol for reliable communication between computers. • OMG Interface Definition Language (IDL), a descriptive language used to define data types and interfaces in a way that is independent of the programming language or operating system/processor platform • DDS: Secure message passing middleware for digital communication.
<p>Standardization needs</p>	<p>It would benefit from specified data formats and protocols for interoperability between robot arms and grippers.</p>

468 **A.2 Operation sequences**

469 **A.2.1 Process flow**



470
471 **Key**

- a Modbus data stream between robot arm and gripper
- b process data stream to device communication entity
- c process data stream to digital twins
- d data exchange using IDL data model built into ROS
- e data exchange between digital twin and user entity
- f notification of events to human operator
- g offline control via human intervention

472 **Figure A.1 — Robot arm and gripper digital twin composition**

473 **A.2.2 Phase 1: DTC requirements establishment**

474 Because either a robot arm digital twin or a gripper digital twin will not perform tasks on its own, the two
 475 digital twins need to be combined and centrally controlled to manipulate surrounding objects and achieve
 476 practical goals. Therefore, it fits the integrated DTC scenario. The composition type will be Integrated Digital
 477 Twin Composition.

- 478 — A single, integrated digital twin is developed to combine the two individual twins to control the robot arm
 479 and the connected gripper for high-integrity, safe operation.
- 480 — The integrated digital twin simulates the operation of the physical robot arm with gripper and can be
 481 used to verify if it correctly executes its motion and supports predictive maintenance.
- 482 — The integrated digital twin calculates the positional and rotational error between the physical and digital
 483 end-effectors.
- 484 — The integrated digital twin warns the operator when the error exceeds a threshold.
- 485 — The integrated digital twin helps avoid collisions with known obstacles in surroundings.
- 486 — The integrated digital twin shall limit the error within 1 mm.

487 **A.2.3 Phase 2: DTC design**

- 488 — We have two separate digital twins: one for the robot arm using URSim that simulates UR5e, but not
 489 synchronizes with the robot arm; and one for the gripper (Robot IQ) developed.
- 490 — We follow the reference architecture in ISO 23247 -Part2 and ROS 2 as frameworks for extensibility and
 491 availability of vendor-provided digital twins.
- 492 — The OMG's Interface Definition Language (IDL) is used as the common data model because it is built into
 493 ROS.
- 494 — The Real-Time Data Exchange (RTDE) is used to communicate physical robot because it has a vendor-
 495 provided ROS interface.

496 **A.2.4 Phase 3: DTC development**

- 497 — URSim is used as the basis for the robot arm digital twin.
- 498 — A RTDE interface is used as the basis for the gripper digital twin.
- 499 — New data types are established in IDL.
- 500 — Middleware programs in ROS are developed to achieve the functional requirements.
- 501 — The integrated digital twin is tested to verify non-functional requirements. The DTC user interface is
 502 developed to support day-to-day operation.

503 **A.2.5 Phase 4: DTC Operation**

- 504 — Once it is developed, the integrated digital twin is able to simulate the robot arm with the gripper.
- 505 — The operation is monitored using data logged.
- 506 — The integrated digital twin can also verify that the physical robot arm is correctly executing its motion,
 507 notify human operators, or issue a protective stop in the event there is a significant deviation.

Annex B (informative)

Unified digital twin composition use case — Cutting process

B.1 Overview

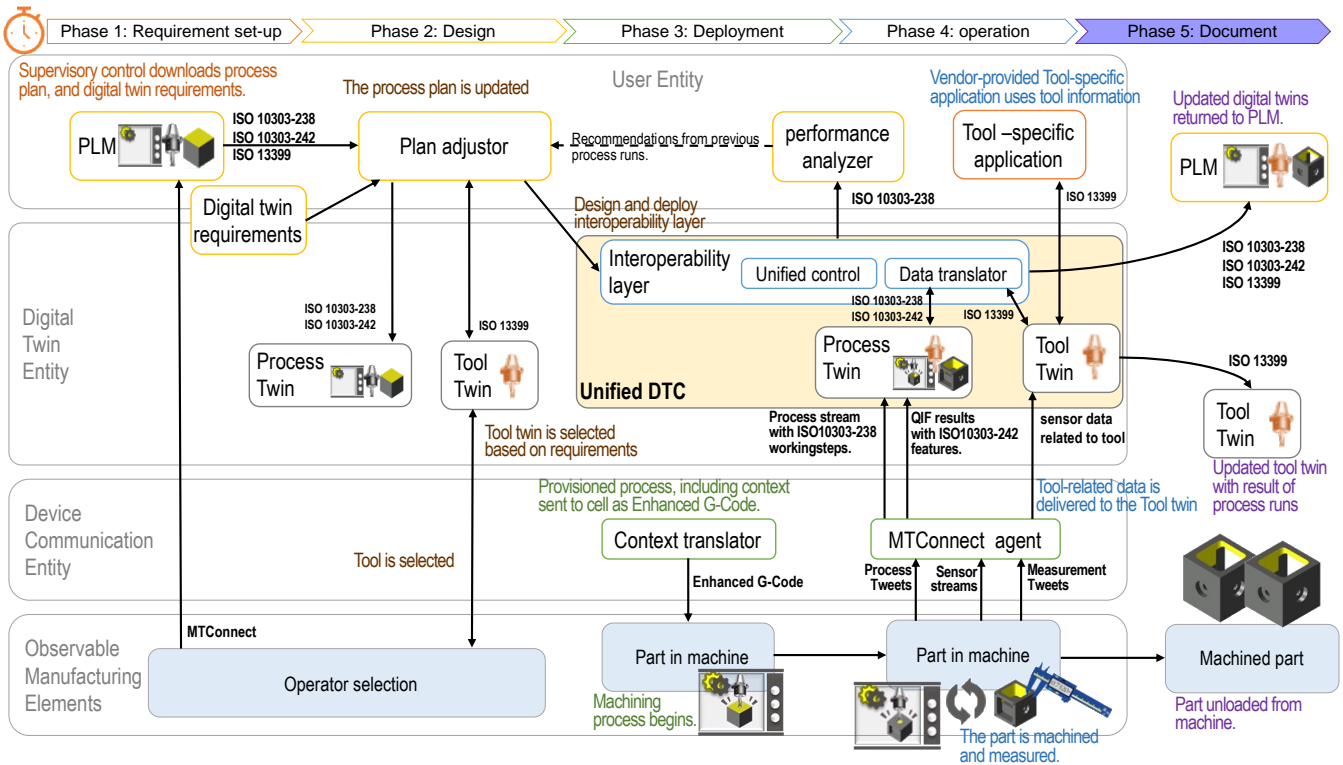
Use case name	Digital twin composition for enhancing cutting tool optimization
Scope	Provide composition of vendor-provided digital twins with the operator's process planning twin
Initial (Problem) situation	<p>Currently, the operator designed and generated digital twins of cutting tools based on data from tool suppliers. The tool analyser is dependent of the application in which the operator uses.</p> <p>For optimizing tool life, cutting tool vendors have limitations in collecting information on cutting tools during their lifecycle</p>
Objective(s)	To compose and connect digital twins of cutting tools supplied by vendors with operator-generated process plans, enriching the cutting process with advanced analytics and optimization capabilities to enable reusable and flexible changes of cutting tools.
Composition type	Unified DTC between process digital twin and cutting tool digital twin.
Short description	<p>Leveraging vendor digital twins and operating them with operator process twins, aiming to enhance cutting processes with enriching service supported by cutting tool vendors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Use a meta-model for cutting tool digital twins to ensure the selection of the appropriate digital twin that fits the process twin 2) Enhanced process analytics and optimization supported by tool vendors 3) Improved real-time decision-making through shared tool performance data 4) Streamlined tool selection and optimization process using comprehensive digital twin inventory 5) Reusability of cutting tool digital twins for multiple processes or projects, without the need for re-creation from scratch
Stakeholders	Manufacturing operator, Cutting tool vendors
Relevant standards	<p>ISO 10303-238 and ISO 10303-242 to describe digital twins of the process and the product</p> <p>ISO 13399 to describe the cutting tool data</p> <p>ISO 10303-239 to keep the relations between the states of the physical instances of the parts being produced, the process being performed, and the equipment used (cutting tool and machine tool)</p> <p>MTConnect to communicate process states and measurement information from the equipment.</p> <p>ISO 6983 (G-Codes and M-Codes) to define the machining programs</p>

Standardization needs	ISO 23247-6 digital twin composition to describe how to search, select, and integrate vendor-provided digital twins to be composed to a new process digital twin
-----------------------	--

513 **B.2 Operation sequences**

514 **B.2.1 Process flow**

515



516

517

Figure B.1 — Cutting process and cutting tool digital twin composition

518 B.2.2 Phase 1: DTC requirements establishment

- 519 — The operator selects a part to be manufactured based on scheduling requirements.
- 520 — The supervisory control downloads the process plan from the PLM system, which describes equipment,
521 operator, material, setup requirements, and cutting tools
- 522 — The supervisory control generates requirements for selecting tool digital twins, including both OME- and
523 digital twin-specific requirements (i.e., supporting digital twin models, communication protocols,
524 required properties, etc.)

525 B.2.3 Phase 2: DTC design

- 526 — From the digital twin inventory, supervisory control searches for an appropriate tool for digital twins.
527 The meta-model of the digital twins is used to match the requirements and properties of a cutting tool
528 digital twin.
- 529 — Connect the selected cutting tool digital twin to a process digital twin with an interface. In this example,
530 ISO 10303-242 is used to exchange the model data.
- 531 — The process plan is updated based on the recommendations developed during previous production runs
532 for this part, and the tool status is stored in the cutting tool digital twin (simulation).
- 533 — The updated resource requirements, including the optimal tool (from the cutting tool digital twin) and
534 material assignments, are compiled for the process requirements
- 535 — The updated process plan is used to provision the digital twin for the process, including the machine and
536 the part, the digital twin for the cutting tool, and the connection between digital twins.

537 B.2.4 Phase 3: DTC deployment

- 538 — The context translator extracts relevant context (e.g., workplan, working steps, process to tolerance
539 feature mapping, unique identifiers of the cutting tool assignments, and the part being machined), and
540 then inserts the relevant context into a standardized implementation of the machine's native
541 programming language (enhanced G-codes).
- 542 — The enhanced G-codes are transmitted to the machine.
- 543 — Machining is initiated.

544 B.2.5 Phase 4: DTC Operation

- 545 — Streams of data are synchronized by using timestamps to update the digital twins of the process and the
546 cutting tools. A digital twin of the cutting tool can gather data only related to the tool's status and
547 performance.
- 548 — A tool performance analyser utilizes information acquired from the cutting tool digital twins to generate
549 recommendations for changes to future process runs. Performance analyser can be used with external
550 software, since the digital twin of the cutting tool is not a dependent of application environment of the
551 process digital twin.
- 552 — The digital twins of the process and the cutting tools are updated. The process digital twin is uploaded to
553 PLM and the cutting tools digital twin is stored in the digital twin inventory for future use.
- 554 — The part is unloaded from the machine.

Annex C (informative)

Unified digital twin composition use case — Refrigerator inner case

C.1 Overview

Use case name	Digital twin composition for the CRF process optimization and anomaly detection
Scope	Composition of digital twins for roll forming, U-bending, and unloading the machine into a high-level process digital twin to enhance anomaly detection and optimize the CRF process
Initial (Problem) situation	<p>Currently, digital twins of each machining process are generated and operated in silo, leading to inefficiencies and difficulties to optimize schedules and undetected anomalies in the CRF process.</p> <p>Multiple digital twins of each process exist independently and are used separately based on the application, which is limited to cooperation between applications.</p> <p>Currently, there are no standardized approaches to composing data-driven digital twin models.</p>
Objective(s)	<p>To create a high-level digital twin that connects the digital twins of individual machines, allowing for simulating sequential schedules and collecting data from each machining process to be used in data-driven optimization models.</p> <p>To adopt a system-of-systems approach that collects independent digital twin systems to work together to achieve common goals.</p>
Composition type	Unified DTC between CRF process twin and machine digital twins of each sub-process.
Short description	<p>Leveraging digital twins that have different models and generating the entire manufacturing, which provides efficient operation and maintenance for operator</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Applying a meta-model to align individual machine twins with the CRF process twin, using standardized input/output data flows for improved interoperability. 2) Advanced analytics and optimization capabilities provided through the independent of machine-specific languages or protocols 3) Support for a data-driven digital twin that enhances predictive maintenance and process efficiency 4) Selection and application of machine digital twins through a unified digital twin inventory 5) Facilitating a system-of-systems approach where independent digital twin systems work collaboratively towards common manufacturing objectives.

	6) Ensuring the reusability of machine digital twins for various applications, minimizing the need for developing new digital twin systems
Stakeholders	Machine Operators, Process Engineers, Data Scientists, Maintenance Personnel, Equipment Vendors, Quality Assurance Teams.
Relevant standards	ISO 15386 to construct meta-models. ISO 10303-242 to describe product data representation. W3C ML Schema Core Specification to describe AI modelling for digital twins. ISO 16400 and IEC 62832 to describe behaviour models for digital twins.
Standardization needs	ISO 23247-6 digital twin composition to describe how to search, select individual digital twin and exchange data by deploying interoperability between them.

561 **C.2 Operation sequences**

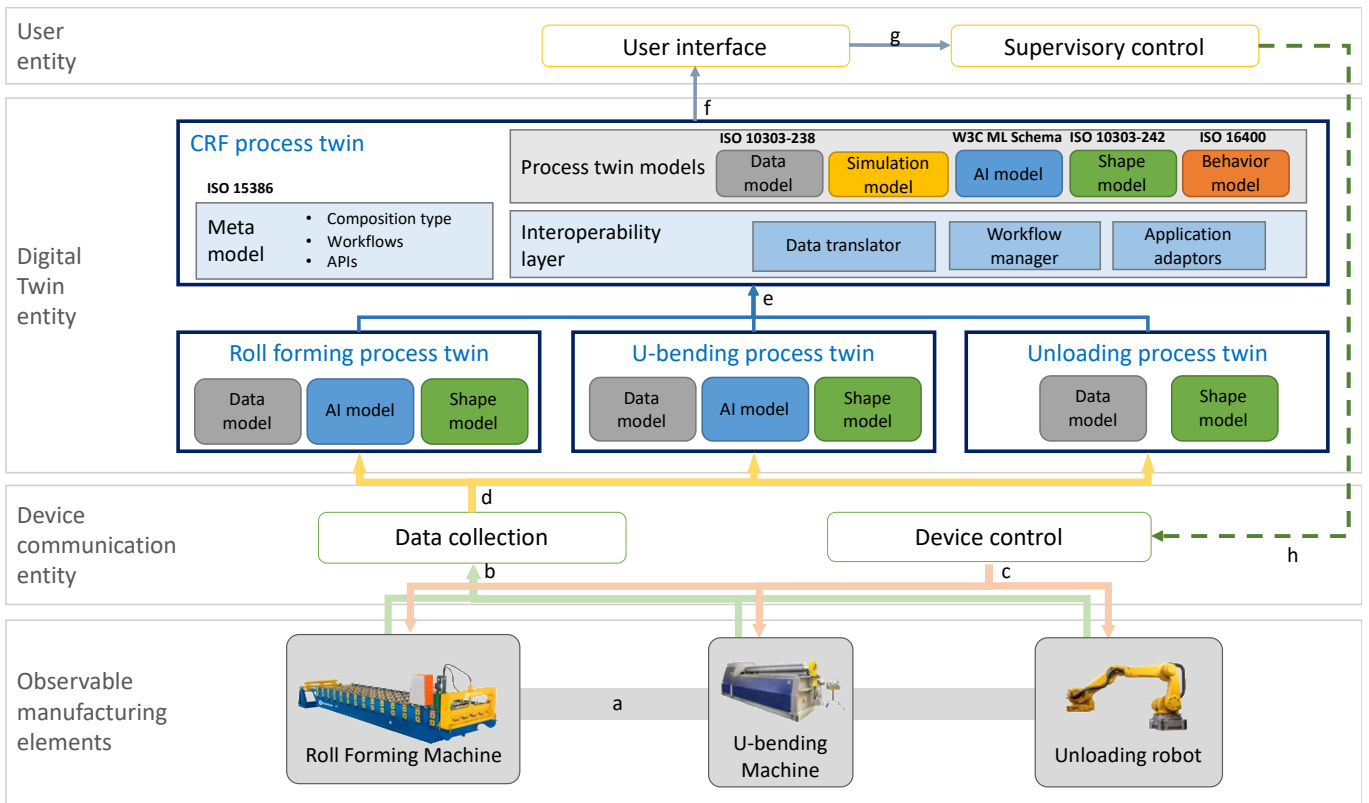
562 **C.2.1 Process flow**

563 Cold Roll Forming (CRF) process is separated into three sub-processes as below.

- 564 — Roll forming: The process starts with flat metal sheets or coils being fed into the roll forming machine, which consists of several pairs of rolls arranged in sequence. As the metal passes through each pair of rolls, it is progressively bent into the desired shape. For refrigerator inner cases, this shape can include specific grooves or patterns characteristic of the refrigerator's design.
- 565 — U-bending: After the initial roll forming, the U-bending machine is used to make precise bends at designated points along the metal sheet. This step is crucial for creating the U-shaped profiles often required for the corners and edges of the refrigerator's inner case. The U-bending machine ensures that these bends are accurate and consistent, contributing to the overall structural integrity and aesthetic of the final product.
- 566 — Unloading: Once the metal sheet has been shaped and bent to specifications, an unloader robot is typically used to remove the finished product from the machine and place it onto a conveyor or storage area. This automation step increases efficiency, reduces manual labor, and minimizes the risk of damage to the finished inner case.

577 Process flow of CRF process including three machines of each sub-processes are shown in Figure C.1 —.

578



579

580

Key

- a connection of physical elements in production pipeline
- b process data stream to data collection entity
- c control commands to OMEs
- d process data stream to digital twins
- e data exchange between digital twins and interoperability layer
- f data exchange between digital twin and user entity
- g application interface to supervisory control
- h commands to device control entity

581

Figure C.1 — CRF process and sub processes digital twin composition

C.2.2 Phase 1: DTC requirements establishment

- Determine the requirements of the CRF process for manufacturing refrigerator inner cases, including roll forming, U-bending, and unloading processes.
- Set clear objectives such as improving process efficiency, enhancing anomaly detection, and optimizing production schedules.

C.2.3 Phase 2: DTC design

- Design the overall architecture of the digital twin system, including how the high-level process digital twin (i.e., CRF process digital twin) will interact with individual sub-process twins.
- Create a meta-model of the CRF process twin, detailing the relationships between the digital twins of each sub-process and linking parameters for the input and output of each digital twin.
- Design the interoperability layer in the CRF process digital twin. This includes data models used in individual digital twins, data formats and schemas depending on the applications, protocols for data exchange, and the workflow connecting them in sequence.

C.2.4 Phase 3: DTC development

- Develop CRF digital twin with the designed interoperability layer functionalities.
- Update meta-models of individual digital twins, including the relationship with the CRF process, API information, and input-output parameter mappings.

C.2.5 Phase 4: DTC operation

- Launch the digital twin system on the manufacturing floor. Connect individual twins to their corresponding physical machines and to the CRF process digital twin for centralized control across sub-processes.
- Forward data gathered by individual digital twins to the CRF process twin. Translate the data into a common format to align with application requirements.
- Execute simulations and services such as simulating different production scenarios, predicting potential issues, and optimizing schedules.

Annex D (informative)

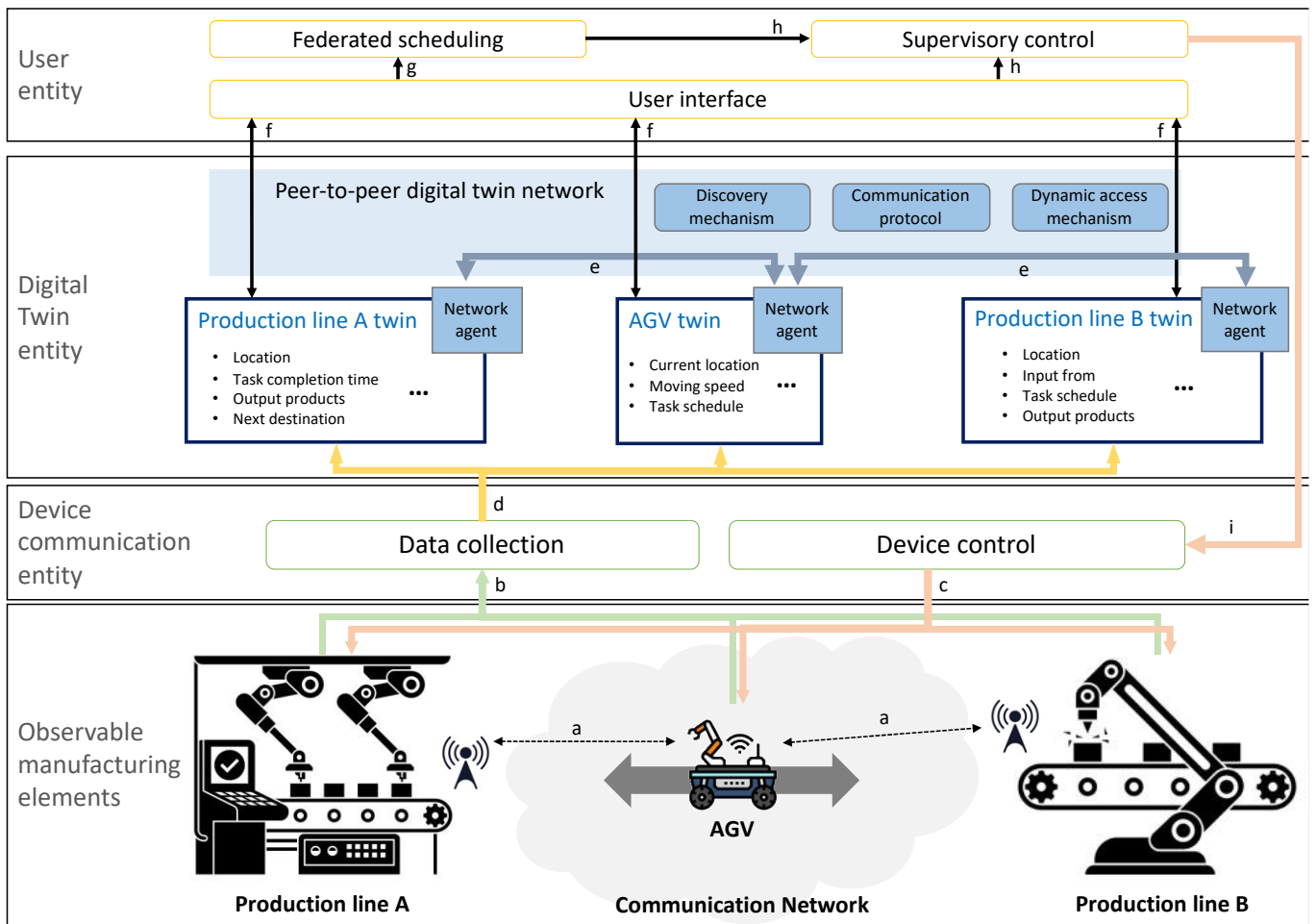
Federated digital twin composition use case —Automatic Guided Vehicles (AGVs) in manufacturing floor

D.1 Overview

Use case name	Dynamic digital twin composition for Automatic Guided Vehicles to enhance productivity and flexibility
Scope	Dynamically compose the digital twin of AGVs with digital twins of production lines, machines, and supply chains, enabling flexible AGV control and optimization across various tasks and environments for improved productivity and adaptability.
Initial (Problem) situation	<p>AGV digital twins currently focus on route configuration and optimization. Still, they are isolated and lack dynamic interaction capabilities with evolving production environments.</p> <p>The shop floor configuration can change frequently, either as station placement or speed policies on different zones. It is challenging to adapt AGV operations to the changing demands of various production lines, which can limit operational flexibility and efficiency. The operation of AGVs needs to be adapted in real-time based on the conditions and changes on materials or products, operation flow between processes, and requirements for manufacturing goals.</p>
Objective(s)	<p>To connect digital twins of AGVs and facility twins to enable material and goods control from supply chains to the shop floor.</p> <p>To connect AGV digital twins with process and material twins to simulate and optimize the manufacturing workflow, enhancing responsiveness to changes and supporting manufacturing goals.</p>
Composition type	Federated DTC between AGV digital twins and production line digital twins
Short description	Implementing a dynamic digital twin composition for AGVs to 1) Enable real-time interaction with different production line processes; 2) Enhance AGV task adaptability and routing efficiency; 3) Support optimized decision-making through interconnected digital twins; and 4) Improve production line agility and reduce system bottlenecks.
Stakeholders	Production Managers, AGV Operators, System Integrators, IT Specialists, and Process Engineers.
Relevant standards	OPC-UA to communicate locations and status from AGVs station.
Standardization needs	ISO 23247-6 digital twin composition to describe how to dynamically discovery, join and dissolve peer digital twins in federated system.

615 **D.2 Operation sequences**

616 **D.2.1 Process flow**



617

618 **Key**

- a wireless communication between AGVs and production lines
- b process data stream to data collection entity
- c control commands to OMEs
- d process data stream to digital twins
- e data exchange between digital twins through peer-to-peer network
- f data exchange between digital twins and user entity
- g application interface to federated scheduling
- h application interface to supervisory control
- i commands to device control entity

619

Figure D.1 — Automatic guided vehicle and production line digital twin composition

620 **D.2.2 Phase 1: DTC requirements establishment**

- 621 — Determine the requirements for integrating AGV digital twins with production line digital twins. Focus on
- 622 enhancing productivity, flexibility, and adaptability in real-time.
- 623 — Establish clear objectives such as enabling real-time interaction with production processes, improving
- 624 AGV task adaptability, optimizing routing efficiency, and supporting manufacturing goals.

625 **D.2.3 Phase 2: DTC design**

- 626 — Design the architecture of the digital twin system, focusing on how AGV digital twins will dynamically
- 627 interact with production line digital twins in a peer-to-peer network.
- 628 — Develop a meta-model that includes the relationships between the digital twins of AGVs and production
- 629 line machines.
- 630 — Design mechanism for dynamic discovery, joining and dissolving within federated system.
- 631 — Define data model and protocol to use for communication in peer-to-peer network.

632 **D.2.4 Phase 3: DTC development**

- 633 — Create digital twins for AGVs and production lines, capturing their physical attributes and operational
- 634 behaviors.
- 635 — Implement peer-to-peer network for digital twins, ensuring they can join and leave the system as needed.
- 636 — Implement analytics to monitor performance, optimize AGV tasks, and improve routing efficiency.
- 637 — Establish systems to gather real-time data from AGVs and production line machines, enabling continuous
- 638 monitoring and feedback.

639 **D.2.5 Phase 4: DTC operation**

- 640 — Launch the digital twin system on the manufacturing floor, including network capabilities.
- 641 — Use the federated digital twin system to track AGV movements, production processes in real time.
- 642 — Continuously gather data from AGVs and production lines to detect anomalies and identify areas for
- 643 improvement.
- 644 — Utilize the digital twin system to simulate different scenarios, predict potential issues, and optimize AGV
- 645 routes and tasks.

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