



IEEE

IEC 61691-1-1

Edition 3.0 2023-10

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEEE Std 1076™

Behavioural languages – Part 1-1: VHDL Language Reference Manual

IEC 61691-1-1 Ed.3.0 - Preview only Copy via ILNAS e-Shop

IEC 61691-1-1:2023-10(en) IEEE Std 1076-2019





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Behavioural languages – Part 1-1: VHDL Language Reference Manual

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

ICS 25.040.01, 35.060

ISBN 978-2-8322-7517-7

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Contents

1.	Overview.....	14
1.1	Scope.....	14
1.2	Purpose.....	14
1.3	Structure and terminology of this standard.....	14
1.4	Word usage	16
2.	Normative references.....	18
3.	Design entities and configurations.....	19
3.1	General.....	19
3.2	Entity declarations.....	19
3.3	Architecture bodies	22
3.4	Configuration declarations.....	25
4.	Subprograms and packages.....	32
4.1	General.....	32
4.2	Subprogram declarations.....	32
4.3	Subprogram bodies	37
4.4	Subprogram instantiation declarations.....	39
4.5	Subprogram overloading.....	40
4.6	Resolution functions	43
4.7	Package declarations.....	44
4.8	Package bodies.....	45
4.9	Package instantiation declarations	47
4.10	Conformance rules	48
5.	Types.....	49
5.1	General.....	49
5.2	Scalar types	50
5.3	Composite types.....	58
5.4	Access types.....	68
5.5	File types.....	70
5.6	Protected types	75
5.7	String representations.....	79
5.8	Unspecified types.....	81
6.	Declarations	85
6.1	General.....	85
6.2	Type declarations	86
6.3	Subtype declarations	86
6.4	Objects	88
6.5	Interface declarations	96
6.6	Alias declarations.....	119
6.7	Attribute declarations.....	122
6.8	Component declarations.....	123
6.9	Group template declarations	123

6.10	Group declarations	124
6.11	PSL clock declarations	124
7.	Specifications	126
7.1	General	126
7.2	Attribute specification	126
7.3	Configuration specification	129
7.4	Disconnection specification	135
8.	Names	138
8.1	General	138
8.2	Simple names	139
8.3	Selected names	140
8.4	Indexed names	142
8.5	Slice names	143
8.6	Attribute names	143
8.7	External names	144
9.	Expressions	148
9.1	General	148
9.2	Operators	149
9.3	Operands	163
9.4	Static expressions	172
9.5	Universal expressions	175
10.	Sequential statements	176
10.1	General	176
10.2	Wait statement	176
10.3	Assertion statement	178
10.4	Report statement	179
10.5	Signal assignment statement	180
10.6	Variable assignment statement	189
10.7	Procedure call statement	191
10.8	If statement	192
10.9	Case statement	193
10.10	Loop statement	195
10.11	Next statement	196
10.12	Exit statement	196
10.13	Return statement	196
10.14	Null statement	197
10.15	Sequential block statement	197
11.	Concurrent statements	199
11.1	General	199
11.2	Block statement	199
11.3	Process statement	200
11.4	Concurrent procedure call statements	202
11.5	Concurrent assertion statements	203
11.6	Concurrent signal assignment statements	204

11.7	Component instantiation statements	206
11.8	Generate statements	212
12.	Scope and visibility.....	216
12.1	Declarative region.....	216
12.2	Scope of declarations	216
12.3	Visibility.....	218
12.4	Use clauses.....	222
12.5	The context of overload resolution	223
13.	Design units and their analysis	225
13.1	Design units.....	225
13.2	Design libraries	225
13.3	Context declarations.....	227
13.4	Context clauses	227
13.5	Order of analysis	228
14.	Elaboration and execution	229
14.1	General.....	229
14.2	Elaboration of a design hierarchy	229
14.3	Elaboration of a block, package, subprogram or protected type header	232
14.4	Elaboration of a declarative part	235
14.5	Elaboration of a statement part	241
14.6	Dynamic elaboration.....	244
14.7	Execution of a model	245
15.	Lexical elements	256
15.1	General.....	256
15.2	Character set.....	256
15.3	Lexical elements, separators, and delimiters	258
15.4	Identifiers	260
15.5	Abstract literals	261
15.6	Character literals	262
15.7	String literals.....	262
15.8	Bit string literals.....	263
15.9	Comments	266
15.10	Reserved words	266
15.11	Tool directives.....	268
16.	Predefined language environment	269
16.1	General.....	269
16.2	Predefined attributes	269
16.3	Package STANDARD.....	287
16.4	Package TEXTIO.....	305
16.5	Standard environment package	311
16.6	Standard mathematical packages	325
16.7	Standard multivalued logic package	326
16.8	Standard synthesis packages	326
16.9	Standard synthesis context declarations.....	332

16.10	Fixed-point package	333
16.11	Floating-point package.....	333
16.12	Reflection package.....	334
17.	VHDL Procedural Interface overview	355
17.1	General	355
17.2	Organization of the interface.....	355
17.3	Capability sets	356
17.4	Handles.....	358
18.	VHPI access functions	360
18.1	General	360
18.2	Information access functions	360
18.3	Property access functions.....	362
18.4	Access by name function	363
19.	VHPI information model	364
19.1	General	364
19.2	Formal notation	364
19.3	Class inheritance hierarchy	365
19.4	Name properties	366
19.5	The stdUninstantiated package	379
19.6	The stdHierarchy package.....	382
19.7	The stdTypes package.....	388
19.8	The stdExpr package.....	391
19.9	The stdSpec package.....	394
19.10	The stdSubprograms package	396
19.11	The stdStmts package.....	398
19.12	The stdConnectivity package	404
19.13	The stdCallbacks package.....	409
19.14	The stdEngine package	409
19.15	The stdForeign package	410
19.16	The stdMeta package	410
19.17	The stdTool package	412
19.18	Application contexts	413
20.	VHPI tool execution	414
20.1	General	414
20.2	Registration phase	414
20.3	Analysis phase.....	420
20.4	Elaboration phase.....	420
20.5	Initialization phase	422
20.6	Simulation phase	422
20.7	Save phase.....	422
20.8	Restart phase	423
20.9	Reset phase.....	423
20.10	Termination phase.....	424

21.	VHPI callbacks	425
21.1	General	425
21.2	Callback functions	425
21.3	Callback reasons	427
22.	VHPI value access and update	439
22.1	General	439
22.2	Value structures and types	439
22.3	Reading object values	442
22.4	Formatting values	443
22.5	Updating object values	445
22.6	Scheduling transactions on drivers	449
23.	VHPI function reference	452
23.1	General	452
23.2	vhpi_assert	452
23.3	vhpi_check_error	453
23.4	vhpi_compare_handles	456
23.5	vhpi_control	457
23.6	vhpi_create	459
23.7	vhpi_disable_cb	462
23.8	vhpi_enable_cb	462
23.9	vhpi_format_value	464
23.10	vhpi_get	465
23.11	vhpi_get_cb_info	466
23.12	vhpi_get_data	467
23.13	vhpi_get_foreignfn_info	469
23.14	vhpi_get_next_time	470
23.15	vhpi_get_phys	472
23.16	vhpi_get_real	472
23.17	vhpi_get_str	473
23.18	vhpi_get_time	474
23.19	vhpi_get_value	475
23.20	vhpi_handle	476
23.21	vhpi_handle_by_index	477
23.22	vhpi_handle_by_name	481
23.23	vhpi_is_printable	483
23.24	vhpi_iterator	484
23.25	vhpi_printf	485
23.26	vhpi_protected_call	486
23.27	vhpi_put_data	490
23.28	vhpi_put_value	492
23.29	vhpi_register_cb	493
23.30	vhpi_register_foreignfn	496
23.31	vhpi_release_handle	499
23.32	vhpi_remove_cb	499
23.33	vhpi_scan	500
23.34	vhpi_schedule_transaction	501
23.35	vhpi_vprintf	506

24.	Standard tool directives	507
24.1	Protect tool directives.....	507
24.2	Conditional analysis tool directives	523
	Annex A (informative) VHPI definitions file.....	525
	Annex B (normative) VHPI header file	527
	Annex C (informative) Syntax summary	530
	Annex D (informative) Potentially non-portable constructs.....	557
	Annex E (informative) Changes from IEEE Std 1076-2008	558
	Annex F (informative) Features under consideration for removal	559
	Annex G (informative) Guide to use of standard packages.....	560
	Annex H (informative) Guide to use of protect directives	597
	Annex I (informative) Glossary	605
	Annex J (informative) Bibliography	632
	Annex K (informative) Participants	633
	Index	634

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Part 1-1: VHDL Language Reference Manual

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IEEE Std	FDIS	Report on voting
1076 (2019)	91/1871/FDIS	91/1885/RVD

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IEEE Std 1076™-2019

(Revision of
IEEE Std 1076-2008)

IEEE Standard for VHDL Language Reference Manual

Developed by the

Design Automation Standards Committee
of the
IEEE Computer Society

Approved 5 September 2019

IEEE SA Standards Board

Abstract: VHSIC Hardware Description Language (VHDL) is defined. VHDL is a formal notation intended for use in all phases of the creation of electronic systems. Because it is both machine readable and human readable, it supports the development, verification, synthesis, and testing of hardware designs; the communication of hardware design data; and the maintenance, modification, and procurement of hardware. Its primary audiences are the implementors of tools supporting the language and the advanced users of the language.

Keywords: computer languages, electronic systems, hardware, hardware design, IEEE 1076™, VHDL

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IEEE Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1076-2019, IEEE Standard for VHDL Language Reference Manual.

The VHSIC Hardware Description Language (VHDL) is a formal notation intended for use in all phases of the creation of electronic systems. Because it is both machine readable and human readable, it supports the development, verification, synthesis, and testing of hardware designs; the communication of hardware design data; and the maintenance, modification, and procurement of hardware.

This document, IEEE Std 1076-2019, is a revision of IEEE Std 1076-2008. The IEEE VHDL Analysis and Standardization Group (VASG), otherwise known as the 1076 Working Group, gathered the requirements, developed language extensions, and completed a draft of this revised Language Reference Manual. That draft was returned to IEEE for final revision and approval, resulting in this document. This revision incorporates numerous enhancements, both major and minor, to previously existing language features and several new language features. The changes are summarized in Annex E. In addition, several VHDL library packages that were previously defined in separate standards are now defined in this standard, ensuring that they are treated as integral parts of the language. Finally, this revision incorporates the IEEE Property Specification Language (PSL) as part of VHDL. The combination of these changes significantly improves VHDL as a language for specification, design, and verification of complex electronic systems.

The maintenance of the VHDL language standard is an ongoing process. The chair of the VHDL Analysis and Standardization Group extends his gratitude to all who have participated in this revision and encourages the participation of all interested parties in future language revisions.¹

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