

**PROFIBUS COMPETENCY CENTRE, AUSTRALIA TECHNICAL SERIES**

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**SUBJECT:** STATION TYPES

There are only 2 types of stations operational on a network:

**Master devices (also called active stations)**

- Class 1 masters – e.g. PLCs, controllers, some SCADA stations etc.
- Class 2 masters – e.g. engineering tools, certain diagnostic tools etc.

**Slave devices (also called passive stations)**

- e.g. I/O blocks, transmitters, sensors, actuators, valves, drives etc.

Masters control the bus communications, slaves can only respond to master requests.

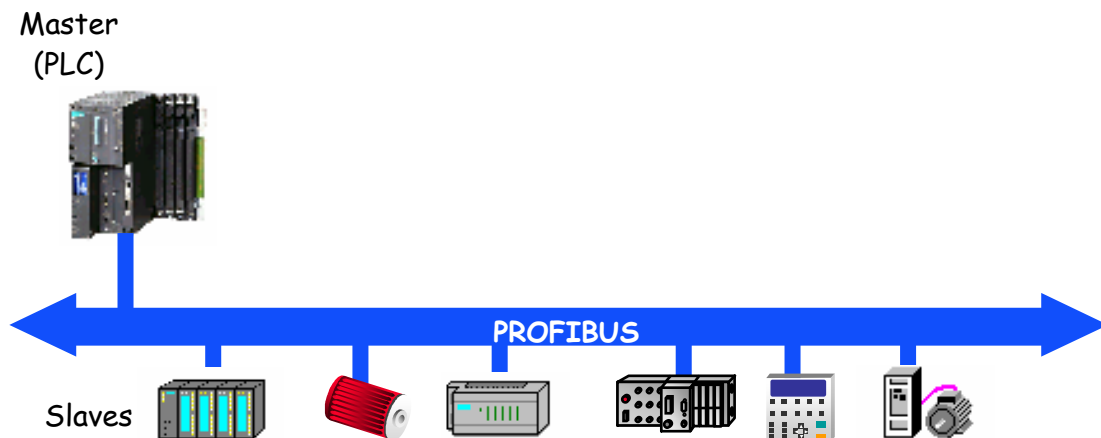


Fig. 1 Network Layout<sup>i</sup>

**References:**

<sup>i</sup> CPIC Presentation L02 Verwer Training & Consultancy Ltd.  
The New and Rapid Way to PROFIBUS DP, Manfred Popp

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