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When working with FLOWX.AI components, there are multiple scenarios in which timer expressions are needed.

There are two timer expressions formats supported:

- **Cron Expressions** - used to define the expiry date on processes
- **ISO 8601** - used to define the duration of a response timeout or for a timer expression

Cron Expressions

A cron expression is a string made up of **six mandatory subexpressions (fields)** that each specifies an aspect of the schedule (for example, * * * * * *).

These fields, separated by white space, can contain any of the allowed values with various combinations of the allowed characters for that field.

! INFO

A field may be an asterisk (*), which always stands for “first-last”. For the day-of-the-month or day-of-the-week fields, a question mark (?) may be used instead of an asterisk.

Subexpressions:

1. Seconds
2. Minutes
3. Hours
4. Day-of-Month
5. Month
6. Day-of-Week
7. Year (optional field)

An example of a complete cron-expression is the string `0 0 12 ? * FRI` - which means **every Friday at 12:00:00 PM**.

More details:

» [Scheduling cron expressions](#)

Cron Expressions are used in the following example:

- **Process definition - Expiry time** - a user can set up a `expiryTime` function on a process, for example, a delay of 30s will be set up like:

siviu_main_process (DRAFT)

Process settings

[General](#) [Sensitive data](#) [Swimlanes](#) [Task management](#)

General data

1

{}

Expiry time

30 16 11 4 7 1

For more details about Expiry time formatting and examples of valid Cron Expressions, click [here](#).

Cancel

Save settings

ISO 8601

ISO 8601 is an international standard covering the worldwide exchange and communication of date and time-related data. It can be used to standardize the following: dates, time of delay, time intervals, recurring time intervals, etc.

More details:

» [ISO 8601](#)

ISO 8601 format is used in the following examples:

- **Node config - Response Timeout** - can be triggered if, for example, a topic that you define and add in the **Data stream topics** tab does not respect the pattern

ISO 8601 dates and times:

Format accepted	Value ranges
Year (Y)	YYYY, four-digit, abbreviated to two-digit
Month (M)	MM, 01 to 12
Week (W)	WW, 01 to 53
Day (D)	D, day of the week, 1 to 7
Hour (h)	hh, 00 to 23, 24:00:00 as the end time
Minute (m)	mm, 00 to 59
Second (s)	ss, 00 to 59
Decimal fraction (f)	Fractions of seconds, any degree of accuracy

Node: **test test** (ID: 552202)

Node Config Actions

Response Timeout

Response Timeout (PT30S)

Data stream topics

Topic Name

Key Name

Add stream

- **Actions** - **Timer expression** - it can be used if a delay is required on that action

Node: **test test** (ID: 552202)



Node Config Actions

- Actions +
- b333f699-ad08... +

13c58d4d-1cd... +

ab3de51d-5bf... +

Action Edit

ID: 555551

Name

b333f699-ad08-4f0c-954e-f37aafcca512

Order

1

Timer Expression

Save

Save Data ^

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