

# OGC SensorThings API Tasking Core Discussion Paper

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# Chapter 1. Summary

This discussion paper offers descriptions and provides JSON examples of TaskingCapabilities and Tasks for the SensorThings Application Programming Interface (API).

## 1.1. Requirements & Research Motivation

The OGC SensorThings API Part II – Tasking Core (OGC 17-079r1) describes the standard and offers the compliance tests specifications. However, more descriptions and examples are needed in order to help users to explore what the SensorThings API (STA) Tasking can do. This discussion paper provides the needed JSON examples for different types of actuators.

## 1.2. Recommendations for Future Work

This discussion paper is intended to provide recommendations on creating TaskingCapabilities and Tasks in SensorThings. Thus, the recommendations on future work can be found at the end of each section.

## 1.3. Document contributor contact points

All questions regarding this document should be directed to the editor or the contributors:

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## 1.4. Foreword

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## Chapter 2. References

The following normative documents contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this document. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies.

- OGC 08-094r1, OGC® SWE Common Data Model, January 2011, [http://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact\\_id=41157](http://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact_id=41157)
- OGC 15-078r6, OGC® SensorThings API Part 1: Sensing, July 2016, <http://docs.opengeospatial.org/is/15-078r6/15-078r6.html>
- OGC 17-079r1, OGC SensorThings API - Part II Tasking Core, Draft, [https://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact\\_id=78552&version=1](https://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact_id=78552&version=1)
- OGC 17-011r2, OGC® JSON Encoding Rules - SWE Common / SensorML, January 2018, <http://docs.opengeospatial.org/bp/17-011r2/17-011r2.html>

# Chapter 3. Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this report, the definitions specified in Clause 4 of the OWS Common Implementation Standard **OGC 06-121r9** [[https://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact\\_id=38867&version=2](https://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact_id=38867&version=2)] shall apply. In addition, the following terms and definitions apply.

- sensor

An entity capable of observing a phenomenon and returning an observed value. Type of observation procedure that provides the estimated value of an observed property at its output. [OGC 12-000]

- task

(Conceptual) resource that represents a SPS assignment. It includes the (possibly empty) set of tasking parameters [OGC 09-000].

- tasking

Parameterizing an asset; can be done by sending one or more tasking requests [OGC 09-000]

## 3.1. Abbreviated terms

- API Application Programming Interface
- IoT Internet of Things
- JSON JavaScript Object Notation
- OGC Open Geospatial Consortium
- SensorML Sensor Model Language
- STA SensorThings API
- SWE Sensor Web Enablement



# Chapter 4. Overview

Chapter 5 contains the following examples:

- **Example 1.** Turn on/off a light
- **Example 2.** Set text to display
- **Example 3.** Select washing machine program
- **Example 4.** Set the number of times that robotic vacuum will clean the house
- **Example 5.** Select water temperature for a washing machine
- **Example 6.** Control the opening percentage of window
- **Example 7.** Set clock time
- **Example 8.** Set drone flight destination
- **Example 9.** Set light color for a hurricane
- **Example 10.** Set elevator warning sound based on the number of people
- **Example 11.** Set light color based on the indoor air quality
- **Example 12.** Set calendar to display time range
- **Example 13.** Control the washing machine
- **Example 14.** Task a harvester regarding the areas to harvest
- **Example 15.** Control the light
- **Example 16.** Configure the light color based on air quality readings range

# Chapter 5. Example Request/Response

The `taskingParameters` property describes optional and mandatory tasking parameters. Clients use the definition to provide corresponding tasking parameter values. To ensure a common understanding between client and server, a standard exchange protocol is used to express both descriptions and tasking parameter values. SensorThings uses the JSON encoding defined in OGC 17-011r2 to define `taskingParameters`. However, to be consistency with SensorThings Part 1- Sensing, there are several differences between the OGC SWE common data model and Tasking (Table 1).

	OGC SensorThings API Task Core	OGC SWE Common Data Model
<i>Unit Reference</i>	<code>"unitOfMeasurement": {   "symbol": "   °C", "name":   "degree   Celsius",   "definition":   "http://unitso   fmeasure.org/u   cum.html#para-   30" }</code>	<code>"uom": {   "code": "°C " }</code>
<i>Time Reference Frame and Format</i>	UTC in ISO format	Default frame is UTC, but can be the different time reference system
<i>Location</i>	GeoJSON	Not supported

Table 1. Differences between SWE Common Data Model and Tasking

The examples of `taskingParameters` in `TaskingCapabilities` and `Tasks` can be divided into following types according to the parameter types: Boolean, Text, Category, Count, Quantity, Time, Location, CategoryRange, CountRange, QuantityRange, and TimeRange.

## 5.1. Boolean

Example 1. Turn on/off a light

a) `taskingParameters` in `TaskingCapability`

```
{
  "type": "Boolean",
  "name": "status",
  "label": "light on/off status",
  "description": "If set true, the light is on; Otherwise, the light is off"
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "status": true
}
```

## 5.2. Text

Example 2. Set text to display

a) taskingParameters in TaskingCapability

```
{
  "type": "Text",
  "name": "display",
  "label": "display text",
  "description": "Set text to display",
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedTokens",
    "pattern": "^[a-zA-Z ]*$"
  }
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "display": "SensorThings API Tasking"
}
```

## 5.3. Category

Example 3. Select washing machine program

#### a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "Category",
  "name": "program",
  "label": "washing machine program",
  "description": "The washing program to use",
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedTokens",
    "value": ["Cotton", "Synthetics", "Wool"]
  }
}
```

#### b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "program": "Cotton"
}
```

## 5.4. Count

Example 4. Set the number of times that robotic vacuum will clean the house

#### a) taskingParameters in TaskingCapability

```
{
  "type": "Count",
  "name": "clean_count",
  "label": "total count to clean the house",
  "description": "The total count of house cleaning",
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedValues",
    "interval": [0, 10]
  }
}
```

#### b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{  
  "clean_count": 2  
}
```

## 5.5. Quantity

Example 5. Select water temperature for a washing machine

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{  
  "type": "Quantity",  
  "name": "temperature",  
  "label": "Washing temperature",  
  "description": "The temperature to wash on",  
  "unitOfMeasurement": {  
    "symbol": " °C",  
    "name": "degree Celsius",  
    "definition": "http://unitsofmeasure.org/ucum.html#para-30"  
  },  
  "constraint": {  
    "type": "AllowedValues",  
    "value": [30, 40, 60]  
  }  
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{  
  "temperature": 30  
}
```

Example 6. Control the opening percentage of window

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "Quantity",
  "name": "open_percentage",
  "label": "opening percentage",
  "description": "How far the window has to open, in percentage",
  "unitOfMeasurement": {
    "symbol": "%",
    "name": "percentage",
    "definition": "http://unitsofmeasure.org/ucum.html#para-29"
  },
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedValues",
    "interval": [0, 100],
    "significantFigures": 3
  }
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "open_percentage": 30.5
}
```

## 5.6. Time

Time and TimeRange are now focusing the time to display, not for the task scheduling purpose.

Example 7. Set clock time

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "Time",
  "name": "time",
  "label": "set clock time",
  "description": "The time that set on clock"
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{  
  "time": "2018-05-02T23:45:32Z"  
}
```

## 5.7. Location

Example 8. Set drone flight destination

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{  
  "type": "Location",  
  "name": "destination",  
  "label": "drone landing location",  
  "description": "The location that set to drone to land"  
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{  
  "destination": {  
    "type": "Point",  
    "coordinates": [-114.06, 51.05]  
  }  
}
```

## 5.8. CategoryRange

Configure (1) the condition for something to happen e.g., a light changes color based on the level of hurricanes; and (2) the behavior of light can be configured by the tasking. e.g., in country A, red might mean level 4~5, but in country B, red might mean level 3~5. This can be used when we deploy the light in different countries for their conventions.

Example 9. Set light color for a hurricane

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "CategoryRange",
  "name": "red_levels",
  "label": "turn on red light when the hurricane is in this range",
  "description": "Set light color to red when the hurricane is in the range",
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedTokens",
    "value": ["level 1", "level 2", "level 3", "level 4", "level 5", "level 6"]
  }
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "red_levels": ["level 4", "level 6"]
}
```

## 5.9. CountRange

CountRange is similar to CategoryRange in that it configures the condition for something to happen and the behavior of the device being tasking.

Set light color or a queue display based on the count of a queue.

Example 10. Set elevator warning sound based on the number of people

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "CountRange",
  "name": "set_elevator_warning",
  "label": "set elevator warning sound based on the number of people",
  "description": "Set the elevator warning sound based on the number of people enter the elevator",
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedValues",
    "interval": [1, 10]
  }
}
```



b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "set_elevator_warning": [6, 9]
}
```

## 5.10. QuantityRange

QuantityRange is similar to CategoryRange in that it configures the condition for something to happen and the behavior of the device being tasking.

Example 11. Set light color based on the indoor air quality

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "QuantityRange",
  "name": "good_air_quality_range",
  "label": "Set light color to green if the air quality is good",
  "description": "Set light color to green if the air quality is good",
  "unitOfMeasurement": {
    "symbol": "ug/m3",
    "name": "microgram per cubic meter",
    "definition": " http://www.ess.co.at/AIR-EIA/units.html"
  },
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedValues",
    "interval": [0, 500],
    "significantFigures": 4
  }
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "good_air_quality_light_color": [0.0, 12.0]
}
```

## 5.11. TimeRange

Example 12. Set calendar to display time range

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{  
  "type": "TimeRange",  
  "name": "calendar_timerange",  
  "label": "Calendar display time range",  
  "description": "Set the time range to calendar"  
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{  
  "calendar_range": ["2018-05-01T00:00:00Z", "2018-05-31T24:00:00Z"]  
}
```

## 5.12. Union of simple types

The union are the combination of different simple types mentioned above.

Example 13. Control the washing machine

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```

{
  "type": "DataRecord",
  "field": [{
    "type": "Boolean",
    "name": "status",
    "label": "Washing machine on/off status",
    "description": "If set true, the wash machine is on; Otherwise, the
washing machine is off"
  },
  {
    "type": "Category",
    "name": "program",
    "label": "Washing program",
    "description": "The washing program to use",
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedTokens",
      "value": ["Cotton", "Synthetics", "Wool"]
    }
  },
  {
    "type": "Quantity",
    "name": "temperature",
    "label": "Washing temperature",
    "description": "The washing temperature to wash on",
    "unitOfMeasurement": {
      "symbol": "°C",
      "name": "degree Celsius",
      "definition": "http://unitsofmeasure.org/ucum.html#para-30"
    },
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedValues",
      "value": [30, 40, 60]
    }
  },
  {
    "type": "Boolean",
    "name": "quick",
    "label": "Speed program",
    "description": "If set true, the washing time is halved"
  }
]
}

```

## b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{  
  "status": true,  
  "program": "Cotton",  
  "temperature": 30,  
  "quick": true  
}
```

Example 14. Task a harvester regarding the areas to harvest

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "DataRecord",
  "field": [{
    "type": "Category",
    "name": "mode",
    "label": "Working mode",
    "description": "The harvesting program to use",
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedTokens",
      "value": ["auto", "wheat", "canola", "corn"]
    }
  },
  {
    "type": "Location",
    "name": "harvest_area",
    "label": "Working area",
    "description": "Set working area to the harvester"
  },
  {
    "type": "Quantity",
    "name": "fan_speed",
    "label": "working fan speed",
    "description": "Set fan speed to the harvester",
    "unitOfMeasurement": {
      "symbol": "rpm",
      "name": "rotational speed",
      "definition": " https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rotational\_speed"
    },
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedValues",
      "Interval": [1050, 1500],
      "significantFigures": 4
    }
  }
]
}
```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```
{
  "mode": "auto",
  "clean_area": {
    "type": "Polygon",
    "coordinates": [
      [100.0, 0.0],
      [110.0, 0.0],
      [110.0, 10.0],
      [100.0, 10.0],
      [100.0, 0.0]
    ]
  },
  "fan_speed": 1200
}
```

Example 15. Control the light

a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```

{
  "type": "DataRecord",
  "field": [{
    "type": "Boolean",
    "name": "status",
    "label": "On/Off status",
    "description": "If true, the light is on; Otherwise, the light is off"
  },
  {
    "type": "Text",
    "name": "color",
    "label": "Light color",
    "description": "Specifies the light color in HEX format.",
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedTokens",
      "pattern": "^#([A-Fa-f0-9]{6}|[A-Fa-f0-9]{3})$"
    }
  },
  {
    "type": "Quantity",
    "name": "brightness",
    "label": "Light brightness",
    "description": "Set the light brightness in percentage",
    "unitOfMeasurement": {
      "symbol": "%",
      "name": "percentage",
      "definition": "http://unitsofmeasure.org/ucum.html#para-29"
    },
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedValues",
      "interval": [0, 100],
      "significantFigures": 2
    }
  }
]
}

```

## b) taskingParameters in Task

```

{
  "On/Off": true,
  "color": "#0080FF",
  "brightness": 80
}

```

## Example 16. Configure the light color based on air quality readings range

### a) taskingParameters in TaskCapability

```
{
  "type": "DataRecord",
  "field": [{
    "type": "QuantityRange",
    "name": "good_air_quality_range",
    "label": "Set light color to green if the air quality is good",
    "description": "Set light color to green if the air quality is good",
    "unitOfMeasurement": {
      "symbol": "ug/m3",
      "name": "microgram per cubic meter",
      "definition": " http://www.ess.co.at/AIR-EIA/units.html"
    },
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedValues",
      "interval": [0, 500],
      "significantFigures": 4
    }
  },
  {
    "type": "QuantityRange",
    "name": "medium_air_quality_range",
    "label": "Set light color to yellow if the air quality is medium",
    "description": "Set light color to yellow if the air quality is medium",
    "unitOfMeasurement": {
      "symbol": "ug/m3",
      "name": "microgram per cubic meter",
      "definition": " http://www.ess.co.at/AIR-EIA/units.html"
    },
    "constraint": {
      "type": "AllowedValues",
      "interval": [0, 500],
      "significantFigures": 4
    }
  },
  {
    "type": "QuantityRange",
    "name": "bad_air_quality_range",
    "label": "Set light color to red if the air quality is bad",
    "description": "Set light color to red if the air quality is bad",
    "unitOfMeasurement": {
      "symbol": "ug/m3",
```



```

    "name": "microgram per cubic meter",
    "definition": " http://www.ess.co.at/AIR-EIA/units.html"
  },
  "constraint": {
    "type": "AllowedValues",
    "interval": [0, 500],
    "significantFigures": 4
  }
}
]
}

```

b) taskingParameters in Task

```

{
  "good_air_quality_light_color": [0, 12.0],
  "medium_air_quality_light_color": [12.1, 55.4],
  "bad_air_quality_light_color": [55.5, 500]
}

```

# Appendix A: Revision History

Date	Editor	Release	Primary clauses modified	Descriptions
June 15, 2016	Steve Liang	.1	all	First version

*Table 2. Revision History*