

What does The 61508 Association expect of its members?

A Guide for existing and potential
members



What does the Association expect of members?

Two questions

What should a person or business using the services or products of a member company of the Association expect?

What are members' obligations to the Association?

Both questions acknowledge that the actions of our members impact upon the reputation of the Association



What does the Association expect of members?

The answers




First, three basic principles which members accept

Second, what the principles mean in practice

Third, what this means for companies in different supply chain situations



What is expected of members? Three basic principles

- Members recognise IEC 61508⁺ as the benchmark for achieving functional safety and managing risks in a proportionate way 
- When members apply IEC 61508⁺ they do so properly in all respects relating to their role in the safety life cycle 
- Members demonstrate compliance with IEC 61508⁺ by using a method which has integrity, transparency and consistency 

+ and related standards e.g. IEC 61511, 62061, etc



IEC 61508 as the benchmark

- Member organisations accept IEC 61508 and related standards as the definitive method for achieving functional safety for electrical, electronic and programmable electronic safety-related systems
- Member organisations regard IEC 61508 as providing a suitable approach to achieving functional safety for other safety system technologies



Apply IEC 61508 properly

- The organisation ensures that all requirements of IEC 61508 related to its role in the lifecycle are met
- The organisation meets the functional safety management requirements of Part 1, Clause 6
- The organisation takes a holistic approach to competence, including all people in the organisation involved with the safety system lifecycle



Demonstrate compliance

- Conformity with the requirements is assessed using a consistent and transparent method (CASS* or equivalent)
- Assessment is carried out by people with demonstrable competence
- The results of the assessment are presented in a clear and consistent way
- All of the necessary data, including evidence of its relevance and [integrity?] is provided for the integrator and end user
- Where certification is required, a body holding national accreditation to the CASS* method [or equivalent] is used



Where are you in the supply chain?

- End user (duty holder where system is used)
- System integrator, Contractor, Consultant
- Manufacturer of sub-systems and components
- Multinational companies
- Certification body



What's expected End user

- Engineers ask for transparency & evidence in support of 61508 compliance claims
- Suppliers are asked for proof of functional safety management.
- Contractors are informed of the existence of the CASS* methodology for open information for assessing competent suppliers.
- CASS* suppliers and contractors are used wherever possible
- CASS* is included in specifications as the preferred option



What's expected System Integrator, Contractor, Consultant

- Engineers ask for transparency & evidence in support of 61508 compliance claims
- Suppliers are asked for proof of functional safety management.
- Engineers are aware of the need for transparency of both results and methods
- Contractors are informed of CASS* for selecting competent suppliers
- CASS* suppliers and contractors are used wherever possible
- CASS* is included in specifications as the preferred option for the assessment of claims made



What's expected Manufacturer of sub-systems & components

- Engineers ask for transparency & evidence in support of claims
- Suppliers are asked for proof of functional safety management.
- Engineers are aware of the need for transparency of both results and methods.
- Systems and procedures are compatible with CASS* for transparency
- Products are supplied with safety report/safety data handbook
- CASS* suppliers and contractors are used wherever possible



What's expected Multinational companies

- Comprehensive reports and data on safety products are promoted as the essential part of certification and the report is given to users.
- Both the data and the methods used to find the data are included openly in the report
- When presenting to customers CASS* is [presented] as equal to other global certification
- FAQ on website discussing certification references CASS*



What's expected Certification bodies

- Agree to raise the profile of the report to be the essential part of certification and make the report available for issue to users.
- Accept transparency of assessment.
- Accept the principle of common assessment standards.
- Are considering offering CASS* in the future.



Thank you for your attention

To find out more about The 61508 Association please visit

www.61508.org

