

Software Engineering (COMP2281)

Lecture 5: Standards and risks

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Standards ...



What is a Standard?

Why do we care?

Name one?



Why Standards?

- Quality (systems, processes, frameworks, etc...)
- Shared communication
- Shared understanding (what does 'quality', 'completed', ... mean?)
- Influence, from understanding to creation/development
- Profit
- Collaboration
- Reputation
- Regulation (assurance)
- Flexibility



- Importance
 - They encapsulate best practice (normally)
 - Framework for quality assurance
 - Provide continuity
 - Record of decision making processes
 - Organisational memory
 - New staff save time



Issues:

- Standards are considered too large, unwieldy and difficult to adopt for SMEs or VSE/SOHOs
- Focus is on large organisations
- Concerns over cost and documentation
- Difficult to justify



SDLC: Standards, ISO

- International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is the world's largest developer of International Standards
- The British member of the ISO is ...?
- Roots in governmental, NGO, other public bodies and private sectors
- Gives ISO a broad reach, in terms of consideration and implementation
- ISO Standards are developed by technical experts who sit on technical committees, such as:
 - JTC: Joint technical Committee
 - SC: Sub-committee
 - WG: Working Groups

SDLC: Standards ISO

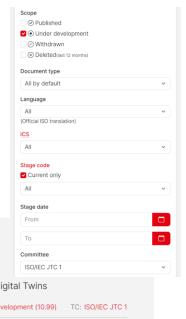
 Interested in developing the Standards of the future?

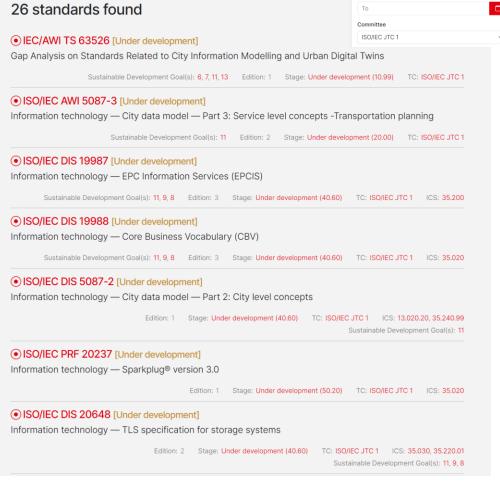
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 Standards that are being developed and are open for comment:



Searched for ISO/IEC JCT1, Information Technology



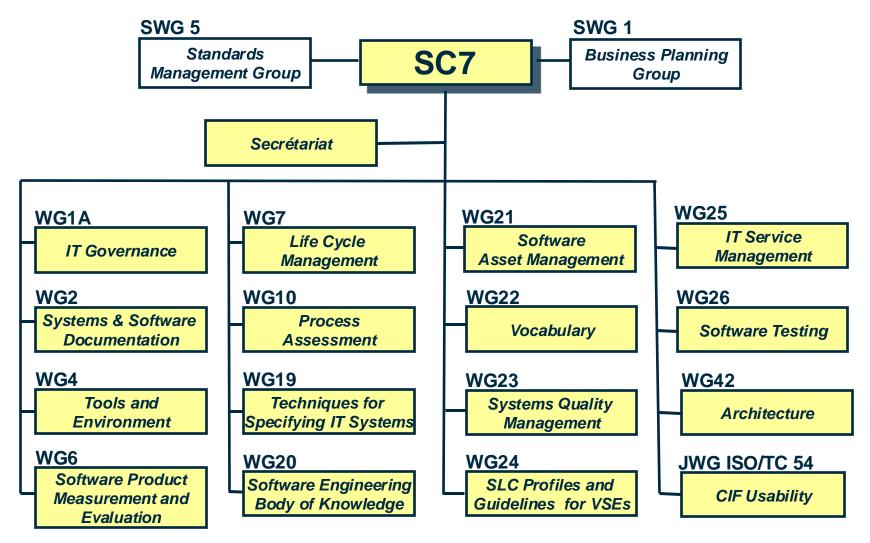


SDLC: Subcommittees (SC) of ISO/IEC JCT1

Technical Directions	JTC1 Subcommittees and Working Groups			
Application Technologies	SC 36 - Learning Technology			
Cultural and Linguistic Adaptability & User Interfaces	SC 02 - Coded Character Sets SC 22/WG 20 – Internationalization SC 35 - User Interfaces			
Data Capture land Identification Systems	SC 17 - Cards and Personal Identification SC 31 - Automatic Identification and Data Capture Techniques			
Data Management Services	SC 32 - Data Management and Interchange			
Document Description Languages	SC 34 - Document Description and Processing Languages			
Information Interchange Media	SC 11 - Flexible Magnetic Media for Digital Data Interchange SC 23 - Optical Disk Cartridges for Information Interchange			
Multimedia and Representation	SC 24 - Computer Graphics and Image Processing SC 29 - Coding of Audio, Picture, Multimedia, Hypermedia Information			
Networking and Interconnects	SC 06 - Telecommunications and Information Exchange Between Systems SC 25 - Interconnection of Information Technology Equipment			
Office Equipment	SC 28 - Office Equipment			
Programming Languages & Software Interfaces	SC 22 - Programming Languages, their Environments & Systems Software Interfaces			
Security	SC 27 - IT Security Techniques			
Software Engineering	SC 07 - Software and System Engineering			
Biometrics	SC 37 - Biometrics			



SDLC: SC7 Structure



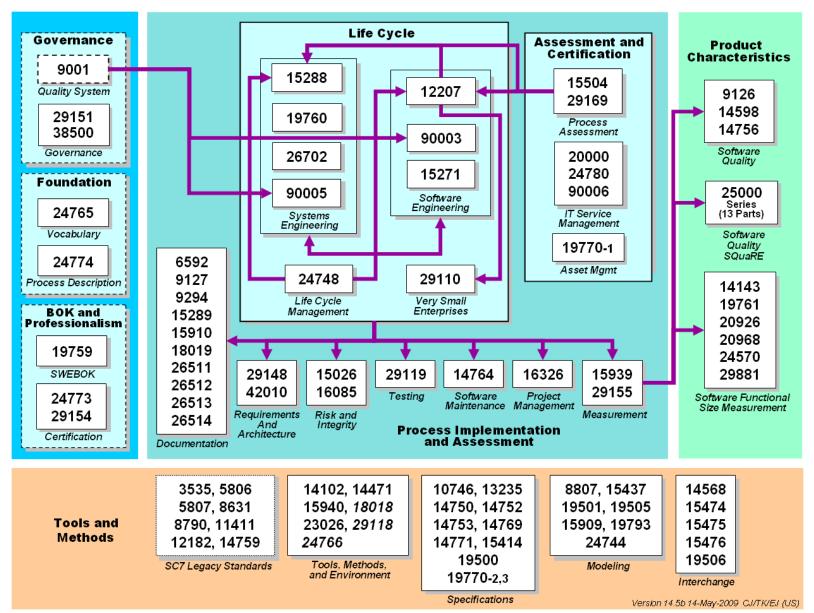


SDLC: SC7 Domains





SDLC: SC7 Standards





- Standards of particular interest:
 - ISO 9000, family of standards for quality management systems
 - ISO 12207, defines the software engineering process, activity, and tasks that are associated with a software life cycle process from conception through retirement
 - ISO 15504, also known as SPICE (Software Process Improvement and Capability Determination), is a framework for the assessment of processes







ISO9000 (QSM: Quality System Model)

- ISO9001 QSM for Quality Assurance in design, development, production, installation and service
- ISO9002 QSM for Quality Assurance in production, installation, and servicing
- ISO9003 QSM for Quality Assurance in final inspection and test

Quality: refers to all features of a product (such as software) which are required by a customer

Quality management: covers the organisations approach to ensuring that it produces quality products and complies with the appropriate regulations



- Created to supply a common structure so that the buyers, suppliers, developers, maintainers, operators, managers and technicians involved with the software development use a common language
- It is the standard that defines all the tasks required for developing and maintaining software
- Created in '95, last updated in '17 (ISO 12207:2017)
- Covers the processes in the life cycle of software:
 - High level process architecture
 - Activities and tasks
 - Tailored for any organization or project (inc. SME et al)
 - An 'inventory' of processes from which to choose



- This standard does not create a standardised way to create a product
- It is not prescriptive
- Nor does it advocate or enforce a standardised methodology
 - No framework, lifecycle, tool set ...



SDLC: Process implementation

- Define or select software life cycle model appropriate to the scope, magnitude, and complexity of the project;
- Select, tailor, and use standards, methods, tools, and programming languages (if not stipulated in contract);
- Develop plans for conducting the activities of the Development process.



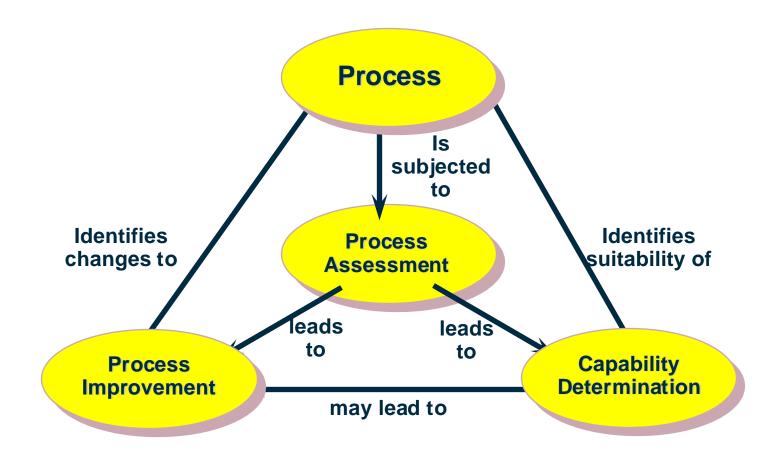
Process assessment: What is it?

- A disciplined examination of the processes by an organisation against a set of criteria to determine capability of those processes to perform within quality, cost and schedule goals
- Focus here is on continual, self-improvement

Why bother?

- Identify strengths and weaknesses in current utilisation of processes
- Ongoing development of systems, maturity and growth
- Feeds into the future







Risks



SE: Risks

What is risk?

- Involves choice and uncertainty
- Based on incomplete information

"While it is futile to try to eliminate risk, and questionable to try and minimise it, it is essential that the risks taken be the right risks." [Drucker, 75]



SE: Risks

What kind of risks exist within a software development project?

Reactive vs Proactive approaches – describe them ...



Reactive strategies

The 'Indiana Jones' school of risk management

- Fire fighting
- Crisis
- Cheap?



Proactive strategies

The 'cautious planner' school of risk management

- Identify risks in advance
- Assess probability and impact
- Prioritise
- Risk management plan



Software risks

Uncertainty: the chance of a risk occurring, 0 < P <1

Loss: the impact of the risk if it comes about

Use these two factors to assess each risk

			5x5 F	RISK MATRIX		
1	Highly Probable	5 Moderate	10 Major	15 Major	20 Severe	25 Severe
PROBABILITY	Probable	4 Moderate	8 Moderate	12 Major	16 Major	20 Severe
	Possible	3 Minor	6 Moderate	9 Moderate	12 Major	15 Major
9. Q	Unlikely	2 Minor	4 Moderate	6 Moderate	8 Moderate	10 Major
	Rare	1 Minor	2 Minor	3 Minor	4 Moderate	5 Moderate
		Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
·						
				IMPACT		



Types of Risk

- Project risks
- Technical risks
- Business risks
- Known risks
- Predictable risks
- Unknown risks



Questions ... ?

