



Software for Dependable Systems: Sufficient Evidence?

By Committee on Certifiably Dependable Software Systems,
Computer Science and Telecommunications Board, Division on
Engineering and Physical Sciences, National Research Council,
National Academy of Sciences

National Academies Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Software for Dependable Systems: Sufficient Evidence?, Committee on Certifiably Dependable Software Systems, Computer Science and Telecommunications Board, Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences, The focus of Software for Dependable Systems is a set of fundamental principles that underlie software system dependability and that suggest a different approach to the development and assessment of dependable software. Unfortunately, it is difficult to assess the dependability of software. The field of software engineering suffers from a pervasive lack of evidence about the incidence and severity of software failures; about the dependability of existing software systems; about the efficacy of existing and proposed development methods; about the benefits of certification schemes; and so on. There are many anecdotal reports, which-although often useful for indicating areas of concern or highlighting promising avenues of research-do little to establish a sound and complete basis for making policy decisions regarding dependability. The committee regards claims of extraordinary dependability that are sometimes made on this basis for the most critical of systems as unsubstantiated, and perhaps irresponsible. This difficulty regarding the lack of evidence for system dependability leads to two conclusions: (1) that...

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