# Configuration Status Accounting (CSA)

## 🔹 Definition

**# Source**: **Chatgpt (GPT-5-Standard) at [8/18/2025]**

**Configuration Status Accounting** is the process of **recording, tracking, and reporting the status** of all configuration items (CIs) and changes throughout the project lifecycle.

👉 It answers the question:  
 *"What is the current state of all our configuration items, and what changes have been made to them over time?"*

## **🔑 Objectives of CSA**

**# Source**: **Chatgpt (GPT-5-Standard) at [8/18/2025]**

1. Maintain a **clear record** of all configuration items and their versions.
2. Provide **traceability** of changes – who changed what, when, and why.
3. Ensure stakeholders always have an **accurate view** of the system.
4. Support audits and compliance with a reliable change history.

## **📂 Activities in Configuration Status Accounting**

**# Source**: **Chatgpt (GPT-5-Standard) at [8/18/2025]**

1. **Record Keeping**
   * Log CI details (ID, version, owner, location, status).
   * Example: Login\_Module v2.1 – Approved – Deployed.
2. **Change Tracking**
   * Record all changes (change requests, approvals, rejections).
   * Example: Change Request #123 – Add OTP – Approved – Implemented.
3. **Version Tracking**
   * Maintain relationships between versions.
   * Example: Requirement v1.0 → Test Case v1.1 → Code v2.0.
4. **Status Reporting**
   * Generate reports for stakeholders on current versions, pending changes, and release readiness.

## **📘 Example**

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Imagine a project with the following CIs:

* Requirement Document (v1.3)
* Login Test Case (v2.0)
* Payment Module Code (v3.2)

CSA would maintain:

* Current versions of each CI.
* Status (Draft, In Review, Approved, Released).
* History of changes (who modified it, why, and when).
* Links between related items (Requirement ↔ Test Case ↔ Code).

## **🎯 Why Important?**

**# Source**: **Chatgpt (GPT-5-Standard) at [8/18/2025]**

* Ensures **transparency** in the development/testing process.
* Prevents confusion about "which version is the correct one."
* Helps in **audits, compliance, and quality assurance**.
* Provides data for **Test Reporting & Risk Management**.

✅ **In short:** **Configuration Status Accounting (CSA)** = keeping a **full record and reporting system** for all configuration items and their changes → ensuring visibility, traceability, and control.