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**Applications of statistical and related  
methods to new technology and  
product development process —**

**Part 6:  
Guidance for QFD-related approaches  
to optimization**

*Application des méthodes statistiques et des méthodes liées aux  
nouvelles technologies et de développement de produit —*

*Partie 6: Lignes directrices pour QFD et approches reliées pour  
l'optimisation*



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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 69, *Applications of statistical methods*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Application of statistical and related methodology for new technology and product development*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 16355 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

Quality function deployment (QFD) is a method to assure customer or stakeholder satisfaction and value with new and existing products by designing in, from different levels and different perspectives, the requirements that are most important to the customer or stakeholder, and ensuring their quality throughout the downstream activities of design, development, supply, building, commercializing, support and retiring from the market. These requirements are well understood through the use of quantitative and non-quantitative tools and methods to improve confidence of the design and development phases that they are working on the right things. In addition to satisfaction with the product, robust parameter design improves the process by which new products are developed and produced.

Reported results of using QFD include improved customer satisfaction with products at time of launch, improved cross-functional communication, systematic and traceable design decisions, efficient use of resources, reduced rework, reduced time-to-market, lower life cycle cost, improved reputation of the organization among its customers or stakeholders.

This document demonstrates the dynamic nature of a customer-driven approach. Since its inception in 1966, QFD has broadened and deepened its methods and tools to respond to the changing business conditions of QFD users, their management, their customers, and their products. Those who have used older QFD models will find these improvements make QFD easier and faster to use. The methods and tools shown and described represent decades of improvements to QFD; the list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive. Users should consider the applicable methods and tools as suggestions.

Robustness assessment is performed as a consideration of overall loss during the product's life cycle. The overall loss is composed of costs and losses at each stage of the product's life. It includes all costs incurred during not only the production stage, but also the disposal stages. When a product is not robust, the product causes many environmental and socioeconomic losses (including losses to the manufacturer and the users) due to poor quality caused by functional variability throughout its usable lifetime from shipping to final disposal. Product suppliers have responsibilities and obligations to supply robust products to the market to avert losses and damages resulting from defects in the products. The role of robust parameter in the QFD process is presented with examples and references to other ISO documents and related materials.

The topics in this document are not exhaustive and vary according to industry, product, and markets. They are considered a guide to encourage users of this document to explore activities needed to accomplish the same goal for their products.

Users of this document include all organization functions necessary to assure customer satisfaction, including business planning, marketing, sales, research and development (R&D), engineering, information technology (IT), manufacturing, procurement, quality, production, service, packaging and logistics, support, testing, regulatory, business process design, and other phases in hardware, software, service, and system organizations.

# Applications of statistical and related methods to new technology and product development process —

## Part 6:

## Guidance for QFD-related approaches to optimization

### 1 Scope

This document provides guidance for QFD-related approaches to optimization through robust parameter design to ensure customer satisfaction with new products, services, and information systems. It is applicable to identify optimum nominal values of design parameters based on the assessment of robustness of its function at the product design phase.

NOTE Some of the activities described in this document can be used at earlier and later stages. Other approaches to solve optimization problems in new technology and product development processes are listed in [Annex B](#).

### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 16336:2014, *Applications of statistical and related methods to new technology and product development process — Robust parameter design (RPD)*

ISO 16355-1:2015, *Application of statistical and related methods to new technology and product development process — Part 1: General principles and perspectives of Quality Function Deployment (QFD)*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms, definitions and symbols given in ISO 16336 and ISO 16355-1 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 4 Basic concepts of QFD

The basic concepts of QFD are described in ISO 16355-1:2015, Clause 4.