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**Information technology — Security  
techniques — Information security for  
supplier relationships —**

**Part 1:  
Overview and concepts**

*Technologies de l'information — Techniques de sécurité — Sécurité  
d'information pour la relation avec le fournisseur —*

*Partie 1: Aperçu général et concepts*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 27036-1 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *Security techniques*.

ISO/IEC 27036 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Security techniques — Information security for supplier relationships*:

- *Part 1: Overview and concepts*
- *Part 2: Requirements*
- *Part 3: Guidelines for information and communication technology supply chain security*
- *Part 4: Guidelines for security of cloud services*

## Introduction

Most (if not all) organizations around the world, whatever their size or domains of activities, have relationships with suppliers of different kinds that deliver products or services.

Such suppliers can have either a direct or indirect access to the information and information systems of the acquirer, or will provide elements (software, hardware, processes, or human resources) that will be involved in information processing. Acquirers can also have physical and/or logical access to the information of the supplier when they control or monitor production and delivery processes of the supplier.

Thus, acquirers and suppliers can cause information security risks to each other. These risks need to be assessed and treated by both acquirer and supplier organizations through appropriate management of information security and the implementation of relevant controls. In many instances, organizations have adopted the International Standards of ISO/IEC 27001 and/or ISO/IEC 27002 for the management of their information security. Such International Standards should also be adopted in managing supplier relationships in order to effectively control the information security risks inherent in those relationships.

This International Standard provides further detailed implementation guidance on the controls dealing with supplier relationships that are described as general recommendations in ISO/IEC 27002.

Supplier relationships in the context of this International Standard include any supplier relationship that can have information security implications, e.g. information technology, healthcare services, janitorial services, consulting services, R&D partnerships, outsourced applications (ASPs), or cloud computing services (such as software, platform, or infrastructure as a service).

Both the supplier and acquirer have to take equal responsibility to achieve the objectives in the supplier-acquirer relationship and adequately address information security risks that can occur. It is expected that they implement the requirements and guidelines of this International Standard. Furthermore, fundamental processes should be implemented to support the supplier-acquirer relationship (e.g. governance, business management, and operational and human resources management). These processes will provide support in terms of information security as well as the accomplishment of business objectives.



# Information technology — Security techniques — Information security for supplier relationships —

## Part 1: Overview and concepts

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 27036 is an introductory part of ISO/IEC 27036. It provides an overview of the guidance intended to assist organizations in securing their information and information systems within the context of supplier relationships. It also introduces concepts that are described in detail in the other parts of ISO/IEC 27036. This part of ISO/IEC 27036 addresses perspectives of both acquirers and suppliers.

### 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 27000, *Information technology — Security techniques — Information security management systems — Overview and vocabulary*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions in ISO/IEC 27000 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

##### **acquirer**

stakeholder that procures a product or service from another party

Note 1 to entry: Procurement may or may not involve the exchange of monetary funds.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15288:2008, 4.1, modified — Original Note was removed, the word “acquires” was removed from the definition, and Note 1 to entry was added.]

#### 3.2

##### **acquisition**

process for obtaining a product or service

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15288:2008, 4.2, modified — The word “system” was removed.]

#### 3.3

##### **agreement**

mutual acknowledgement of terms and conditions under which a working relationship is conducted

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15288:2008, 4.4]