
**Software and systems engineering —
Methods and tools for product line
transition management**

*Ingénierie du logiciel et des systèmes — Méthodes et outils destinés à
la gestion de la transition des gammes de produits*



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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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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.

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 document 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).

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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.

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Software and systems engineering*.

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.

Introduction

Software and Systems Product Line (SSPL) engineering and management creates, exploits and manages a common platform to develop a family of products (e.g. software products, systems architectures) at lower cost, with reduced time to market and better quality. As a result, it has gained increasing global attention since the 1990s.

Product line transition management supports a product line organization to launch and institutionalize the product engineering and management. The results of the product line technical probe are major inputs to determine the transition strategy and continuous improvement of product line institutionalization.

This document can be used in the following modes:

- by organizations that want to switch from single-system development to SSPL for producing their products – to provide guidance on how to launch and institutionalize the product line engineering;
- by a product line organization – to provide guidance on the evaluation and selection for methods and tools for product line transition management;
- by providers of methods and tools – to provide guidance on implementing or developing methods and/or tools by specifying a comprehensive set of methods and tools capabilities for supporting product line transition management.

The ISO/IEC 26550 family of standards addresses both engineering and management processes and capabilities of methods and tools in terms of the key characteristics of product line development. This document provides processes and capabilities of methods and tools for variability modelling in product lines. Other standards in the ISO/IEC 26550 family of standards are as follows:

ISO/IEC 26550, ISO/IEC 26551, ISO/IEC 26552, ISO/IEC 26553, ISO/IEC 26554, ISO/IEC 26555, ISO/IEC 26556, ISO/IEC 26557, ISO/IEC 26558, ISO/IEC 26559 and ISO/IEC 26560 are published. ISO/IEC 26561 is to be published. ISO/IEC 26563 and ISO/IEC 26564 are planned International Standards.

- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for domain requirements engineering and application requirements engineering are provided in ISO/IEC 26551;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for domain design and application design are provided in ISO/IEC 26552;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for domain realization and application realization are provided in ISO/IEC 26553;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for domain testing and application testing are provided in ISO/IEC 26554;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for technical management are provided in ISO/IEC 26555;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for organizational management are provided in ISO/IEC 26556;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for variability mechanisms are provided in ISO/IEC 26557;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for variability modelling are provided in ISO/IEC 26558;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for variability traceability are provided in ISO/IEC 26559;

- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for product management are provided in ISO/IEC 26560;
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for product line technical probe are provided in ISO/IEC 26561 (International Standard under development);
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for configuration management of asset are provided in ISO/IEC 26563 (planned International Standard);
- Processes and capabilities of methods and tools for product line measurement are provided in ISO/IEC 26564 (planned International Standard);
- Others (ISO/IEC 26564 to ISO/IEC 26599): To be developed.

Software and systems engineering — Methods and tools for product line transition management

1 Scope

This document, within the context of methods and tools for supporting the transitioning the organization's current development approach to software and systems product line engineering:

- defines processes for product line transition management. Those processes are described in terms of purpose, inputs, tasks and outcomes;
- defines method capabilities to support the defined tasks of each process;
- defines tool capabilities that automate or semi-automate tasks and methods.

This document does not concern processes and capabilities of tools and methods for a single system but rather deals with those for a family of products.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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

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

3.1

aspect

special consideration within *product line* (3.8) engineering process groups and tasks to which one can associate specialized methods and tools

3.2

product line institutionalization

considering *product line* (3.8) engineering as part of working culture by involved managers and staff members

3.3

product line technical probe

technical probe

probe

diagnostic process for investigating the organization's readiness to adopt, or ability to succeed with, the *product line* (3.8) engineering and management

3.4

product line transition

transition

switching to *product line* (3.8) engineering from single system engineering