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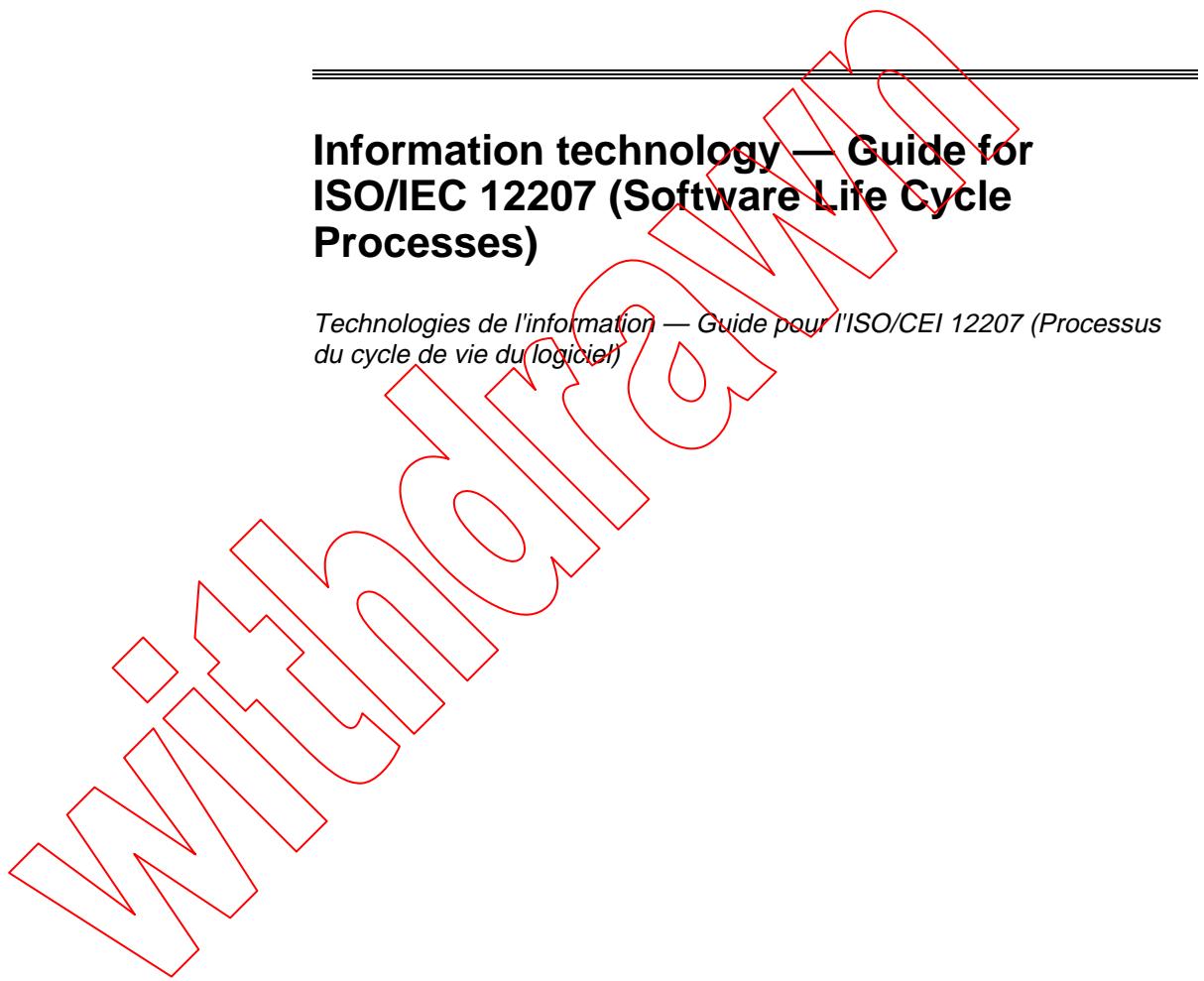
TECHNICAL REPORT

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Information technology — Guide for ISO/IEC 12207 (Software Life Cycle Processes)

*Technologies de l'information — Guide pour l'ISO/CEI 12207 (Processus
du cycle de vie du logiciel)*



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Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| 1 Scope | 1 |
| 1.1 Purpose..... | 1 |
| 1.2 Audience..... | 1 |
| 1.3 Prerequisites | 1 |
| 2 References..... | 1 |
| 3 Notation | 2 |
| 4 Basic concepts behind ISO/IEC 12207 | 2 |
| 4.1 Engineering discipline..... | 2 |
| 4.2 Software life cycle architecture..... | 2 |
| 4.2.1 Modularity..... | 2 |
| 4.2.2 Responsibility | 3 |
| 4.3 The nature of the processes | 3 |
| 4.3.1 Primary processes..... | 3 |
| 4.3.2 Supporting processes..... | 4 |
| 4.3.3 Organizational processes..... | 4 |
| 4.3.4 Process refinement..... | 4 |
| 4.4 Processes and projects..... | 5 |
| 4.5 Processes and organizations | 5 |
| 4.6 Software and systems | 6 |
| 4.6.1 Interface with systems engineering | 6 |
| 4.6.2 Relation between software and the system | 6 |
| 4.6.3 Systems based on software | 8 |
| 4.6.4 Classification of system and software activities | 8 |

| | |
|--|----|
| 4.7 Management and planning | 9 |
| 4.7.1 Project management plan | 9 |
| 4.7.2 Subordinate plans | 10 |
| 4.7.3 Document control | 10 |
| 4.8 Implementation of quality management principles | 10 |
| 4.8.1 Integration of quality into the life cycle | 10 |
| 4.8.2 Quality Assurance process | 10 |
| 4.8.3 Improvement process | 10 |
| 4.9 Flexibility and responsiveness to evolving technology | 10 |
| 4.10 Processes and documentation | 11 |
| 4.11 Software metrics | 11 |
| 4.12 Compliance | 11 |
| 4.13 Summary | 11 |
| 5 Implementing ISO/IEC 12207 | 12 |
| 5.1 Overview | 12 |
| 5.2 Plan the implementation | 12 |
| 5.3 Tailoring ISO/IEC 12207 | 13 |
| 5.3.1 Identify the project environment and characteristics | 14 |
| 5.3.2 Solicit inputs | 15 |
| 5.3.3 Select processes, activities and tasks | 15 |
| 5.3.4 Document the tailoring decisions and rationale | 15 |
| 5.4 Conduct pilot project(s) | 15 |
| 5.5 Formalize the approach | 16 |
| 5.6 Institutionalize the approach | 16 |
| 6 Application on projects | 16 |
| 6.1 Factors in applying ISO/IEC 12207 | 16 |
| 6.1.1 System life cycle model | 16 |
| 6.1.2 Organizational policies and procedures | 17 |
| 6.1.3 System characteristics | 17 |
| 6.1.4 Software characteristics | 18 |
| 6.1.5 Software maintenance strategy | 18 |
| 6.1.6 Life cycle model of the project | 18 |
| 6.1.7 Diversity of the parties involved | 19 |

| | |
|---|----|
| 6.1.8 Software types | 19 |
| 6.1.9 Project size | 20 |
| 6.1.10 Project criticality | 20 |
| 6.1.11 Technical risk | 20 |
| 7 Application in organizations..... | 20 |
| 7.1 Considerations and techniques | 20 |
| 7.2 Application opportunities | 20 |
| 7.3 Management commitment | 21 |
| 8 Application using a system life cycle model | 21 |
| 8.1 System life cycle model | 21 |
| 8.2 Software life cycle model | 22 |
| 8.3 Example of ISO/IEC 12207 in a generic system life cycle model | 22 |
| 8.4 Needs determination activity | 23 |
| 8.5 Concept exploration and definition activity | 23 |
| 8.6 Demonstration and validation activity..... | 23 |
| 8.7 Engineering/development activity | 24 |
| 8.8 Production/manufacturing activity | 24 |
| 8.9 Deployment/sales activity | 24 |
| 8.10 Operations activity..... | 24 |
| 8.11 Maintenance and support activity | 24 |
| 8.12 Retirement activity | 25 |
| 8.13 Software life cycle processes in a generic system life cycle model | 25 |
| Annexes | |
| A Quality processes and evaluation requirements..... | 26 |
| B Process output categorization | 28 |
| C Life cycle models..... | 32 |
| D Examples of tailoring | 39 |

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.

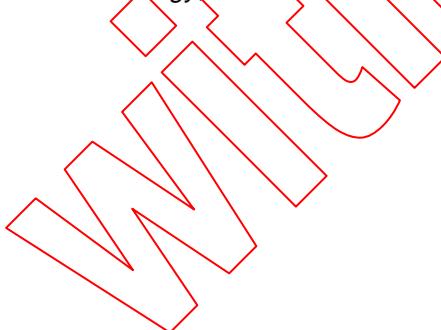
In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. In exceptional circumstances a technical committee may propose the publication of a Technical Report of one of the following types:

- type 1, when the required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts;
- type 2, when the subject is still under technical development or where for any other reason there is the future but not immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard;
- type 3, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example).

Technical Reports of types 1 and 2 are subject to review within three years of publication, to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards. Technical Reports of type 3 do not necessarily have to be reviewed until data they provide are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

ISO/IEC TR 15271, which is a Technical Report of type 3, was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Software engineering*.



Information technology — Guide for ISO/IEC 12207 (Software Life Cycle Processes)

1 Scope

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Technical Report is to provide guidance on the application of ISO/IEC 12207.

This Technical Report elaborates on factors which should be considered when applying ISO/IEC 12207 and does this in the context of the various ways in which ISO/IEC 12207 can be applied. The guidance is not intended to provide the rationale for the requirements of ISO/IEC 12207.

The three fundamental life cycle models are discussed and examples of tailoring are provided.

1.2 Audience

This Technical Report is written for those who will use or apply ISO/IEC 12207 in contractual situations, on a project irrespective of size or complexity, in an organization as a self-evaluation or for software process improvement initiatives.

This Technical Report discusses how ISO/IEC 12207 may be used in relation to various types of software and indicates which processes may be relevant in each case.

This Technical Report supports ISO/IEC 12207 when it is used as a requirements document and also for use as a template for guidance. (An example of the latter is when ISO/IEC 12207 is self-imposed as part of a process improvement exercise.) The whole Technical Report should be understood but it may be used in relation to particular situations by referring to specific clauses.

1.3 Prerequisites

The prerequisites to using this Technical Report are:

- a) Availability of ISO/IEC 12207;
- b) Familiarity with ISO/IEC 12207;
- c) Familiarity with the relevant organizational policies;
- d) General knowledge of software management, software engineering and software life cycle models.

2 References

This Technical Report makes reference to the following standards:

ISO/IEC 12207:1995, *Information technology — Software life cycle processes*.

ISO/IEC 9126:1991, *Information technology — Software product evaluation — Quality characteristics and guidelines for their use*.

ISO/IEC TR 15504 (all parts), *Information technology — Software process assessment*.