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**IT Security and Privacy —  
A framework for identity  
management —**

**Part 1:  
Terminology and concepts**

*Sécurité IT et confidentialité — Cadre pour la gestion de l'identité —  
Partie 1: Terminologie et concepts*





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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](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Website: [www.iso.org](http://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](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 and IEC 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)) or the IEC list of patent declarations received (see <http://patents.iec.ch>).

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/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *IT Security Techniques*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 24760-1:2011) which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- new terms have been added to Clause 3;
- some definitions have been simplified and corrected;
- some terms have been deleted and some replaced;
- the introductory paragraphs of [Subclause 5.1](#) have been reworded;
- new [subclauses 5.4](#) and [8.5](#) has been created;

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 24760 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

Data processing systems commonly gather a range of information on their users, be it a person, piece of equipment, or piece of software connected to them, and make decisions based on the gathered information. Such identity-based decisions can concern access to applications or other resources.

To address the need to efficiently and effectively implement systems that make identity-based decisions, the ISO/IEC 24760 series specifies a framework for the issuance, administration, and use of data that serves to characterize individuals, organizations or information technology components which operate on behalf of individuals or organizations.

For many organizations the proper management of identity information is crucial to maintain security of the organizational processes. For individuals, correct identity management is important to protect privacy.

The ISO/IEC 24760 series specifies fundamental concepts and operational structures of identity management with the purpose to realize information system management so that information systems can meet business, contractual, regulatory and legal obligations.

The goal of this document is to specify the terminology and concepts for identity management, in order to promote a common understanding in the field of identity management.



# IT Security and Privacy — A framework for identity management —

## Part 1: Terminology and concepts

### 1 Scope

This document defines terms for identity management, and specifies core concepts of identity and identity management and their relationships.

It is applicable to any information system that processes identity information.

### 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/IEC 24760-2:2015, *Information technology — Security techniques — A framework for identity management — Part 2: Reference architecture and requirements*