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ISO/IEC 15288 establishes a common process framework for describing the lifecycle of man-made systems. It defines a set of processes and associated terminology for the full life cycle, including conception, development, production, utilization, support and retirement. This standard also supports the definition, control, assessment, and improvement of these processes. These processes can be applied concurrently, iteratively, and recursively to a system and its elements throughout the life cycle of a system. Selected sets of these processes can be applied throughout the life cycle for managing and performing the stages of a system's life cycle. This is accomplished through the involvement of all interested parties, with the ultimate goal of achieving customer satisfaction.

Changes in this revision of ISO/IEC 15288 were developed in conjunction with a corresponding revision of ISO/IEC 12207. The purpose of these revisions is to better align the two International Standards to facilitate their joint use. This alignment takes the first step toward harmonization of the structures and contents of the two International Standards, while supporting the requirements of the assessment community. This alignment provides the foundation to facilitate evolution to an integrated and fully harmonized treatment of life cycle processes. A subsequent revision is intended to achieve a fully harmonized view of the system and software life cycle processes. Areas to consider in the future are delineated in the document.

ISO/IEC 15288 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, Information technology, Subcommittee SC 7, Systems and software engineering. The IEEE Computer Society collaborated with ISO/IEC JTC 1 in the development of this International Standard and is identified as IEEE Std 15288-2008.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 15288:2002).

Custodians:
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