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## Road vehicles — Cybersecurity engineering

*Véhicules routiers — Ingénierie de la cybersécurité*



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## Foreword

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SAE International is a global association of more than 128,000 engineers and related technical experts in the aerospace, automotive and commercial-vehicle industries. Standards from SAE International are used to advance mobility engineering throughout the world. The SAE Technical Standards Development Program is among the organization's primary provisions to those mobility industries it serves aerospace, automotive, and commercial vehicle. These works are authorized, revised, and maintained by the volunteer efforts of more than 9,000 engineers, and other qualified professionals from around the world. SAE subject matter experts act as individuals in the standards process, not as representatives of their organizations. Thus, SAE standards represent optimal technical content developed in a transparent, open, and collaborative process.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and the SAE Technical Standards Board Policy. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents 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)).

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This document was jointly prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 22, *Road vehicles*, Subcommittee SC 32, *Electrical and electronic components and general system aspects*, and SAE TEVEES18A *Vehicle Cybersecurity Systems Engineering Committee*.

This first edition of ISO/SAE 21434 cancels and supersedes SAE J3061:2016<sup>[37]</sup>.

The main changes are as follows:

- complete rework of contents and structure.

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). Alternatively, to provide feedback on this document, please visit <https://www.sae.org/standards/content/ISO/SAE 21434/>.

## Introduction

### Purpose of this document

This document addresses the cybersecurity perspective in engineering of electrical and electronic (E/E) systems within road vehicles. By ensuring appropriate consideration of cybersecurity, this document aims to enable the engineering of E/E systems to keep up with state-of-the-art technology and evolving attack methods.

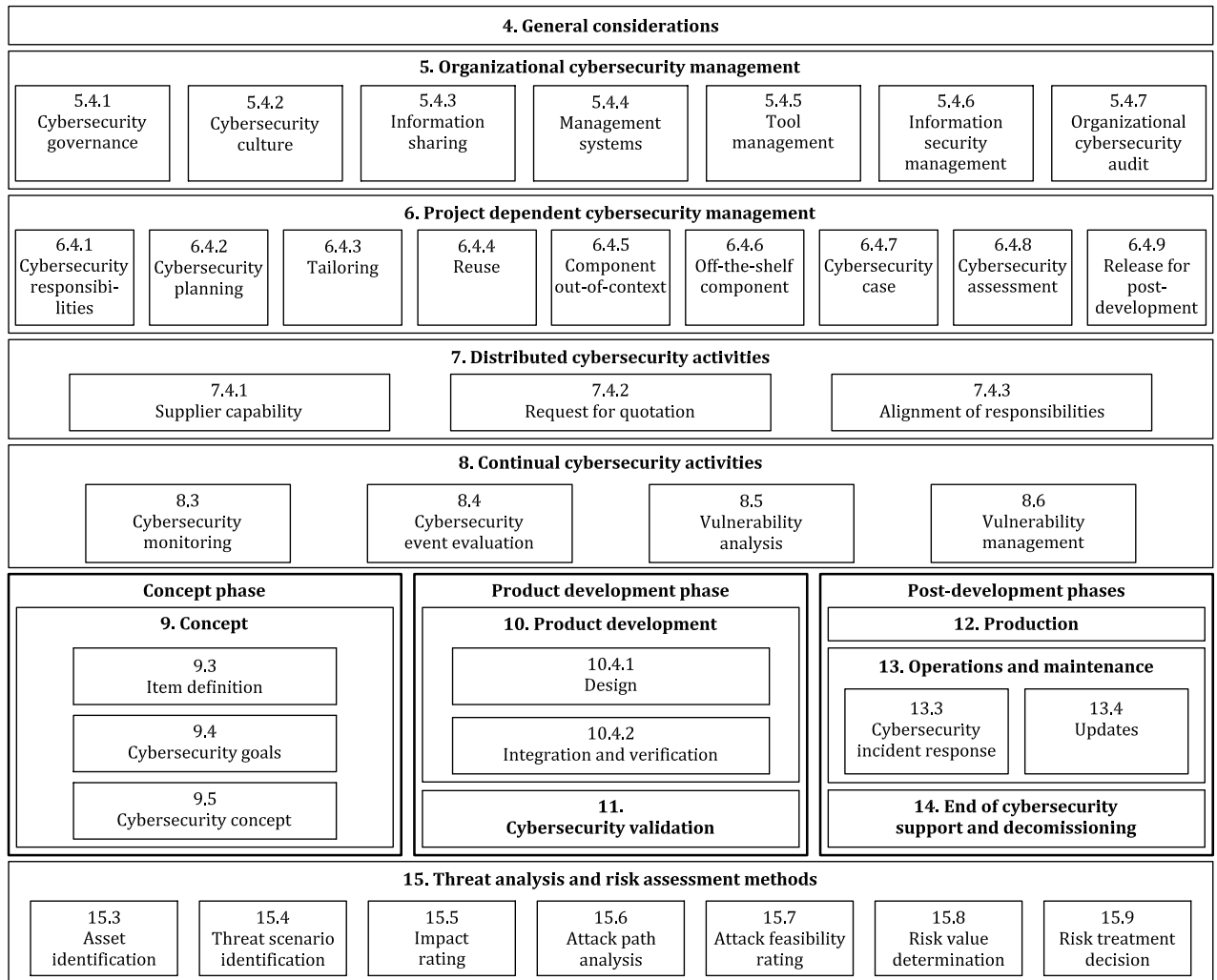
This document provides vocabulary, objectives, requirements and guidelines related to cybersecurity engineering as a foundation for common understanding throughout the supply chain. This enables organizations to:

- define cybersecurity policies and processes;
- manage cybersecurity risk; and
- foster a cybersecurity culture.

This document can be used to implement a cybersecurity management system including cybersecurity risk management.

### Organization of this document

An overview of the document structure is given in Figure 1. The elements of [Figure 1](#) do not prescribe an execution sequence of the individual topics.



**Figure 1 — Overview of this document**

[Clause 4](#) (General considerations) is informational and includes the context and perspective of the approach to road vehicle cybersecurity engineering taken in this document.

[Clause 5](#) (Organizational cybersecurity management) includes the cybersecurity management and specification of the organizational cybersecurity policies, rules and processes.

[Clause 6](#) (Project dependent cybersecurity management) includes the cybersecurity management and cybersecurity activities at the project level.

[Clause 7](#) (Distributed cybersecurity activities) includes requirements for assigning responsibilities for cybersecurity activities between customer and supplier.

[Clause 8](#) (Continual cybersecurity activities) includes activities that provide information for ongoing risk assessments and defines vulnerability management of E/E systems until end of cybersecurity support.

[Clause 9](#) (Concept) includes activities that determine cybersecurity risks, cybersecurity goals and cybersecurity requirements for an item.

[Clause 10](#) (Product development) includes activities that define the cybersecurity specifications, and implement and verify cybersecurity requirements.

[Clause 11](#) (Cybersecurity validation) includes the cybersecurity validation of an item at the vehicle level.

[Clause 12](#) (Production) includes the cybersecurity-related aspects of manufacturing and assembly of an item or component.

[Clause 13](#) (Operations and maintenance) includes activities related to cybersecurity incident response and updates to an item or component.

[Clause 14](#) (End of cybersecurity support and decommissioning) includes cybersecurity considerations for end of support and decommissioning of an item or component.

[Clause 15](#) (Threat analysis and risk assessment methods) includes modular methods for analysis and assessment to determine the extent of cybersecurity risk so that treatment can be pursued.

[Clauses 5](#) through [15](#) have their own objectives, provisions (i.e. requirements, recommendations, permissions) and work products. Work products are the results of cybersecurity activities that fulfil one or more associated requirements.

“Prerequisites” are mandatory inputs consisting of work products from a previous phase. “Further supporting information” is information that can be considered, which can be made available by sources that are different from the persons responsible for the cybersecurity activities.

A summary of cybersecurity activities and work products can be found in [Annex A](#).

Provisions and work products are assigned unique identifiers consisting of a two-letter abbreviation (“RQ” for a requirement, “RC” for a recommendation, “PM” for a permission and “WP” for a work product), followed by two numbers, separated by hyphens. The first number refers to the clause, and the second gives the order in the consecutive sequence of provisions or work products, respectively, of that clause. For example, [RQ-05-14] refers to the 14th provision in [Clause 5](#), which is a requirement.

# Road vehicles — Cybersecurity engineering

## 1 Scope

This document specifies engineering requirements for cybersecurity risk management regarding concept, product development, production, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of electrical and electronic (E/E) systems in road vehicles, including their components and interfaces.

A framework is defined that includes requirements for cybersecurity processes and a common language for communicating and managing cybersecurity risk.

This document is applicable to series production road vehicle E/E systems, including their components and interfaces, whose development or modification began after the publication of this document.

This document does not prescribe specific technology or solutions related to cybersecurity.

## 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 26262-3:2018, *Road vehicles — Functional safety — Part 3: Concept phase*

## 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

### 3.1 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 <https://www.iso.org/obp>

IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

#### 3.1.1

##### **architectural design**

representation that allows for identification of *components* (3.1.7), their boundaries, interfaces and interactions

#### 3.1.2

##### **asset**

object that has value, or contributes to value

Note 1 to entry: An asset has one or more *cybersecurity properties* (3.1.20) whose compromise can lead to one or more *damage scenarios* (3.1.22).

#### 3.1.3

##### **attack feasibility**

attribute of an *attack path* (3.1.4) describing the ease of successfully carrying out the corresponding set of actions

**3.1.4  
attack path**

attack  
set of deliberate actions to realize a *threat scenario* (3.1.33)

**3.1.5  
attacker**

person, group, or organization that carries out an *attack path* (3.1.4)

**3.1.6  
audit**

examination of a process to determine the extent to which the process objectives are achieved

[SOURCE: ISO 26262-1:2018 [1], 3.5, modified — The phrase “with regard to” was substituted by “to determine the extent to which” and “are achieved” was added.]

**3.1.7  
component**

part that is logically and technically separable

**3.1.8  
customer**

person or organization that receives a service or product

[SOURCE: ISO 9000:2015 [2], 3.2.4, modified — The phrase “could or does receive” was replaced by “receives”, the phrase “that is intended for or required by this person or organization” was omitted, and the example and note 1 to entry were omitted.]

**3.1.9  
cybersecurity**

road vehicle cybersecurity  
condition in which *assets* (3.1.2) are sufficiently protected against *threat scenarios* (3.1.33) to *items* (3.1.25) of road vehicles, their functions and their electrical or electronic *components* (3.1.7)

Note 1 to entry: In this document, for the sake of brevity, the term cybersecurity is used instead of road vehicle cybersecurity.

**3.1.10  
cybersecurity assessment**

judgement of *cybersecurity* (3.1.9)

**3.1.11  
cybersecurity case**

structured argument supported by evidence to state that *risks* (3.1.29) are not unreasonable

**3.1.12  
cybersecurity claim**

statement about a *risk* (3.1.29)

Note 1 to entry: The cybersecurity claim can include a justification for retaining or sharing the risk.

**3.1.13  
cybersecurity concept**

cybersecurity requirements of the *item* (3.1.25) and requirements on the *operational environment* (3.1.26), with associated information on *cybersecurity controls* (3.1.14)

**3.1.14  
cybersecurity control**

measure that is modifying *risk* (3.1.29)

[SOURCE: ISO 31000:2018 [3], 3.8, modified — The word “cybersecurity” was added to the term, the phrase “maintains and/or” was deleted, the notes to entry were deleted.]



**3.1.15****cybersecurity event**

*cybersecurity information* ([3.1.18](#)) that is relevant for an *item* ([3.1.25](#)) or *component* ([3.1.7](#))

**3.1.16****cybersecurity goal**

concept-level cybersecurity requirement associated with one or more *threat scenarios* ([3.1.33](#))

**3.1.17****cybersecurity incident**

situation in the field that can involve *vulnerability* ([3.1.38](#)) exploitation

**3.1.18****cybersecurity information**

information with regard to *cybersecurity* ([3.1.9](#)) for which relevance is not yet determined

**3.1.19****cybersecurity interface agreement**

agreement between *customer* ([3.1.8](#)) and supplier concerning *distributed cybersecurity activities* ([3.1.23](#))

**3.1.20****cybersecurity property**

attribute that can be worth protecting

Note 1 to entry: Attributes include confidentiality, integrity and/or availability.

**3.1.21****cybersecurity specification**

cybersecurity requirements and corresponding *architectural design* ([3.1.1](#))

**3.1.22****damage scenario**

adverse consequence involving a vehicle or vehicle function and affecting a *road user* ([3.1.31](#))

**3.1.23****distributed cybersecurity activities**

cybersecurity activities for the *item* ([3.1.25](#)) or *component* ([3.1.7](#)) whose responsibilities are distributed between *customer* ([3.1.8](#)) and supplier

**3.1.24****impact**

estimate of magnitude of damage or physical harm from a *damage scenario* ([3.1.22](#))

**3.1.25****item**

*component* or set of *components* ([3.1.7](#)) that implements a function at the vehicle level

Note 1 to entry: A system can be an item if it implements a function at the vehicle level, otherwise it is a component.

[SOURCE: ISO 26262-1:2018 <sup>[1]</sup>, 3.8, modified — The term “system” has been replaced by “component”, the phrases “to which ISO 26262 is applied” and “or part of a function” have been omitted and the Note 1 to entry has been replaced.]

**3.1.26****operational environment**

context considering interactions in operational use

Note 1 to entry: Operational use of an *item* ([3.1.25](#)) or a *component* ([3.1.7](#)) can include use in a vehicle function, in production, and/or in service and repair.

**3.1.27**

**out-of-context**

not developed in the context of a specific *item* ([3.1.25](#))

EXAMPLE Processing unit with assumed cybersecurity requirements to be integrated in different items.

**3.1.28**

**penetration testing**

cybersecurity testing in which real-world attacks are mimicked to identify ways to compromise *cybersecurity goals* ([3.1.16](#))

**3.1.29**

**risk**

cybersecurity risk

effect of uncertainty on *road vehicle cybersecurity* ([3.1.9](#)) expressed in terms of *attack feasibility* ([3.1.3](#)) and *impact* ([3.1.24](#))

**3.1.30**

**risk management**

coordinated activities to direct and control an organization with regard to *risk* ([3.1.29](#))

[SOURCE: ISO 31000:2018 [\[3\]](#), 3.2]

**3.1.31**

**road user**

person who uses a road

EXAMPLE Passenger, pedestrian, cyclist, motorist, or vehicle owner.

**3.1.32**

**tailor**, verb

to omit or perform an activity in a different manner compared to its description in this document

**3.1.33**

**threat scenario**

potential cause of compromise of *cybersecurity properties* ([3.1.20](#)) of one or more *assets* ([3.1.2](#)) in order to realize a *damage scenario* ([3.1.22](#))

**3.1.34**

**triage**

analysis to determine the relevance of *cybersecurity information* ([3.1.18](#)) to an *item* ([3.1.25](#)) or *component* ([3.1.7](#))

**3.1.35**

**trigger**

criterion for *triage* ([3.1.34](#))

**3.1.36**

**validation**

confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence, that the *cybersecurity goals* ([3.1.16](#)) of the *item* ([3.1.25](#)) are adequate and are achieved

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015 [\[4\]](#), 4.1.53, modified — The phrase “requirements for a specific intended use or application have been fulfilled” has been replaced by “cybersecurity goals of the item are adequate and are achieved”, note 1 to entry has been omitted.]

**3.1.37**

**verification**

confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence, that specified requirements have been fulfilled

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288:2015 [\[4\]](#), 4.1.54, modified — The note 1 to entry has been omitted.]