

AS 15504.8(Int)—1998
ISO/IEC TR 15504-8:1998
(Expires 5 October 2000)

Interim Australian Standard™

**Information technology—
Software process assessment**

**Part 8: Guide for use in determining
supplier process capability**

This Interim Australian Standard was prepared by Committee IT/15, Software Engineering. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 2 September 1998 and published on 5 October 1998.

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PREFACE

This Interim Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee IT/15, Software Engineering, and is the result of a consensus among the Joint Committee representatives that it be produced as an Australian Standard. It is identical with, and has been reproduced from, ISO/IEC TR 15504-8:1998, *Information technology—Software process assessment*, Part 8: *Guide for use in determining supplier process capability*.

The objective of this Interim Standard is to provide acquirers, suppliers and assessors with the concepts of software process assessment and its use in the two contexts of process improvement and process capability determination. This Part describes how to utilize process assessment for the purposes of process capability determination and is intended to provide guidance on how to apply the requirements of process assessment.

This Interim Standard is Part 8 of AS 15504, *Information technology—Software process assessment*, which when complete will consist of the following Parts:

- Part 1: Concepts and introductory guide
- Part 2: A reference model for processes and process capability
- Part 3: Performing an assessment
- Part 4: Guide to performing assessments
- Part 5: An assessment model and indicator guidance (in preparation)
- Part 6: Guide to competency of assessors
- Part 7: Guide for use in process improvement
- Part 8: Guide for use in determining supplier process capability (this Standard)
- Part 9: Vocabulary

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

Information technology—Software process assessment— Part 8: Guide for use in determining supplier process capability

1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC TR 15504 provides guidance on utilizing process assessment for the purposes of process capability determination. This part of ISO/IEC TR 15504 is informative and is intended to provide guidance on how to apply the requirements.

A process capability determination is a systematic assessment and analysis of selected software processes within an organization, carried out with the aim of identifying the strengths, weaknesses and risks associated with deploying the processes to meet a particular specified requirement.

The specified requirement may involve a project, product or a service, a new or an existing task, a contract or an internal undertaking or any other requirement which is to be met by deploying an organization's software processes.

This guidance is intended to be applicable across all software application domains, over all software organizational structures, within any software customer-supplier relationship, and to any organization wishing to determine the process capability of its own software processes.

This part of ISO/IEC TR 15504 is primarily aimed at:

- the sponsor who initiates the process capability determination;
- the organization whose process capability is to be determined;
- the assessment team;
- method developers.

ISO/IEC TR 15504 is not intended to be used in any scheme for the certification/registration of the process capability of an organization.

2 Normative reference

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of ISO/IEC TR 15504. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of ISO/IEC TR 15504 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/IEC TR 15504-9:1998, *Information technology — Software process assessment — Part 9 : Vocabulary*.