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Software and systems engineering — Software testing —

Part 3: Test documentation

Ingénierie du logiciel et des systèmes — Essais du logiciel —

Partie 3: Documentation des essais

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Contents

Page

Foreword ..... **vii**
Introduction ..... **viii**
1 Scope **1**
2 Normative references **1**
3 Terms and definitions **1**
4 Conformance **5**
4.1 Intended usage 5
4.1.1 General 5
4.1.2 Full conformance 5
4.1.3 Tailored conformance 5
5 Common information for all test documentation **6**
5.1 Overview 6
5.2 Common information elements 6
5.2.1 Unique identifier 6
5.2.2 Issuing organization 6
5.2.3 Approval authority 6
5.2.4 Change history 6
5.2.5 Status 6
5.2.6 Introduction 6
5.2.7 Scope 7
5.2.8 References 7
5.2.9 Glossary 7
6 Organizational test process documentation **7**
6.1 Overview 7
6.2 Test policy 7
6.2.1 Overview 7
6.2.2 Objectives of testing 7
6.2.3 Test process 8
6.2.4 Test organization structure 8
6.2.5 Tester training 8
6.2.6 Tester ethics 8
6.2.7 Standards 8
6.2.8 Other relevant policies 8
6.2.9 Measuring the value of testing 8
6.2.10 Test asset archiving and reuse 8
6.2.11 Test process improvement 8
6.3 Organizational test practices 8
6.3.1 Overview 8
6.3.2 Organization-level test practice statements 9
6.3.3 Test level/type-specific organizational test practice statements 10
7 Test management processes documentation **12**
7.1 Overview 12
7.2 Test plan 12
7.2.1 Overview 12
7.2.2 Context of testing 12
7.2.3 Assumptions and constraints 13
7.2.4 Stakeholders 13
7.2.5 Testing communication 13
7.2.6 Risk register 13
7.2.7 Test strategy 14
7.2.8 Testing activities and estimates 16
7.2.9 Staffing 16

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7.2.10 Schedule ... 17
7.3 Test status report ... 17
7.3.1 Overview ... 17
7.3.2 Test status ... 17
7.3.3 Reporting period ... 18
7.3.4 Progress against test plan ... 18
7.3.5 Factors blocking progress ... 18
7.3.6 Test measures ... 18
7.3.7 New and changed risks ... 18
7.3.8 Planned testing ... 18
7.4 Test completion report ... 18
7.4.1 Overview ... 18
7.4.2 Summary of testing performed ... 18
7.4.3 Deviations from planned testing ... 18
7.4.4 Test completion evaluation ... 19
7.4.5 Factors that blocked progress ... 19
7.4.6 Test measures ... 19
7.4.7 Residual risks ... 19
7.4.8 Test deliverables ... 19
7.4.9 Reusable test assets ... 19
7.4.10 Lessons learned ... 19

8 Dynamic test processes documentation ... 19
8.1 Overview ... 19
8.2 Test model specification ... 20
8.2.1 Overview ... 20
8.2.2 Unique identifier ... 20
8.2.3 Objective ... 21
8.2.4 Priority ... 21
8.2.5 Test strategy extract ... 21
8.2.6 Test model ... 21
8.2.7 Traceability ... 21
8.3 Test case specification ... 21
8.3.1 Overview ... 21
8.3.2 Test coverage items ... 21
8.3.3 Test cases ... 22
8.4 Test procedure specification ... 23
8.4.1 Overview ... 23
8.4.2 Unique identifier ... 24
8.4.3 Objective ... 24
8.4.4 Priority ... 24
8.4.5 Start up ... 24
8.4.6 Ordered test cases ... 24
8.4.7 Relationship to other procedures ... 24
8.4.8 Stop and wrap up ... 24
8.5 Test data requirements ... 25
8.5.1 Overview ... 25
8.5.2 Unique identifier ... 25
8.5.3 Description ... 25
8.5.4 Responsibility ... 25
8.5.5 Period needed ... 25
8.5.6 Resetting needs ... 25
8.5.7 Archiving or disposal ... 25
8.6 Test environment requirements ... 25
8.6.1 Overview ... 25
8.6.2 Unique identifier ... 26
8.6.3 Test environment item ... 26
8.6.4 Description ... 26
8.6.5 Responsibility ... 27

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8.6.6 Period needed ... 27
8.7 Test data readiness report ... 27
8.7.1 Overview ... 27
8.7.2 Unique identifier ... 27
8.7.3 Description of status ... 27
8.8 Test environment readiness report ... 27
8.8.1 Overview ... 27
8.8.2 Unique identifier ... 27
8.8.3 Description of status ... 27
8.9 Actual results and test result ... 28
8.9.1 General ... 28
8.9.2 Actual results ... 28
8.9.3 Test result ... 28
8.10 Test execution log ... 28
8.10.1 Overview ... 28
8.10.2 Unique identifier ... 29
8.10.3 Date/time ... 29
8.10.4 Description ... 29
8.10.5 Impact ... 29
8.11 Test incident report ... 29
8.11.1 Overview ... 29
8.11.2 Timing information ... 30
8.11.3 Originator ... 30
8.11.4 Context ... 30
8.11.5 Description of the incident ... 30
8.11.6 Originator's assessment of severity ... 30
8.11.7 Originator's assessment of priority ... 30
8.11.8 Risk ... 31
8.11.9 Status of the incident ... 31

Annex A (normative) **ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-3 requirements, recommendations and permissions** ... **32**

Annex B (informative) **Overview of examples** ... **37**

Annex C (informative) **Test policy** ... **39**

Annex D (informative) **Organizational test practices** ... **41**

Annex E (informative) **Test plan** ... **46**

Annex F (informative) **Test status report** ... **54**

Annex G (informative) **Test completion report** ... **58**

Annex H (informative) **Test model specification** ... **60**

Annex I (informative) **Test case specification** ... **62**

Annex J (informative) **Test procedure specification** ... **64**

Annex K (informative) **Test data requirements** ... **66**

Annex L (informative) **Test environment requirements** ... **67**

Annex M (informative) **Test data readiness report** ... **68**

Annex N (informative) **Test environment readiness report** ... **69**

Annex O (informative) **Actual results** ... **70**

Annex P (informative) **Test result** ... **71**

Annex Q (informative) **Test execution log** ... **73**

Annex R (informative) **Incident report** ... **74**

Annex S (informative) **Mappings to IEEE 829:2008 (superseded)** ... **76**

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Annex T (informative) **Test models** **82**
Bibliography **83**
IEEE Notices and Abstract **85**

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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 ISO/IEC documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

IEEE Standards documents are developed within the IEEE Societies and the Standards Coordinating Committees of the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) Standards Board. The IEEE develops its standards through a consensus development process, approved by the American National Standards Institute, which brings together volunteers representing varied viewpoints and interests to achieve the final product. Volunteers are not necessarily members of the Institute and serve without compensation. While the IEEE administers the process and establishes rules to promote fairness in the consensus development process, the IEEE does not independently evaluate, test, or verify the accuracy of any of the information contained in its standards.

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) or the IEC list of patent declarations received (see https://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. In the IEC, see www.iec.ch/understanding-standards.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-3 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Software and systems engineering*, in cooperation with the Systems and Software Engineering Standards Committee of the IEEE Computer Society, under the Partner Standards Development Organization cooperation agreement between ISO and IEEE.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-3:2013), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— the concept of test conditions has been replaced by test models, as feedback on the previous edition of this document highlighted a problem with users' understanding of 'test conditions' and their use for deriving test cases.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

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 and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

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Introduction

The purpose of ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119 (all parts) is to define an internationally-agreed set of standards for software testing that can be used by any organization when performing any form of software testing.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-1 introduces software testing concepts. This document uses the concepts of ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-1.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-2 comprises test process descriptions that define the software testing processes at the organisational level, test management level and dynamic test levels. It supports dynamic testing, functional and non-functional testing, manual and automated testing and scripted and unscripted testing, and can be utilized within any lifecycle model, including agile and traditional methodologies. Supporting diagrams describing the processes are also provided.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-4 defines software test design techniques, which can be used within any lifecycle and for any product.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-5 addresses the use of keyword-driven testing.

This document defines templates and provides examples of test documentation that are produced during the test process. An overview of the test documentation is provided in Figure 1. The templates are arranged within clauses reflecting the overall test process description structure in ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-2, i.e. by the test process in which they are being produced. Annex A contains a list of all the information items identified in Clauses 6, 7 and 8 with the corresponding level of conformance (shall/should/may) from ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-2. Annex B contains an overview of the examples. Annexes C to R contain examples of the application of the templates. Annex S provides mappings to existing standards. Annex T explains why the concept of test conditions has been replaced by test models in this document. A Bibliography is provided at the end of the document.

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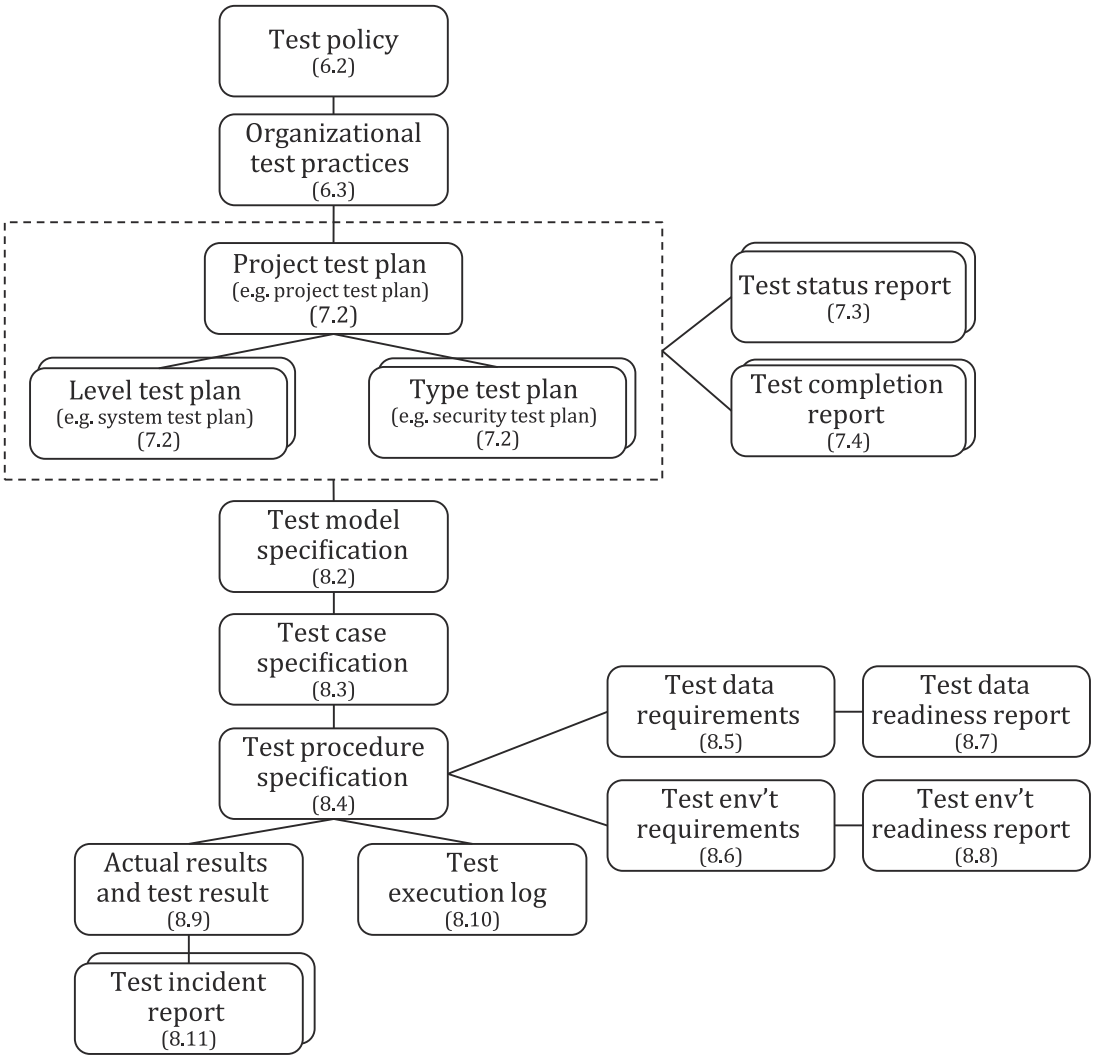

Figure 1 — Overview of test documentation

The test documentation described in this document can be on paper or in electronic form (e.g. records in test tools, spreadsheets, mind maps, white board photos).

The nomenclature of test documentation within this document (e.g. document names, section headings) and the contents of each document can be tailored to suit the unique needs of an organization, under the tailoring clause (see Clause 4).

This document uses the traditional concept of organizations and projects, but some organizations, especially those using an agile approach, do not organize their development in terms of projects; instead they run product development based on more long-lasting product teams. Users of this document can substitute the term 'product' for 'project', where appropriate.

ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119 (all parts) aims to provide stakeholders with the ability to manage and perform software testing in any organization. This document can be adopted under any lifecycle methodology including traditional (e.g. waterfall, iterative), agile or DevOps.

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Software and systems engineering — Software testing —

Part 3: Test documentation

1 Scope

This document specifies software test documentation templates that can be used for any organization, project or testing activity. It describes the test documentation that is an output of the processes specified in ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119-2.

This document is applicable to testing in all software development lifecycle models. This document is intended for, but not limited to, testers, test managers, developers, and project managers, particularly those responsible for governing, managing, and implementing software testing.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO, IEC and IEEE maintain terminology 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/

— IEEE Standards Dictionary Online: available at https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/xpls/dictionary.jsp

NOTE For additional terms and definitions in the field of systems and software engineering, see ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765, which is published periodically as a "snapshot" of the SEVOCAB (Systems and software Engineering Vocabulary) database and is publicly accessible at https://www.computer.org/sevocab.

3.1
actual results
set of behaviours or conditions of a test item, or set of conditions of associated data or the test environment, observed as a result of test execution

EXAMPLE Output to screen, outputs to hardware, changes to data, reports, and communication messages sent.

3.2
expected results
observable predicted behaviour of the test item under specified conditions based on its specification or another source

3.3
incident
anomalous or unexpected event, set of events, condition, or situation at any time during the life cycle of a project, product, service, or system

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