



DPC: 25/30499969 DC

BSI Group Headquarters

389 Chiswick High Road London W4 4AL

Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 9000

Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7400

www.bsigroup.com

Date: 11 August 2025

Origin: International

Latest date for receipt of comments: 04 October 2025

Project No. 2024/02559

Responsible committee: IST/60/1 Governance of Information Technology

Interested committees:

Title: Draft BS ISO/IEC 38505-1 Information technology — Governance of data. Part 1: Application of ISO/IEC 38500 to the governance of data.

Please notify admin.start@bsigroup.com if you are aware of any keywords that might assist in clarifying or identifying the standard or of the content of this standard:

- i) has any issues related to 3rd party IPR, patent or copyright
- ii) affects other national standard(s)
- iii) requires additional national guidance or information

WARNING: THIS IS A DRAFT AND MUST NOT BE REGARDED OR USED AS A BRITISH STANDARD. THIS DRAFT IS NOT CURRENT BEYOND 04 October 2025

This draft is issued to allow comments from interested parties; all comments will be given consideration prior to publication. No acknowledgement will normally be sent. **See overleaf for information on the submission of comments.**

No copying is allowed, in any form, without prior written permission from BSI except as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act 1988 or for circulation within a nominating organization for briefing purposes. Electronic circulation is limited to dissemination by e-mail within such an organization by committee members.

Further copies of this draft may be purchased from BSI Shop <http://shop.bsigroup.com> or from BSI Customer Services, Tel: +44(0) 20 8996 9001 or email cservices@bsigroup.com. British, International and foreign standards are also available from BSI Customer Services.

Information on the co-operating organizations represented on the committees referenced above may be obtained from <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/>.

E-mail: admin.start@bsigroup.com

Introduction

This draft standard is based on national and international discussions. Your comments on this draft are invited and will assist in the preparation of the consequent standard.

For international standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee before sending the consensus UK vote and comments to the international committee, which will then decide appropriate action. If the international standard is approved, it is usual for the text to be published as a British Standard.

For national standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee and the resulting standards published as a British Standard.

UK Vote

Please indicate whether you consider the UK should submit a negative (with supporting technical reasons) or positive vote on this draft. Please indicate if you are aware of any reason why this draft standard should not be published as a British Standard.

Submission of Comments

- **Annotated drafts are not acceptable and will be rejected.**
- All comments should be submitted online at <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/>. You will need to register in order to comment.

Template for comments and secretariat observations

Date: xx/xx/20xx	Document: ISO/DIS xxxx
------------------	------------------------

1	2	(3)	4	5	(6)	7
MB	Clause No./ Subclause No./Annex (e.g. 3.1)	Paragraph/ Figure/Table/Note	Type of comment	Comment (justification for change) by the MB	Proposed change by the MB	Secretariat observations on each comment submitted
	3.1	Definition 1	ed	Definition is ambiguous and needs clarifying.	Amend to read '...so that the mains connector to which no connection...'	
	6.4	Paragraph 2	te	The use of the UV photometer as an alternative cannot be supported as serious problems have been encountered in its use in the UK.	Delete reference to UV photometer.	



DRAFT International Standard

ISO/IEC DIS 38505-1

Information technology — Governance of data —

Part 1: Application of ISO/IEC 38500 to the governance of data

Technologies de l'information — Gouvernance des données —

Partie 1: Application de l'ISO/IEC 38500 à la gouvernance des données

ICS: 35.020

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 40

Secretariat: **SA**

Voting begins on:
2025-08-11

Voting terminates on:
2025-11-03

This document is circulated as received from the committee secretariat.

THIS DOCUMENT IS A DRAFT CIRCULATED FOR COMMENTS AND APPROVAL. IT IS THEREFORE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND MAY NOT BE REFERRED TO AS AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD UNTIL PUBLISHED AS SUCH.

IN ADDITION TO THEIR EVALUATION AS BEING ACCEPTABLE FOR INDUSTRIAL, TECHNOLOGICAL, COMMERCIAL AND USER PURPOSES, DRAFT INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS MAY ON OCCASION HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR POTENTIAL TO BECOME STANDARDS TO WHICH REFERENCE MAY BE MADE IN NATIONAL REGULATIONS.

RECIPIENTS OF THIS DRAFT ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT, WITH THEIR COMMENTS, NOTIFICATION OF ANY RELEVANT PATENT RIGHTS OF WHICH THEY ARE AWARE AND TO PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION.

Reference number
ISO/IEC DIS 38505-1:2025(en)

Full document details: 25/30499969 DC

© ISO/IEC 2025  **Documents**
Document Sharing Hub



COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© ISO/IEC 2025

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, or required in the context of its implementation, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
1 Normative references	1
2 Terms and definitions	2
3 Good governance of data	3
3.1 Effective Performance	4
3.2 Responsible Stewardship	4
3.3 Ethical Behaviour	4
3.4 Benefits of good governance of data	4
3.5 Responsibilities of the governing body	5
3.6 Governing body and oversight mechanisms	6
4 Principles, model and aspects for good governance of data	6
5 Data accountability	7
5.1 General	7
5.2 Collect	8
5.3 Storage of data	9
5.4 Report	9
5.5 Decide	10
5.6 Distribute	10
5.7 Dispose	10
6 Guidance for the governance of data — Principles	11
6.1 General	11
7 Guidance for the governance of data — Model	13
7.1 Model for the governance of data	13
7.2 Engage Stakeholders	13
7.3 Evaluate	14
7.4 Direct	14
7.5 Monitor	15
8 Guidance for the governance of data — Data-specific aspects	16
8.1 General	16
8.2 Value	16
8.2.1 General	16
8.2.2 Quality	16
8.2.3 Timeliness	16
8.2.4 Context	16
8.2.5 Volume	17
8.3 Risk	17
8.3.1 General	17
8.3.2 Management	17
8.3.3 Data classification schemes	17
8.3.4 Security	17
8.4 Constraints	18
8.4.1 General	18
8.4.2 Regulation and legislation	18
8.4.3 Societal	18
8.4.4 Organizational policy	18
9 Application of the data accountability map	18
Bibliography	21

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. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

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).

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).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on 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 the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/IEC/JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 40, *IT Service Management and IT Governance*.

Introduction

The objective of this document is to provide principles, definitions, and a model for governing bodies to use when evaluating, directing and monitoring the handling and use of data in their organizations.

This document is a high level, principles-based advisory standard. In addition to providing broad guidance on the role of a governing body, it encourages organizations to use appropriate standards to underpin their governance of data.

All organizations use data, and the major proportion of this data is stored electronically across IT systems. With the advent of cloud computing, the realization of the potential of the “internet of things” and the increasing use of “big data” analytics and artificial intelligence (AI), data has become easier to generate, gather, store and mine for useful information. This flood of data brings with it an urgent requirement and responsibility for governing bodies to ensure that valuable opportunities are leveraged, and sensitive data is protected and secured.

Governance of data plays a critical role in ensuring the responsible, innovative, sustainable, and ethical use of data.

Governance of data is an ongoing practice, adapting to the evolving data landscape.

This document has been prepared to provide guidelines to the members of governing bodies to apply a principles-based approach to the governance of data to increase the value of the data while preventing the risks associated with this data. ISO/IEC 38500 provides principles, model, and framework for the governing bodies of organizations to guide their current use and to plan for their future use of Information technology (IT), and it is that document that is applied here.

The use of AI and the growth of data has created extensive opportunities for analysis and use of data in decision making. Because legal regulations sometimes lag behind or are not developed, it is up to an organisation to ensure the ethical use of data.

As with ISO/IEC 38500, this document is addressed primarily to the governing body of an organization and will equally apply regardless of the size of the organization or its industry or sector. The principles of this document could be relevant for the governing bodies of data exchange networks, platforms, spaces and for other inter-organizational data governance contexts. However, the inter-organizational aspects of data governance are primarily outside the scope of this document.

Governance is distinct from management and concerns the evaluating, directing, and monitoring the use of data, rather than the mechanics of storing, retrieving or managing the data. An understanding of some data management and techniques is outlined in order to enunciate the possible strategies and policies that could be directed by the governing body.

Information technology — Governance of data —

Part 1:

Application of ISO/IEC 38500 to the governance of data

1 Scope

This document provides guiding principles for members of governing bodies of organizations (which can comprise owners, directors, partners, executive managers, or similar) on the effective, efficient, and acceptable use of data within their organizations by

- applying the governance principles and model of ISO/IEC 38500 to the governance of data,
- assuring stakeholders that, if the principles and practices proposed by this document are followed, they can have confidence in the organization's governance of data,
- informing and guiding governing bodies in the use and protection of data in their organization, and
- establishing a vocabulary for the governance of data.

This document can also provide guidance to a wider community, including:

- executive managers,
- external businesses or technical specialists, such as legal or accounting specialists, retail or industrial associations, or professional bodies,
- internal and external service providers (including consultants), and
- auditors.

While this document describes the governance of data and its use within an organization, guidance on the implementation arrangement for the effective governance of IT in general is found in ISO/IEC/TS 38501. The constructs in ISO/IEC/TS 38501 can help to identify internal and external factors relating to the governance of IT and help to define beneficial outcomes and identify evidence of success.

This document applies to the governance of the current and future use of data that is created, collected, stored, secured, protected, or controlled by IT systems, and impacts the management processes and decisions relating to data.

This document defines the governance of data as a subset or domain of the governance of IT, which itself is a subset or domain of organizational, or in the case of a corporation, corporate governance.

This document is applicable to all organizations, including public and private companies, government entities, and not-for-profit organizations. This document is applicable to organizations of all sizes from the smallest to the largest, regardless of the extent of their dependence on data.

1 Normative references

The following document is referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of the content constitutes requirements of this document. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 38500, *Information technology — Governance of IT for the organization*