



BSI Standards Publication

Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection — Requirements for the competence of IT security conformance assessment body personnel

Part 1: Overview and concepts

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO/IEC 19896-1:2025. It is identical to ISO/IEC 19896-1:2025. It supersedes BS EN ISO/IEC 19896-1:2023, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee IST/33/3, Security Evaluation, Testing and Specification.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication has been prepared in good faith, however no representation, warranty, assurance or undertaking (express or implied) is or will be made, and no responsibility or liability is or will be accepted by BSI in relation to the adequacy, accuracy, completeness or reasonableness of this publication. All and any such responsibility and liability is expressly disclaimed to the full extent permitted by the law.

This publication is provided as is, and is to be used at the recipient's own risk.

The recipient is advised to consider seeking professional guidance with respect to its use of this publication.

This publication is not intended to constitute a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

© The British Standards Institution 2025
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2025

ISBN 978 0 539 25865 3

ICS 35.030

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 December 2025.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
------	---------------

English version

Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection
- Requirements for the competence of IT security
conformance assessment body personnel - Part 1:
Overview and concepts (ISO/IEC 19896-1:2025)

Sécurité de l'information, cybersécurité et protection
de la vie privée - Exigences relatives aux compétences
du personnel des organismes d'évaluation de la
conformité de la sécurité TI - Partie 1: Vue d'ensemble
et concepts (ISO/IEC 19896-1:2025)

Informationssicherheit, Cybersicherheit und Schutz
der Privatsphäre - Anforderungen an die Kompetenz
des Personals von Konformitätsbewertungsstellen für
IT-Sicherheit - Teil 1: Überblick und Konzepte (ISO/IEC
19896-1:2025)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 28 November 2025.

CEN and CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN and CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN and CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN and CENELEC members are the national standards bodies and national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and United Kingdom.



CEN-CENELEC Management Centre:
Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

European foreword

This document (EN ISO/IEC 19896-1:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1 "Information technology" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN-CENELEC/JTC 13 "Cybersecurity and Data Protection" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2026, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2026.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN-CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN ISO/IEC 19896-1:2023.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body/national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN and CENELEC websites.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

Endorsement notice

The text of ISO/IEC 19896-1:2025 has been approved by CEN-CENELEC as EN ISO/IEC 19896-1:2025 without any modification.

Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Concepts	3
5 Elements of competence	4
5.1 Competences	4
5.2 Knowledge	4
5.3 Skills	5
5.3.1 General	5
5.3.2 Testers and evaluators	5
5.3.3 Validators and reviewers	6
6 Competency levels	6
6.1 General	6
6.2 Testers and evaluators	7
6.2.1 Competency level 1	7
6.2.2 Competency level 2	7
6.2.3 Competency level 3	7
6.3 Validators and reviewers	7
6.3.1 Competency level 1	7
6.3.2 Competency level 2	8
6.3.3 Competency Level 3	8
7 Measurement of elements of competence	8
7.1 Knowledge	8
7.2 Skills	8
7.3 Recording elements of competence	9
Annex A (informative) Framework for describing competence requirements	10
Annex B (informative) Example records of experience and competence	11
Bibliography	12

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 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 or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

ISO and IEC draw attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO and IEC take no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO and IEC had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at www.iso.org/patents and <https://patents.iec.ch>. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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.

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/CLC/JTC 13, *Cybersecurity and data protection*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 19896-1:2018), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the document has been restructured;
 - subclauses related to experience, education and effectiveness have been deleted;
- technical changes have been introduced;
 - competence concepts for the validators and the reviewers have been added;
- deleted elements of competence, experience, education and effectiveness except for knowledge and skills according to comments from ISO/CASCO.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 19896 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.

Introduction

The objective of the ISO/IEC 19896 series is to provide the fundamental concepts related to the topic of the competence of personnel responsible for performing information technology (IT) product security evaluations and conformance testing as well as those personnel performing review and validations. The ISO/IEC 19896 series provides the framework and the specialized requirements that specify the minimum competence of personnel performing IT product security evaluations and conformance testing, reviews and validation using International Standards. This document provides fundamental information to users of ISO/IEC 19896-2 and ISO/IEC 19896-3.

In pursuit of this objective, the ISO/IEC 19896 series comprises the following:

- a) the terms and definitions relating to the topic of competence in IT product security testers and evaluators;
- b) the fundamental concepts relating to competence in IT product security and conformance testing and evaluation;
- c) the minimum competence requirements for IT product security testers and evaluator to conduct IT product testing/evaluation;
- d) the terms and definitions relating to the topic of competence in IT product security validators and reviewers;
- e) the fundamental concepts relating to competence in IT product security validation and reviews; and
- f) the minimum competence requirements for IT product security validators and reviewers to conduct IT product validation/review.

The ISO/IEC 19896 series is of interest to:

- g) information security conformance-testing and evaluation specialists;
- h) information security review bodies for evaluation;
- i) information security validation authorities for conformance-testing;
- j) information security conformance-testing and evaluation laboratories;
- k) vendors or technology providers whose IT products can be the subject to information security conformance-testing or evaluations; and
- l) organizations offering professional credentials or recognitions.

The ISO/IEC 19896 series is organized into parts to address the competence of testing and evaluation personnel as follows.

This document provides an overview of the definitions, fundamental concepts and a general description of the framework used to communicate the competence concepts for certain specialized areas. This document aims to provide the fundamental knowledge necessary to use the framework presented in the other parts of the ISO/IEC 19896 series.

ISO/IEC 19896-2 describes the minimum set of competence requirements at each competency level for conformance testers and validators working with ISO/IEC 19790 and ISO/IEC 24759.

ISO/IEC 19896-3 describes the minimum set of competence requirements at each competency level for information security evaluators and reviewers working with the ISO/IEC 15408 series and ISO/IEC 18045.