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Software engineering — Guide for the application of ISO/IEC 24773:2008 (Certification of software engineering professionals — Comparison framework)

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National foreword

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Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
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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. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

In exceptional circumstances, when the joint technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example), it may decide to publish a Technical Report. A Technical Report is entirely informative in nature and shall be subject to review every five years in the same manner as an International Standard.

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.

ISO/IEC TR 29154 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Systems and software engineering*.

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Introduction

ISO/IEC 24773:2008, *Software engineering — Certification of software engineering professionals — Comparison framework*, establishes a framework for comparison of schemes certifying software engineering professionals. ISO/IEC 24773:2008 (also referred to in this Technical Report as "The International Standard" or "the IS") will facilitate the portability of software engineering professional certifications by facilitating comparison of such certification schemes.

Many individual qualification and certification schemes exist in the area of software engineering; software development; or a related speciality. In order to evaluate and compare between software engineering certifications for individual professionals, it is necessary to define a common framework for comparison. For multi-national organizations that require software engineering professionals, ISO/IEC 24773:2008 will facilitate the evaluation and comparison between various certifications.

The International Standard has a number of intended users, including:

— Educators;

— Examining bodies;

— Industry and professional bodies;

— Government bodies.

This Technical Report contains guidance and elaboration of several clauses of ISO/IEC 24773:2008. It also contains a more extensive set of potential uses of the International Standard by various users.

Annex A to this Technical Report contains several detailed illustrations of sample uses of ISO/IEC 24773.

The IEEE Computer Society cooperated with ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 7 as a Category A liaison in the production of this Technical Report and is the publisher of the Guide to the Software Engineering Body of Knowledge (SWEBOK Guide). Any reference to SWEBOK or SWEBOK Guide in this Technical Report can be interpreted as a reference to ISO/IEC TR 19759, the adoption of the SWEBOK Guide.

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