



International

This is a preview of ISO 17666:2025. [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

---

## Space systems — Programme management — Risk management

*Systèmes spatiaux — Management de programme —  
Management des risques*

**ISO 17666**

---

**Third edition  
2025-04**

This is a preview of ISO 17666:2025. [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)



**COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT**

© ISO 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](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Website: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

Published in Switzerland

This is a preview of ISO 17666:2025. [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

<b>Foreword</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>4 Principles of risk management</b> .....	<b>3</b>
4.1 Risk management concept.....	3
4.2 Risk management process.....	3
4.3 Risk management implementation into a project.....	3
4.4 Risk management documentation.....	3
<b>5 The risk management process</b> .....	<b>4</b>
5.1 Overview of the risk management process.....	4
5.2 Risk management steps and tasks.....	5
5.2.1 Step 1: define risk management implementation requirements.....	5
5.2.2 Step 2: identify and assess the risks.....	8
5.2.3 Step 3: decide and act.....	8
5.2.4 Step 4: monitor, communicate and accept risks.....	9
<b>6 Risk management implementation</b> .....	<b>10</b>
6.1 General considerations.....	10
6.2 Responsibilities.....	10
6.3 Project life cycle considerations.....	11
6.4 Risk visibility and decision making.....	11
6.5 Documentation of risk management.....	11
<b>7 Risk management requirements</b> .....	<b>11</b>
7.1 General.....	11
7.2 Risk management process requirements.....	12
7.3 Risk management implementation requirements.....	14
<b>Annex A (informative) Risk register example and ranked risk log example</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>Annex B (informative) Risk management plan</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>Annex C (informative) Example of risks areas in space systems programmes</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>21</b>

This is a preview of ISO 17666:2025. [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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 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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes 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 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](http://www.iso.org/patents). ISO 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](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 20, *Aircraft and space vehicles*, Subcommittee SC 14, *Space systems and operations*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 17666:2016), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- updated the normative references in [Clause 2](#);
- updated the terms and definitions references in [Clause 3](#) and deleted [Clause 4](#) for abbreviated terms;
- included [Annex C](#) on the risk areas in space systems programmes.

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](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

Risks are a threat to the project success because they have negative effects on the project cost, schedule and technical performance; but appropriate practices of controlling risks can present new opportunities with positive impact.

The objective of project risk management is to identify, assess, reduce, accept, and control space project risks in a systematic, proactive, comprehensive, and cost-effective manner, taking into account the project's technical and programmatic constraints. Risk is considered tradable against the conventional known project resources within the management, programmatic (e.g. cost, schedule) and technical (e.g. mass, power, dependability, safety) domains. The overall risk management in a project is an iterative process throughout the project life cycle, with iterations being determined by the project progress through the different project phases, and by changes to a given project baseline influencing project resources.

Risk management is implemented at each level of the customer-supplier network.

The risk management process requires information exchange among all project domains and provides visibility over risks, with a ranking according to their criticality for the project; these risks are monitored and controlled according to the rules defined for the domains to which they belong.

When viewed from the perspective of a specific programme or project context, the requirements defined in this document are tailored to match the genuine requirements of a particular profile and circumstances of a programme or project. The implementation of this document can be tailored to project-specific conditions.

**NOTE** Tailoring is a process by which individual requirements or specifications, standards and related documents are evaluated and made applicable to a specific programme or project by selection, and in some exceptional cases, modification and addition of requirements in the standards.

Known project practices for dealing with project risks, such as system and engineering analyses, analyses of safety, critical items, dependability, critical path, and cost, are an integral part of project risk management. Ranking of risks according to their criticality for the project success, allowing management attention to be directed to the essential issues, is a major objective of risk management.

The project actors agree on the extent of the risk management to be implemented into a given project depending on the project definition and characterization.