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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.

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 WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology, SC 27, Security techniques*.

Introduction

Many organizations face the challenge of implementing data protection and security measures to meet a wide range of requirements, including statutory and regulatory compliance. Too often the security associated with storage systems and infrastructure has been missed because of misconceptions and limited familiarity with the storage technology, or in the case of storage managers and administrators, a limited understanding of the inherent risks or basic security concepts. The net result of this situation is that digital assets are needlessly placed at risk of compromise due to data breaches, intentional corruption, being held hostage, or other malicious events.

Data storage has matured in an environment where security has been a secondary concern due to its historical reliance on isolated connectivity, specialized technologies, and the physical security of data centres. Even as storage connectivity evolved to use technologies such as storage protocols over Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP), few users took advantage of either the inherent security mechanisms or the recommended security measures.

This International Standard provides guidelines for storage security in an organization, supporting in particular the requirements of an Information Security Management System (ISMS) according to ISO/IEC 27001. This International Standard recommends the information security risk management approach as defined in ISO/IEC 27005. It is up to the organization to define their approach to risk management, depending for example on the scope of the ISMS, context of risk management, or industry sector. A number of existing methodologies can be used under the framework described in this International Standard to implement the requirements of an ISMS.

This International Standard is relevant to managers and staff concerned with information security risk management within an organization and, where appropriate, external parties supporting such activities.

The objectives for this International Standard are the following:

- help draw attention to the risks;
- assist organizations in better securing their data when stored;
- provide a basis for auditing, designing, and reviewing storage security controls.

It is emphasized that ISO/IEC 27040 provides further detailed implementation guidance on the storage security controls that are described at a basic standardized level in ISO/IEC 27002.

It should be noted that this International Standard is not a reference or normative document for regulatory and legislative security requirements. Although it emphasizes the importance of these influences, it cannot state them specifically, since they are dependent on the country, the type of business, etc.