

First edition  
2017-08

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## **Information technology — Security techniques — Code of practice for personally identifiable information protection**

*Technologies de l'information — Techniques de sécurité — Code de bonne pratique pour la protection des données à caractère personnel*



Reference number  
ISO/IEC 29151:2017(E)

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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](http://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](http://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 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 the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, SC 27, *IT Security techniques*, in collaboration with ITU-T. The identical text is published as ITU-T Recommendation X.1058.

that these organizations deal with. At the same time, societal expectations for the protection of PII and the security of data relating to individuals are also increasing. A number of countries are augmenting their laws to address the increased number of high profile data breaches.

As the number of PII breaches increases, organizations collecting or processing PII will increasingly need guidance on how they should protect PII in order to reduce the risk of privacy breaches occurring, and to reduce the impact of breaches on the organization and on the individuals concerned. This Specification provides such guidance.

This Specification offers guidance for PII controllers on a broad range of information security and PII protection controls that are commonly applied in many different organizations that deal with protection of PII. The remaining parts of the family of ISO/IEC standards, listed here, provide guidance or requirements on other aspects of the overall process of protecting PII:

- ISO/IEC 27001 specifies an information security management process and associated requirements, which could be used as a basis for the protection of PII.
- ISO/IEC 27002 gives guidelines for organizational information security standards and information security management practices including the selection, implementation and management of controls, taking into consideration the organization's information security risk environment(s).
- ISO/IEC 27009 specifies the requirements for the use of ISO/IEC 27001 in any specific sector (field, application area or market sector). It explains how to include requirements additional to those in ISO/IEC 27001, how to refine any of the ISO/IEC 27001 requirements, and how to include controls or control sets in addition to Annex A of ISO/IEC 27001.
- ISO/IEC 27018 offers guidance to organizations acting as PII processors when offering processing capabilities as cloud services.
- ISO/IEC 29134 provides guidelines for identifying, analysing, and assessing privacy risks, while ISO/IEC 27001 together with ISO/IEC 27005 provides a methodology for identifying, analysing, and assessing security risks.

Controls should be chosen based on the risks identified as a result of a risk analysis to develop a comprehensive, consistent system of controls. Controls should be adapted to the context of the particular processing of PII.

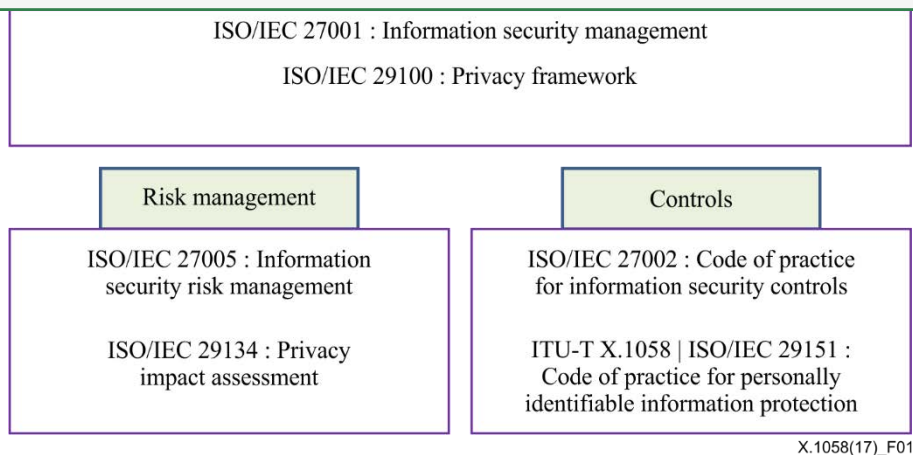
This Specification contains two parts: 1) the main body consisting of clauses 1 to 18, and 2) a normative annex. This structure reflects normal practice for the development of sector-specific extensions to ISO/IEC 27002.

The structure of the main body of this Specification, including the clause titles, reflects the main body of ISO/IEC 27002. The introduction and clauses 1 to 4 provide background on the use of this Specification. Headings for clauses 5 to 18 mirror those of ISO/IEC 27002, reflecting the fact that this Specification builds on the guidance in ISO/IEC 27002, adding new controls specific to the protection of PII. Many of the controls in ISO/IEC 27002 need no amplification in the context of PII controllers. However, in some cases, additional implementation guidance is needed, and this is given under the appropriate heading (and clause number) from ISO/IEC 27002.

The normative annex contains an extended set of PII protection-specific controls that supplement those given in ISO/IEC 27002. These new PII protection controls, with their associated guidance, are divided into 12 categories, corresponding to the privacy policy and the 11 privacy principles of ISO/IEC 29100:

- consent and choice;
- purpose, legitimacy and specification;
- collection limitation;
- data minimization;
- use, retention and disclosure limitation;
- accuracy and quality;
- openness, transparency and notice;
- individual participation and access;
- accountability;
- information security; and
- privacy compliance.

Figure 1 describes the relationship between this Specification and the family of ISO/IEC standards.



**Figure 1 – The relationship of this Specification and the family of ISO/IEC standards**

This Specification includes guidelines based on ISO/IEC 27002, and adapts these as necessary to address the privacy safeguarding requirements that arise from the processing of PII:

- a) In different processing domains such as:
  - public cloud services,
  - social networking applications,
  - internet-connected devices in the home,
  - search, analysis,
  - targeting of PII for advertising and similar purposes,
  - big data analytics programmes,
  - employment processing,
  - business management in sales and service (enterprise resource planning, customer relationship management);
- b) In different locations such as:
  - on a personal processing platform provided to an individual (e.g., smart cards, smart phones and their apps, smart meters, wearable devices),
  - within data transportation and collection networks (e.g., where mobile phone location data is created operationally by network processing, which may be considered PII in some jurisdictions),
  - within an organization's own processing infrastructure,
  - on a third party's processing platform;
- c) For the collection characteristic such as:
  - one-time data collection (e.g., on registering for a service),
  - ongoing data collection (e.g., frequent health parameter monitoring by sensors on or in an individual's body, multiple data collections using contactless payment cards for payment, smart meter data collection systems, and so on).

NOTE – Ongoing data collection can contain or yield behavioural, locational and other types of PII. In such cases, the use of PII protection controls that allow access and collection to be managed based on consent and that allow the PII principal to exercise appropriate control over such access and collection, need to be considered.