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**Information technology — Electronic  
discovery —**

**Part 2:  
Guidance for governance and  
management of electronic discovery**

*Technologies de l'information — Découverte électronique —*

*Partie 2: Lignes directrices pour la gouvernance et le management de  
l'investigation informatique*

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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)).

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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/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *IT Security techniques*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 27050 series can be found on the ISO website.

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).

## Introduction

Engagement in electronic discovery and processes can expose organizations and the stakeholders within and outside those organizations to collective and individual risks, including legal, financial and ethical. This document aims to provide guidance for decision makers and those holding responsible roles to ensure that causes of failure are properly managed and, where possible, minimized while still complying with policy and conformance requirements to enable effective and appropriate electronic discovery and processes.

This document is to be read in relation to ISO/IEC 27050-1 and ISO/IEC 27050-3. Common responsibilities of a governing body is to provide strategic direction in all matters of relevance to electronic discovery and to take ownership of the risks related to electronic discovery. The responsibility of management is to develop and implement the policies, plans and strategies for electronic discovery set by the governing body. The inherent causes of failure and environmental issues associated with electronic discovery governance and management impact the viability of a coherent system that delivers optimal business value. Consequently, the structures, processes and communication requirements of electronic discovery needs to be compliant and open to review.

The measure of success for the investment in the use of electronic discovery services is the benefit that it brings to the organization making the investment. Proper foresight, oversight and direction allow the full scope of the effort required to derive the expected benefits and an appropriate framework for governance, risk and value to be determined. This document addresses the concerns of electronic discovery governance by identifying the risk and the risk owners of potential points of failure in electronic discovery processes.

This document is to provide guidance for the governance and management of electronic discovery.

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