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Standard**

**ISO/IEC 42005**

**Information technology — Artificial  
intelligence (AI) — AI system  
impact assessment**

*Technologies de l'information — Intelligence artificielle (IA) —  
Évaluation de l'impact des systèmes d'IA*

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# Contents

Page

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>vi</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 Abbreviated terms</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5 Developing and implementing an AI system impact assessment process</b>	<b>3</b>
5.1 General	3
5.2 Documenting the process	3
5.3 Integration with other organizational management processes	4
5.4 Timing of AI system impact assessment	4
5.5 Scope of the AI system impact assessment	5
5.6 Allocating responsibilities	5
5.7 Establishing thresholds for sensitive uses, restricted uses and impact scales	6
5.8 Performing the AI system impact assessment	7
5.9 Analysing the results of the AI system impact assessment	7
5.10 Recording and reporting	7
5.11 Approval process	8
5.12 Monitoring and review	8
<b>6 Documenting the AI system impact assessment</b>	<b>9</b>
6.1 General	9
6.2 Scope of the AI system impact assessment	9
6.3 AI system information	9
6.3.1 AI system description	9
6.3.2 AI system functionalities and capabilities	10
6.3.3 AI system purpose	10
6.3.4 Intended uses	10
6.3.5 Unintended uses	10
6.4 Data information and quality	11
6.4.1 General	11
6.4.2 Data information	11
6.4.3 Data quality documentation	12
6.5 Algorithm and model information	12
6.5.1 General	12
6.5.2 Information on algorithms used by the organization	12
6.5.3 Information on algorithm development	13
6.5.4 Information on models used in an AI system	13
6.5.5 Information on model development	13
6.6 Deployment environment	14
6.6.1 Geographical area and languages	14
6.6.2 Deployment environment complexity and constraints	14
6.7 Relevant interested parties	15
6.7.1 General	15
6.7.2 Directly affected interested parties	15
6.7.3 Other relevant interested parties	15
6.8 Actual and reasonably foreseeable impacts	15
6.8.1 General	15
6.8.2 Benefits and harms	16
6.8.3 AI system failures and reasonably foreseeable misuse	19
6.9 Measures to address harms and benefits	19
<b>Annex A (informative) Guidance for use with ISO/IEC 42001</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Annex B (informative) Guidance for use with ISO/IEC 23894</b>	<b>23</b>

## ISO/IEC 42005:2025(en)

<b>Annex C</b> (informative) <b>Harms and benefits taxonomy</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>Annex D</b> (informative) <b>Aligning AI system impact assessment with other assessments</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>Annex E</b> (informative) <b>Example of an AI system impact assessment template</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>38</b>

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[ISO/IEC 42005:2025](https://standards.itih.ai/catalog/standards/iso/8c12e0d0-73ac-4df2-adb8-251cf989bb23/iso-iec-42005-2025)

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## Foreword

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 42, *Artificial intelligence*.

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## Introduction

The growing application of systems, products, services and components of such that incorporate some form of artificial intelligence (AI) has led to a growing concern about how AI systems can potentially impact all levels of society. AI brings with it the promise of great benefits: automation of difficult or dangerous jobs, faster and more accurate analysis of large sets of data, advances in healthcare etc. However, there are concerns about reasonably foreseeable negative effects of AI systems, including potentially harmful, unfair or discriminatory outcomes, environmental harm and unwanted reductions in workforce.

The development and use of seemingly benign AI systems can have the potential to significantly impact (both positively and negatively) individuals, groups of individuals and the society as a whole. To foster transparency and trustworthiness of systems using AI technologies, an organization developing and using these technologies can take actions to assure affected interested parties that these impacts have been appropriately considered. AI system impact assessments play an important role in the broader ecosystem of governance, risk and conformity assessment activities, which together can create a system of trust and accountability.

ISO/IEC 38507, ISO/IEC 23894 and ISO/IEC 42001 all form important pieces of this ecosystem, for governance, risk and conformity assessment (via a management system) respectively. Each of these highlights the need for consideration of impacts to individuals and societies. A governing body can understand these impacts to ensure that the development and use of AI systems align to company values and goals. An organization performing risk management activities can understand reasonably foreseeable impacts to individuals and societies to appropriately incorporate into their overall organizational risk assessment. An organization developing or using AI systems can incorporate understanding and documentation about these impacts into its management system to ensure that the AI systems in question meet expectations of relevant interested parties, as well as internal and external requirements.

The act of performing AI system impact assessments and utilizing their documented outcomes are integral to activities at all organizational levels to produce AI systems that are trustworthy and transparent. To this end, this document provides guidance for an organization on how to both implement a process for completing such assessments and promote a common understanding of the components necessary to produce an effective assessment.

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