

ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 – Information technology – IT asset management – Part 5: Overview and vocabulary

ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 is the overview and vocabulary part of the ISO/IEC 19770 IT asset management series, defining the terms and principles that the other parts share.



What it is

ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 is the overview and vocabulary standard for the ISO/IEC 19770 family of IT asset management (ITAM) and software asset management (SAM) standards. It gives an overview of the family, introduces ITAM and SAM, describes the foundation principles and approaches on which SAM is based, and defines the terms used consistently across the other parts. Its second edition, published in 2015, cancels and replaces the 2013 first edition.

It is published jointly by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and prepared by ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 7, Software and systems engineering. It is not a requirements standard and carries no certification; it applies to all types of organization, including commercial enterprises, government agencies, and non-profit organizations, and ISO/IEC JTC 1 describes it as the freely available entry point to the series.

At a glance

PUBLISHER International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 7	TYPE Standard	VERSION Second edition (2015)
EFFECTIVE 2015	DOMAIN IT Governance	FAMILY ISO Management Systems
REGION International	ADOPTION MODEL Voluntary	IMPLEMENTATION COMPLEXITY Low

Source: <https://www.iso.org/standard/68291.html>

Why it matters

- **Establish a common vocabulary** Terms such as asset, IT asset, software asset, entitlement, and reconciliation are defined once and reused by every part of the series and by ISO/IEC 19770-1 conformance work.
- **Explain the business case** Clause 4 sets out the direct benefits, cost control, and risk management and mitigation reasons for managing software assets.
- **Show how the family fits together** Clause 5 maps the process standard, the information structure standards, and the guidance technical reports so organizations know which part they need.

How SmartSuite supports ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015

ITAM Vocabulary and Family Library

Hold each defined term, foundation principle, and part of the ISO/IEC 19770 series as a structured record linked to the processes that use it.

Ownership, Cadence, and Accountability

Assign owners for asset classes, license records, and vocabulary maintenance, with review dates as the series is updated.

Evidence Collection and Audit Trail

Record where each term and principle is applied in policies, registers, and contracts, with timestamps and reviewers.

Definition and Data Quality Testing

Check asset and license records against the standard's definitions and track inconsistencies to correction.

Risk and Vendor Alignment

Connect software publishers, contracts, and entitlement risks to the assets and terms they concern.

Program Reporting

Generate views of vocabulary adoption, asset data quality, and readiness for ISO/IEC 19770-1 implementation for leadership.

Common framework mappings

ISO/IEC 19770-1:2017

ISO 27000

ISO/IEC 20000-1

ISO 9001:2026

ITIL 4

Official resources

ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 catalogue page

The ISO catalogue entry for Part 5, with status, edition, committee, and purchase and preview options.

iso.org/standard/68291.html

ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 preview on the Online Browsing Platform

ISO's read-only preview of the standard's foreword, introduction, scope, and terms.

iso.org/obp/ui/en/#iso:std:iso-iec:19770:-5:ed-2:v1:en

ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 document preview (iTeh Standards)

A sample of the published text showing the foreword, introduction, scope, normative references, and the start of the terms and definitions.

standards.itih.ai/catalog/standards/sist/d86b8eae-51c5-4d1d-a7d2-a6222727a668/iso-iec-19770-5-2015

IT Asset Management Standards (ISO/IEC 19770): business case and overview

ISO/IEC JTC 1's overview of the series, its three groups of standards, and the role of Part 5 as the freely available overview and vocabulary.

jtc1info.org/it-asset-management-standards-iso-iec-19770-business-case-overview

Frequently asked questions

What is ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015?

ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 is the overview and vocabulary part of the ISO/IEC 19770 series of IT asset management standards. It introduces IT asset management and software asset management, explains the principles behind them, gives an overview of the other parts of the series, and defines the terms those parts use.

Does ISO/IEC 19770-5 contain requirements I can be certified against?

No. It is an overview and vocabulary standard and contains no requirements. The requirements for an IT asset management system are in ISO/IEC 19770-1:2017, which is the part organizations implement and can be certified against.

Who publishes ISO/IEC 19770-5 and who is it for?

It is published by ISO and IEC and prepared by their joint technical committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, Subcommittee SC 7, Software and systems engineering. It applies to all types of organization, including commercial enterprises, government agencies, and non-profit organizations.

How does ISO/IEC 19770-5 relate to ISO/IEC 19770-1?

Part 5 provides the vocabulary, principles, and family overview; Part 1 specifies the management system requirements. The terms defined in Part 5 are used throughout Part 1, and Clause 5 of Part 5 explains where Part 1 sits among the process, information structure, and guidance parts of the series.

What changed between the 2013 and 2015 editions of ISO/IEC 19770-5?

The second edition cancels and replaces the 2013 first edition and was technically revised. Among other changes, the definition of asset was aligned with the published ISO 55000:2014 text rather than a development draft, and the family overview was updated to reflect the parts published or under preparation at the time.

Is ISO/IEC 19770-5 free?

ISO/IEC JTC 1 describes Part 5 as the only freely available ITAM standard in the series. Availability should be confirmed on the ISO website; other parts of the series, including ISO/IEC 19770-1, are purchased from ISO or a national standards body.

License included / downloadable: No ISO/IEC 19770-5:2015 is published by ISO and IEC; ISO/IEC JTC 1 describes it as freely available, and copies are otherwise obtained from ISO or national standards bodies, and the text is not included with the platform.

Full framework page and mappings: smartsuite.com/frameworks/iso-iec-19770-5-2015-it-asset-management-overview-and-vocabulary