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SQA Standards in EMI

Introduction

In order to define the SQAP for EMI, a set of standards have been used. In the following sections, we present how SQA Standards have been applied in the EMI project.

Some Definitions

- ISO 8402-94 - Quality Management and Quality Assurance -- Vocabulary
 - ◆ Quality: The set of characteristics of an entity that give that entity the ability to satisfy expressed and implicit needs.
 - ◆ Quality Assurance: The series of preestablished and systematic activities laid out in the quality system framework that are performed when needed to prove that an entity will meet quality expectations.

ISO/IEC 12207

The Standard ISO/IEC 12207 is about software lifecycle processes. It defines all the tasks required for developing and maintaining software.

ISO/IEC 12207 process mapping in EMI

In the following Matrix, the processes and activities defined in the standard are presented and mapped to what it is currently defined for EMI.

Type	Process	Activity	Applicable in EMI?	EMI Mapping in the SQA context
Primary	Acquisition	Initiation	NA	-
		Request-for-Proposal		
		Contract Preparation and update		
		Supplier monitoring		
		Acceptance and completion		
	Supply	Initiation	EU project proposal?	NA
		Preparation of response	EU project proposal?	
		Contract	Dow?	
		Planning	Technical Area work plans?	
		Execution and control	Project Deliverables?	
		Review and evaluation	EU Project review?	
		Delivery and completion	?	
	Development	Process implementation	Y	-
		System requirements analysis	Y	Change Management Policy

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		System architectural design	N	-
		Software requirements analysis	Y	Change Management Policy
		Software architectural design	N	-
		Software detailed design	N	-
		Software coding and testing	Y	Configuration and Integration Policy, Packaging Policy, Testing Policy
		Software integration	Y	Configuration and Integration Policy
		Software qualification testing	Y	Certification Policy
		System integration	Y	Configuration and Integration Policy
		System qualification testing	Y	NA
		Software installation	NA	Documentation Policy
		Software acceptance support	Y	EMI Testbed
	Operation	Process implementation	NA (done by EGI)	-
		Operational testing	NA	-
		System operation	NA	-
		User support	Y (3rd level support)	EMI User Support Howto
	Maintenance	Process implementation	Y	Change Management Policy
		Problem and modification analysis	Y	
		Modification implementation	Y	
		Maintenance review/acceptance	Y	EMI Testbed
		Migration	N	-
		Software Retirement	Y	NA
Supporting	Documentation	Process implementation	Y	Documentation Policy
		Design and Development	Y	
		Production	Y	
		Maintenance	Y	
	Configuration Management	Process implementation	Y	Change Management Policy
		Configuration identification	Y	
		Configuration control	Y	
		Configuration status accounting	Y	
		Configuration evaluation	Y	
		Release management and delivery	Y	
	Quality Assurance	Process implementation	Y	SQAP
		Product assurance	Y	
		Process assurance	Y	

		Assurance of quality systems	?	
	Verification	Process implementation	Y	Testing Policy
		Verification	Y	
	Validation	Process implementation	Y	
		Validation	Y	
	Joint Review	Process implementation	Y	NA
		Project Management reviews	Y	
		Technical reviews	N	
	Audit	Process implementation	Y	SQAP
		Audit	Y	
	Problem resolution	Process implementation	Y	
		Problem resolution	Y	
Organisational	Management	Initiation and scope definition	Y	NA
		Planning	Y	
		Execution and control	Y	
		Review and evaluation	Y	
		Closure	Y	
	Infrastructure	Process implementation	Y	NA
		Establishment of the infrastructure	Y	
		Maintenance of the infrastructure	Y	
	Improvement	Process establishment	N	Quality Model
		Process assessment	Y	
		Process improvement	Y	
	Training	Process implementation	Y	NA
		Training material development	Y	
Training plan implementation		Y		

Quality assurance process

The quality assurance process is a process for providing adequate assurance that the software products and processes in the project life cycle conform to their specified requirements and adhere to their established plans. The process consists of the following activities:

- Process implementation
- Product assurance
- Process assurance
- Assurance of quality systems

Process implementation

- A quality assurance process tailored to the project shall be established. The objectives of the process are:
 - ◆ Assure that the software products and the processes employed for providing those software products comply with their established requirements and adhere to their established plans.
- The quality assurance process should be coordinated with the following processes:

- ◆ Verification and Validation
- ◆ Joint Review
- ◆ Audit
- A plan for conducting the quality assurance process activities and tasks shall be developed, documented, implemented and maintained. The plan shall include:
 - ◆ Quality standards, methodologies, procedures and tools for performing quality assurance activities.
 - ◆ Procedures for contract review.
 - ◆ Procedures for identification, collection, filing, maintenance and disposition of quality records.
 - ◆ Resources, schedule and responsibilities for conducting the quality assurance activities.
- Scheduled and on-going quality assurance activities and tasks shall be executed. When problems or non-conformances with contract requirements are detected, they shall be documented and serve as input to Problem Resolution Process. Records of these activities and tasks, their execution, problems, and problem resolutions shall be prepared and maintained.
- Records of quality assurance activities and tasks shall be made available to the acquirer as specified in the contract.

Product Assurance

- It shall be assured that all the plans required by the contract are documented, comply with the contract, are mutually consistent and are being executed as required.
- It shall be assured that the software products and related documentation comply with the contract and adhere to the plans.
- In preparation for the delivery of the software products, it shall be assured that they have fully satisfied their contractual requirements and are acceptable to the acquirer.

Process Assurance

- It shall be assured that those software life cycle processes (supply, development, operation, maintenance, and supporting processes including quality assurance) employed for the project comply with the contract and adhere to the plans.
- It shall be assured that the internal software engineering practices, development environment, test environment and libraries, comply with the contract.
- It shall be assured that the acquirer and other parties are provided the required support and cooperation in accordance with the contract, negotiation and plans.
- It should be assured that software product and process measurements are in accordance with established standards and procedures.
- It shall be assured that the staff assigned have the skill and knowledge needed to meet the requirements of the project and receive any necessary training.

Assurance of quality systems

- Additional quality management activities shall be assured in accordance with the clauses of ISO 9001 as specified in the contract.

ISO/IEC 9126

The standard ISO/IEC 9126 is for the evaluation of software quality. The standard is divided into four parts:

- quality model: it helps to define software product quality.
- internal metrics: applicable to non-executable software product during its development stages.
- external metrics: applicable to executable software product during testing and operation stages.

- quality in use metrics: checks whether the software product meets the needs specified by the user to achieve specified goals with effectiveness, productivity, safety and satisfaction. It is measured in terms of using the software rather than the properties of the software itself.

Quality Model

The quality model for external and internal quality categorises the software quality attributes into six characteristics, which are further subdivided into subcharacteristics:

The capability of the software product...

Characteristic	Subcharacteristic	Definition
Functionality		to provide functions which meet stated and implied needs when the software is used under specific conditions
	Suitability	to provide an appropriate set of functions for specified tasks and user objectives
	Accuracy	to provide the right or agreed results or effects with the needed degree of precision
	Interoperability	to interact with one or more specified systems
	Security	to protect information and data so that unauthorised persons or systems cannot read or modify them and authorised persons or systems are not denied access to them
	Functionality compliance	to adhere to standards, conventions or regulations in laws and similar prescriptions relating to functionality
Reliability		to maintain a specified level of performance when used under specified conditions
	Maturity	to avoid failure as a result of faults in the software
	Fault Tolerance	to maintain a specified level of performance in cases of software faults or of infringement of its specified interface
	Recoverability	to re-establish a specified level of performance and recover the data directly affected in the case of a failure
	Reliability compliance	to adhere to standards, conventions or regulations in laws and similar prescriptions relating to reliability
Usability		to be understood, learned, used and attractive to the user, when used under specified conditions
	Understandability	to enable the user to understand whether the software is suitable, and how it can be used for particular tasks and conditions of use
	Learnability	to enable the user to learn its application
	Operability	to enable the user to operate and control it
	Attractiveness	to be attractive to the user
	Usability compliance	to adhere to standards, conventions or regulations in laws and similar

		prescriptions relating to usability
Efficiency	to provide appropriate performance, relative to the amount of resources used, under stated conditions	
	Time behaviour	to provide appropriate response and processing times and throughput rates when performing its function, under stated conditions
	Resource utilisation	to use appropriate amounts and types of resources when the software performs its function under stated conditions
	Efficiency compliance	to adhere to standards, conventions or regulations in laws and similar prescriptions relating to efficiency
Maintainability		to be modified. Modifications may include corrections, improvements or adaptacion of the software to changes in environment, and in requirements and functional specifications
	Analysability	to be diagnosed for deficiencies or causes of failures in the software, or for the parts to be modified to be identified
	Changeability	to enable a specific modification to be implemented
	Stability	to avoid unexpected effects from modifications of the software
	Testability	to enable modified software to be validated
	Maintainability compliance	to adhere to standards, conventions or regulations in laws and similar prescriptions relating to maintainability
Portability		to be transferred from one environment to another
	Adaptability	to be adapted for different specified environments without applying actions or means other than those provided for this purpose for the software considered
	Installability	to be installed in a specified environment
	co-existence	to co-exist with other independent software in a common environment sharing common resources
	Replaceability	to be used in place of another specified software product for the same purpose in the same environment
	Portability compliance	to adhere to standards, conventions or regulations in laws and similar prescriptions relating to portability

This topic: EMI > SA22SQASStandards

Topic revision: r10 - 2011-09-19 - MariaALANDESPRADILLO



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