SDLA-204
ISA Security Compliance Institute – Security Development Lifecycle Assurance –
Instructions and Policies for Use of the ISASecure Symbol and Certificate

Version 2.0

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Revision history

version	date	changes
1.1	2014.05.27	Initial version published to https://ISASecure.org
1.4	2018.02.01	Alignment with ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1: add line to certificate format referencing that standard and IEC version, remove mention of certification level; incorporate errata from SDLA-102 v1.4; remove references to Guide 65
1.8	2020.06.19	Remove recognition for certification pending; Section 5: Modify sample certificate and related text to distinguish development organization name from optional supplier contact address, give examples of certificate wording with multiple development organizations
2.0	2026.07.05	Modify text and certificate figures to mention maturity level and distinguish SDLA readiness certificate from SDLA full certificate

Contents

1 Scope 6
2 Normative references 6
3 Definitions and abbreviations 6
3.1 Definitions 6
3.2 Abbreviations 8
4 ISASecure symbol and references 8
4.1 General 8
4.2 Use by certification body 9
4.3 Use by organization holding SDLA certification 9
5 Certificates 10
6 Change in accreditation status 14
7 Modification of the ISASecure symbol 15
8 Use of accreditation certificates and symbol 15

Table of Figures

Figure 1. Example certificate for SDLA full certification 12
Figure 2. Example certificate for SDLA readiness certification 13

Foreword

This is one of a series of documents that defines ISASecure certification for control systems, which is developed and managed by the industry consortium ISA Security Compliance Institute (ISCI). Certifications available include ISASecure Component Security Assurance (CSA) for control system components, ISASecure System Security Assurance (SSA) for control systems and ISASecure Security Development Lifecycle Assurance (SDLA) which addresses control system supplier development processes. This specification is one of the series of documents that describes requirements for ISASecure SDLA certification. The current list of documents related to ISASecure certification programs can be found on the web site https://ISASecure.org.

1 Scope

This document describes the procedure and conditions which govern the use of the ISASecure® symbol and certificate by organizations that hold the ISASecure SDLA (Security Development Lifecycle Assurance) certification for their security development process. This document also describes symbol and certificate use by ISASecure SDLA certification bodies and any references to their ASCI license by such bodies. The reference [SDLA-100] describes the overall ISASecure SDLA program.

Separate documents cover this topic for the ISASecure CSA and ISASecure SSA certification programs (CSA-204 and SSA-204). The intent of the requirements is the same across all ISASecure programs. However, there are some topics unique to each program addressed in each program-specific document.

2 Normative references

[SDLA-100] *ISCI System Security Development Lifecycle Assurance – ISASecure certification scheme*, as specified at https://ISASecure.org

[ISASecure-202] *ISCI Application and Contract for Certification Bodies*, internal ISCI document

[SDLA-205] *ISCI Security Development Lifecycle Assurance – Certificate Document Format,* as specified at https://ISASecure.org

[SDLA-300] *ISCI Security Development Lifecycle Assurance – Requirements for ISASecure Certification and Maintenance of Certification,* as specified at https://ISASecure.org

NOTE The following pair of references that have the same document number 62443-m-n, provide the same technical standard, as published by the organizations ANSI/ISA and IEC.

[ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1] ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1-2018 *Security for industrial automation and control systems Part 4-1: Secure product development lifecycle requirements*

[IEC 62443-4-1] IEC 62443-4-1:*2018 Security for industrial automation and control systems Part 4-1: Secure product development lifecycle requirements*

NOTE The following international standards apply to the ISASecure certification and testing processes.

[ISO/IEC 17065] ISO/IEC 17065.2012, "*Conformity assessment—requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services*", October 2012

[ISO/IEC 17011] ISO/IEC 17011, "*Conformity assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*", November 2017

[ISO/IEC 17000] ISO/IEC 17000 "*Conformity assessment — Vocabulary and general principles*" December 2020

3 Definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

As a general rule, definitions of ISO/IEC 17000 are applicable.

3.1.1
accreditation
third party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks

NOTE For ISASecure certification programs, accreditation is an assessment and recognition process via which an organization is granted certification body status.

3.1.2
accreditation body

third party that performs attestation, related to a conformity assessment body, conveying a formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment

3.1.3
accreditation body logo
logo used by an accreditation body to identify itself

3.1.4
accreditation certificate
formal document or a set of documents issued by an accreditation body, stating that accreditation has been granted for the defined scope

3.1.5
accreditation symbol
symbol issued by an accreditation body to be used by certification bodies to indicate their accredited status

3.1.6
conformity assessment body
body that performs conformity assessment services and that can be the object of accreditation

NOTE Examples are a laboratory, inspection body, product certification body, management system certification body and personnel certification body. This is an ISO/IEC term and concept.

3.1.7
control system
hardware and software components of an IACS

NOTE Control systems include systems that perform monitoring functions.

3.1.8
chartered laboratory
organization chartered by ASCI to evaluate products or processes under one or more ISASecure certification programs and to grant certifications under one or more of these programs

NOTE "Chartered laboratory" is a term previously used for a certification body under the ISASecure certification programs.

3.1.9
development organization
part of a supplier's organization that develops products, components, and systems, and defines and employs a secure development process that encompasses all IEC 62443-4-1 practices

NOTE Some suppliers have a separate organization that defines and maintains their development process. The above definition implies that for the purposes of the present document, such an organization is considered to be a part of all development organizations which employ that process.

3.1.10
industrial automation and control system
collection of personnel, hardware, software and policies involved in the operation of the industrial process and that can affect or influence its safe, secure, and reliable operation

3.1.11
ISASecure symbol
graphic or text affixed or displayed to designate that ISASecure certification has been achieved

NOTE The ISASecure symbol is the mark of conformity for an ASCI certification scheme. The symbol or mark is licensed by ASCI to certification bodies for the use by suppliers that have achieved requirements for a particular type of ISASecure certification and by certification bodies to signify conformance to the ISASecure certification requirements.

3.1.12
ISASecure version
ISASecure certification criteria in force at a particular point in time, defined by the set of document versions that define the certification program, and identified by a 3-place number such as ISASecure SDLA 2.6.1

3.1.13
termination
discontinuation of certified status upon request by the certified client

3.2 Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this document.

ANSI	American National Standards Institute
ASCI	Automation Standards Compliance Institute
CSA	component security assurance
IACS	industrial automation and control system(s)
IAF	International Accreditation Forum
ISCI	ISA Security Compliance Institute
ISA	International Society of Automation
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
SDL	security development lifecycle
SDLA	Security Development Lifecycle Assurance
SSA	System Security Assurance

4 ISASecure symbol and references

4.1 General

The ISASecure symbol is defined as the sequence of letters “ISASecure,” where the first four letters only are capitalized. It has specified uses in its text and graphical form. The graphical form of the ISASecure symbol shall be displayed only in the appropriate form, size, and color detailed on the ISASecure website: https://ISASecure.org.

When displayed in isolation such as on letterhead, the ISASecure symbol shall always be accompanied by the trademark notation, as in ISASecure®. When used within a document that has several occurrences of the symbol, such as a brochure or press release, the first occurrence shall have the trademark notation. In addition, in this case, the document shall also include the statement:

ISASecure ® is a Trademark of ASCI. All rights reserved.

A certification body and/or its clients shall neither use the ISASecure symbol in any misleading manner, nor shall imply in use of the symbol or in any reference that ASCI or ISCI approves of its products or development processes.

In particular, a certification body and/or its clients shall not use the ISASecure symbol in any way that might mislead the reader regarding the status of a certification body or the certification of a client's products or secure product development lifecycle process. All references that contain the ISASecure symbol shall clearly define the particular ISASecure certification program to which they are related, which in the present case would be the ISCI SDLA certification program.

4.2 Use by certification body

An ISASecure SDLA certification body may use the ISASecure symbol in text or graphical form. When an ISASecure certification body displays the ISASecure symbol in printed or online documentation, its license number (certification body identification, in five-digit format) issued by ASCI shall be printed centrally under the ISASecure symbol. Its accreditation number may also appear. ISCI shall maintain one license number for each organization, and track those ISASecure programs for which the organization is accredited, in association with that number.

In particular, the ISASecure symbol may be displayed on organizational stationery/letterhead by a certification body only if the mark or title of the certification body is also shown, along with its license number.

The following is an example of correct use of the ISASecure symbol by a certification body:

ISASecure® SDLA

Accreditation Number: WWWWW

License Number: XXXXX

A certification body is entitled to use the phrase, "An ISASecure Certification Body – Accreditation number WWWWW, License Number XXXXX" in combination with the ISASecure symbol.

To request approval to use the phrase “An ISASecure Certification Body – Accreditation number: WWWWW, License Number XXXXX” the certification body shall:

a) Submit a request to use the wording to the ASCI Managing Director; and

b) Submit a pictorial representation of how the wording is to appear

c) Submit a pictorial representation of how the wording is to appear in conjunction with the accreditation body’s mark/symbol, the ISASecure symbol or any other mark or symbol of conformity.

The ASCI Managing Director shall respond within 30 days as to whether the use of the wording as proposed by the organization is acceptable.

The certification body shall bear responsibility for obtaining any required copyrights and for monitoring the use of the wording and ensuring that the wording is not misused.

Certification bodies are entitled to incorporate the ISASecure symbol in public material that refers to accredited services, provided that the conditions in this procedure are met. Certification bodies are also entitled to make general reference to the ASCI license provided they ensure that ASCI recognition is not implied for parts of any ISASecure program for which they are not accredited.

Any use of the ISASecure symbol by the certification body that might contravene the conditions set out in this procedure will be considered a misuse of the symbol and subject to legal action which may include withdrawal of the ASCI license, or publication of the transgression or other action deemed necessary by ASCI to maintain the integrity of its mark.

4.3 Use by organization holding SDLA certification

An ISASecure SDLA certified development organization may use the text form of the ISASecure symbol, and is not permitted to use its graphical form to represent this certification. The graphical version of the ISASecure symbol may be used only to represent achievement of ISASecure product certifications for specific products, such as ISASecure CSA or ISASecure SSA.

When a development organization that holds an SDLA certification displays the (text version of the) ISASecure symbol in printed or online documentation, the certificate number issued by the certification body shall be printed centrally under the ISASecure symbol. The ISASecure version shall also appear.

The following is an example of correct use of the ISASecure symbol by an SDLA certified development organization:

ISASecure® SDLA 3.0.0

Certificate number: YYYYY

When used in context to describe a certified development organization, the following phrase shall be used:

An ISASecure SDLA certified development organization

At this time, an assertion in publicly available information that a specific product or version was developed under an ISASecure SDLA certified process, is not permitted. An assertion that a general class of products is developed under an ISASecure SDLA certified process, is permitted.

This last form of usage to describe products is subject to audit by the certification body that certified the organization, to confirm the assertions made. An organization shall not allow a reference to its SDLA certification to be used in such a way as to imply that the certification body certifies any of its products, or that any of its products conform to ISASecure product certification criteria.

As specified in [ISO/IEC 17065], the certification body agreement with its client will state that upon withdrawal, or termination of certification, the client "discontinues its use of all advertising matter that contains any reference thereto." Therefore, a reference in advertising matter to an SDLA certification previously held shall not be represented as current, if the supplier no longer holds the certification.

Also as specified in [ISO/IEC 17065], the consequences of transgressions by clients of a certification body related to use of the ISASecure symbol are managed by the certification body.

5 Certificates

The certification certificate issued by a certification body to its clients must be the one recognized by the ASCI program for the type of certification granted. An SDLA certification is granted based upon either an SDLA readiness evaluation or an SDLA full evaluation (described in SDLA-300 [SDLA-300] requirement ISASecure_SDL.R5 *Criteria for granting initial certification*). The document SDLA-205 [SDLA-205] posted on the ISASecure website contains the approved certificate formats in an editable form suitable for use as a template for the SDLA full or readiness certificate. Figure 1 illustrates the full certificate format. Figure 2 illustrates the format for an SDLA readiness certificate. The differences between these certificates are:

- The certificates use different wording to describe the SDLA certification, in the paragraph after the list of standards:
    - Full certificate: “This SDLA certification demonstrates that the certified process meets all 62443-4-1 benchmarks for maturity level 2 and meets maturity level 3 benchmarks for the subset of 62443-4-1 requirements identified in SDLA normative documents.”
    - Readiness certificate: “This SDLA certification demonstrates that the certified process meets all 62443-4-1 benchmarks for maturity level 2 and meets mandatory maturity level 3 benchmarks for requirements identified in SDLA normative documents for a readiness certification. It also demonstrates that the certified process meets maturity level 3 benchmarks for additional 62443-4-1 requirements where selected by the supplier and documented in the certification report.”
- The interim nature of a readiness certification is noted in the second to last sentence of the readiness certificate:

- Full certificate: “This certification meets a prerequisite for ISASecure product certifications to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-2 and ANSI/ISA-62443-3-3, which require conformity to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1.”

- Readiness certificate: “This interim readiness certification meets a prerequisite for ISASecure product certifications to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-2 and ANSI/ISA-62443-3-3, which require conformity to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1.”

- The readiness certificate reflects a one year expiration date; the full SDLA certificate reflects a three year expiration date:

  - Full certificate: “This certificate is valid for three years until the expiration date <date>.”

  - Readiness certificate: “This certificate is valid for one year until the expiration date <date>.”

The wording and relative placement of the information on the certificate shall be used. The Supplier Contact information is optional, included if desired by the supplier. It may be for example one or more physical addresses, email addresses or web sites via which a reader of the certificate may request further information. If alterations are made to the approved certificate, prior to its use, the ASCI Managing Director must approve the certification certificate used by the certification body. A typical example would be addition of the logo of the certification body organization to the certificate. The graphical form of the ISASecure logo shall not appear on an ISASecure SDLA certificate.

Certificate

Sep 23, 2026

SEC 09323

Certifiers, Inc. hereby confirms that the process entitled:

"Secure Control Security Lifecycle Process" which is employed by

Supplier: *Secure Control, Inc.*
Development Organizations:
Company-wide

Supplier contact:
Secure Control, Inc. Some address, Some City, CA, USA

conforms to requirements of:

ISASecure® Security Development Lifecycle Assurance 3.0.1

(Incorporating SDLA-102 Errata v4.7)

ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1-2018 Secure product development lifecycle requirements

IEC 62443-4-1:2018 Secure product development lifecycle requirements

The normative documents and issue dates that define this certification are listed at https://isasecure.org. This SDLA certification demonstrates that the certified process meets all 62443-4-1 benchmarks for maturity level 2 and meets mandatory maturity level 3 benchmarks for requirements identified in SDLA normative documents for a readiness certification. It also demonstrates that the certified process meets maturity level 3 benchmarks for additional 62443-4-1 requirements where selected by the supplier and documented in the certification report.

This certification applies to versions 6.0 or later of "Secure Control Security Lifecycle Process."
This certification meets a prerequisite for ISASecure product certifications to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-2 and ANSI/ISA-62443-3-3, which require conformity to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1.

This certificate is valid for one year until the expiration date Sep 30, 2027.

_____

Authorized representative

Certification Body:
Certifiers, Inc.
Another Address
Another City, NY, USA
License: nnnnn

Figure 1. Example certificate for SDLA full certification

Certificate

Sep 23, 2026

SEC 09323

Certifiers, Inc. hereby confirms that the process entitled:

"Secure Control Security Lifecycle Process" which is employed by

Supplier: *Secure Control, Inc.*
Development Organizations:
Company-wide

Supplier contact:
Secure Control, Inc. Some address, Some City, CA, USA

conforms to requirements of:

ISASecure® Security Development Lifecycle Assurance 3.0.1
(Incorporating SDLA-102 Errata v4.7)

ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1-2018 Secure product development lifecycle requirements
IEC 62443-4-1:2018 Secure product development lifecycle requirements

The normative documents and issue dates that define this certification are listed at https://isasecure.org. This SDLA certification demonstrates that the certified process meets all 62443-4-1 benchmarks for maturity level 2 and meets maturity level 3 benchmarks for the subset of 62443-4-1 requirements identified in SDLA normative documents.

This certification applies to versions 6.0 or later of "Secure Control Security Lifecycle Process."
This interim readiness certification meets a prerequisite for ISASecure product certifications to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-2 and ANSI/ISA-62443-3-3, which require conformity to ANSI/ISA-62443-4-1.

This certificate is valid for three years until the expiration date Sep 30, 2029.

_____

Authorized representative

Certification Body:
Certifiers, Inc.
Another Address
Another City, NY, USA
License: nnnnn

Figure 2. Example certificate for SDLA readiness certification

In the above case these certificates identify one development organization, with name the same name as the supplier. Other possibilities to identify certified development organizations are illustrated by the following examples:

- ABC Company: Division Z
- ABC Company: Product Line L Team
- ABC Company: Development site X, Development site Y
- ABC Company: All development organizations under the authority of <ABC Company central security organization name>

The certificates shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2 are examples of certificates for one development organization, which in this case encompasses all development functions of the company identified. This is indicated by the text: “which is employed by

Supplier: *Secure Control Inc.*
Development Organization(s): *Company-wide*”

As another example, if one or more development organizations for a supplier are certified under the same certificate, and these organizations are not defined by particular physical locations, then the supplier’s name would be followed by the names of the development organizations, as in the example:

Supplier: *Secure Control Inc.*
Development Organization(s): *Energy Division; Telecom Division*

If one or more development organizations certified under the certificate are defined by particular physical locations, the supplier’s name would be followed by names that identify the locations of the development organizations, as in the example:

Supplier: *Secure Control Inc.*
Development Organization(s)*: Oklahoma City, OK, USA; Seattle,* WA, USA

There is no requirement that all development organizations listed on a certificate be defined in the same manner (defined by a physical location, or not defined by a physical location).

If the supplier desires supplier contact information on the certificate, it may or may not be specific to the development organizations certified, at the discretion of the supplier. As examples, it could be the address of a division certified under the certificate, or a general sales website.

The certifier shall ensure that the certificate accurately depicts the scope of the certification evaluation.

6 Change in accreditation status

Upon withdrawal or suspension of the certification body accreditation, a certification body shall immediately cease to issue certificates and any other materials displaying the ISASecure symbol, license or containing reference to ASCI recognition.

7 Modification of the ISASecure symbol

Upon any modifications to the ISASecure symbol, ASCI must immediately inform certification bodies of its changes and proper use. The effective date for the use of the new symbol must be published on the website: https://ISASecure.org.

8 Use of accreditation certificates and symbol

Certification body use of the accreditation certificates issued by the accreditation body and the associated symbols must follow the policies and procedures of the accreditation body.

— — — — — —