

ISO/IEC JTC 1 "Information technology"

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SC 32 Business Plan 2025

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Description

This document is circulated for review and consideration at the November 2025 JTC 1 Plenary,

1.0 Executive Summary

JTC 1/SC 32 Data Management and Interchange

The scope and a brief history of the subcommittee can be found [here](#).

SC 32 participants continue to progress a wide range of projects. These projects range from revisions of standards for relatively mature technologies to new standards for emerging technologies. Participants include major vendors, academics, experts from joint initiatives such as the LDBC (Linked Data Benchmark Council), and users, including government agencies. Contributions are received from North America, Asia, Australia, and Europe—a resource that is beneficial to the quantity and quality of the standards. These strengths stand against substantial risks of shifting priorities and support within participating organizations, as well as competition from other standards development organizations.

2.0 Environment

The Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, AI data stores, data usage and privacy, advanced analytics, approximate querying, streaming data, and semi- or un-structure data use all represent major areas of opportunity where market forces are creating demand for SC 32 standards. Some, such as streaming data and queries on data representations for AI extraction from a database, fall squarely within the SC 32 scope of work; while others, such as AI and IoT, represent areas where SC 32 can implement standards that support architectural or reference work taking place in other SC's or TC's. SC 32 continues to work with others involved to identify specific standardization needs and respond with current and newly proposed projects.

Many new and interesting areas for standardization, such as "artificial intelligence", Internet of Things, data privacy and usage, and cloud computing span a wide range of SC and TC scope. SC 32 must be diligent in taking ownership of those aspects that match its expertise and scope, while not interfering with (and indeed, supporting) those aspects that are more appropriate to other TCs/SCs or to joint working efforts.

3.0 Achievements and benefits

Every enterprise, from small home-based activities to multinational corporations and governments, depends on the data that it acquires, accumulates, and generates.

It may seem obvious that the entire range of enterprises uses database management systems to manage and protect its data, but enterprises also must know and understand the organization and meaning of its data – that is, the data that describes its data.

4.0 Participation and cooperation/collaboration.

The number of participating (P) and observing (O) members of SC 32 can be found [here](#).

In terms of recent plenary meeting participation:

- **2024 SC 32 Plenary:** 33 participants from 10 P-members attended.
- **2025 SC 32 Plenary:** 39 participants from 9 P-members attended.

The number of members who participated in at least the last two SC 32 plenary meetings is under review to ensure accurate tracking of ongoing engagement.

Liaison Relationships

A complete list of SC 32's liaison relationships—including those with other ISO and IEC committees, as well as external organizations and consortia—can be found [here](#).

Membership Development

SC 32 actively seeks to broaden its membership through targeted outreach efforts. One key strategy is to host working group meetings in regions not currently represented among SC 32's P-members.

A recent example of this initiative was the SC 32/WG 3 meeting, held in March 2025 at the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS), located in Trincity Industrial Estate, Macoya, Tunapuna, Trinidad and Tobago. As a direct result of this engagement, Trinidad and Tobago has since become a P-member of SC 32.

5.0 Objectives and strategies to achieve them

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32 is responsible for the development and maintenance of standards in the areas of data management and interchange, including management of data for business transactions, metadata, and usage of data (especially in open environments such as the World Wide Web).

e-Business standards, particularly ISO/IEC 15944, Information technology — Business operational view (a multi-part standard), are the responsibility of WG 1. They standardize numerous functions required by large enterprises and governments, including coded domains that ensure unambiguous data and communications among enterprises, standardized ontologies on which contracts can be based, and the structure and formalization of the phases and semantic contents of business transactions as well as related privacy protection, information life cycle management (ILCM), privacy-by-design (PbD) and crossborder data flows (CBDF) requirements.

WG 2 defines standards for metadata, including specifications of how to define the structure and meanings of data used by enterprises. Its standards include (but are not limited to): ISO/IEC 11179, a widely-adopted standard that specifies metadata repositories in which a large variety of metadata and data models can be maintained for access by enterprise activities; ISO/IEC 19583, which specifies the concepts of metadata and the mechanisms by which it is specified; and ISO/IEC 19763, a framework for metamodel interoperability.

The widely-implemented database language SQL (ISO/IEC 9075) and a series of Guidance standards (ISO/IEC 19075) have been specified over four decades by WG 3 (and its predecessors). Current new work includes the specification of a new standard, GQL, for property graph database query and maintenance (ISO/IEC 39075).

WG 6 standards-in-development include ISO/IEC 5207, Information technology — Data usage — Terminology and use cases and ISO/IEC 5207, Information technology — Data usage — Guidance for data usage. The focus of these standards is governing the ways in which data are used in open environment, with attention to disambiguation and privacy.

6.0 Factors affecting completion and adoption of the work program

There is always some factors that major vendors may wish to re-focus their efforts within national bodies or other standards groups, with the intention to progress the resulting standards through JTC 1 as Fast Track or PAS submissions. There exists some factors that proponents of particular technologies may prefer that they be developed in an open source community and eschew formal standardization. To minimize these factors, SC 32's WGs have been working more closely with open source communities. There is a possibility that major standards such as SQL could be declared as mature and not require substantial additional effort within SC 32. There is also a possibility that major participant groups within any of the WGs may drop participation for financial, programmatic, product, or other reasons, thus damaging the viability of the WG and/or SC 32.

7.0 Structure, current projects, and publications

The current structure of SC 32 can be found [here](#).

6 new standards were published and 23 projects started since the last report in 2024.

Here lists of the projects under SC 32

- [Published](#)
- [Under development](#)

Preliminary Work Items (PWI) Introduced:

- ISO/IEC PWI 26029 – Data usage – Data management maturity model
- ISO/IEC PWI 11179-36 – Metadata Registries – Part 36: Metamodel for AI Model registration

New Projects Initiated:

- ISO/IEC 15944-22 – Business Operational View – Part 22: Framework for types of commitments in support of data interchanges in a business transaction
- ISO/IEC TR 19583-29 – Concepts and usage of metadata – Part 29: ISO/IEC 11179 use cases

New Proposal (NP) Ballots Launched:

- ISO/IEC NP 24927 – Data usage – Evaluation of data usage in organizations
- ISO/IEC NP 25985 – Data usage – Trusted data usage

Revisions Initiated:

- ISO/IEC 20944 series - Metadata Registries – Interoperability and Bindings (MDR-IB)
- ISO/IEC 9075 series - SQL
- ISO/IEC 39075 - GQL