

Recommendation Information Security - VDA ISA und TISAX¹

The German Association of the Automotive Industry (VDA) established the "Information Security" working group in 2003. Here, experts from the automotive industry work together to develop common standards based on international standards and recommend appropriate security measures. A major result of this cooperation is the VDA Information Security Assessment (ISA) catalogue. This catalogue has established itself as an industry standard for information security assessments and is based on the ISO/IEC 27001 standard.

The VDA ISA catalogue is available for download on the [VDA Website](#). Among other things, it serves as a basis for self-assessments to determine the state of information security in the organization (e.g. companies), for audits by internal departments (e.g. internal audit, information security) and for the audit according to TISAX, <http://enx.com/tisax/>

The VDA ISA catalogue consists of a general basic module with the essential requirements for an information security management system (ISMS). The catalogue is supplemented by additional modules such as Prototype protection and data protection, which contain corresponding requirements, as well as further information such as implementation examples and KPIs.

The VDA recommends that companies involved in the automotive industry's value chain establish information security based on the VDA ISA.

In order to make the implementation of Information Security Assessments with the VDA ISA effective and efficient throughout the industry and to avoid multiple audits of individual companies, the responsible committees of the VDA 2016 have created the content and formal prerequisites for a joint review and exchange mechanism for Information Security Assessments and their results - TISAX.

The VDA assigned the ENX Association as a neutral body with the management and support of TISAX. TISAX creates competition among audit providers and enables a common recognition of assessment results among TISAX participants. All audit providers conduct TISAX assessments based on the VDA ISA catalogue.

The ENX Association acts as a governance organization. It approves the audit providers and monitors the quality of the performance and the audit results. Legally this control function is ensured by a "triangle of governance" that consists of a contract between ENX Association and each audit provider as well as the General Terms and Conditions (GTC) between ENX Association and each participant. By registering, the participant agrees to these GTC. This ensures that the audit results correspond to a desired quality and objectivity and guarantee appropriate rights and obligations of the participants.

For the participation in TISAX and the mutual recognition of audit results a registration is required - <https://portal.enx.com/en-US/TISAX/>.

Further information are available in the [TISAX Participant Handbook](#).

¹ Trusted Information Security Assessment eXchange