



SPICE: First intacs™ process assessment model for hardware development

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By contributing its own hardware development process, ITK Engineering has played a major part in creating the new standard.

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In 2018, the technology company ITK Engineering GmbH teamed up with other experts from the automotive industry in an intacs™ working group. The aim was to develop a new standard for hardware development. The result of this process has been recently published and heralds a paradigm shift in quality assurance for hardware development in the automotive industry. The intacs™ association is the world's leading training and certification scheme for ISO/IEC 33020-compliant process assessment models. It has now unveiled the first ever process assessment model for the development of hardware in the automotive industry: intacs™ Hardware Engineering SPICE. This can also be seen as a potential plug-in for Automotive SPICE®.

Press Release

The platform for this new standardized hardware development process – the so called process reference model (PRM) – was provided by ITK Engineering. For many years now, the company has been working with customers from the automotive industry on the basis of its very own hardware development process and therefore made this available to the intacs™ working group. This new solution – Hardware Engineering SPICE – will help improve assessment of development processes, identify weaknesses and, on this basis, improve the quality of hardware.

For almost two decades now, software development with Automotive SPICE® has been one of the recognized methods used by VDA members for the purposes of process assessment in the development of software-based systems. It supports the development of safety-relevant software in compliance with ISO 26262 and is currently available in version 3.1. Publication of this new standard marks a further step on the part of the automotive industry. In the future, this proven method of software system development will also be integrated in hardware development processes.

“The use of Automotive SPICE® is obligatory in the case of software but not yet for hardware development,” says Claudio La Rocca, head of quality assurance at ITK Engineering and one of the world’s first assessors for intacs™ Hardware Engineering SPICE. “However, this new process assessment model does provide a guideline for OEMs – and that’s important, especially with regard to product liability. This newly defined process assessment model for hardware development is therefore an important step for OEMs and the automotive industry as a whole: it enables them to identify weaknesses early on and save valuable time and costs. And that’s the only way to ensure high-quality hardware.” As co-founder of this new standard, La Rocca conducts process assessments for customers of ITK Engineering and also shares his knowledge in special training seminars

- Automotive SPICE expert and co-developer of the new standard for hardware development processes Claudio La Rocca from ITK Engineering is available for interview. All inquiries should be addressed to presse@itk-engineering.de
- About Intacs – International Assessor Certification Scheme™: [Home | intacs.info](http://intacs.info)
- Intacs™ – Publication “Intacs™ Working Group `HW Engineering Processes” [Title \(intacs.info\)](http://intacs.info)
- ITK Engineering’s training program includes a seminar on “Hardware processes according to Hardware Spice” – more information is available: <https://www.itk-engineering.de/academy/?s=spice>



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About ITK Engineering

ITK Engineering GmbH was established in 1994 as "Ingenieurbüro für technische Kybernetik" and is an internationally operating technology company with customers in the automotive and aerospace industries as well as in building and medical technologies, motorsports, robotics and transportation. In addition to tailored technical consulting and development services, the company offers turn-key systems in the fields of software engineering, embedded systems, model-based design and testing as well as control systems design and signal processing. With a staff of 1,200 associates, ITK is headquartered in Rülzheim (Palatinate) and has nine branch offices in Germany. In addition, ITK is represented in the USA, in Japan, Spain and Austria. Worldwide, 1,300 associates are working for the engineering partner. Since 2017, ITK Engineering is a 100-percent subsidiary of the Robert Bosch GmbH.

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