

Dear intacs e.V. members, SPICE assessors and friends of intacs®!

The year is running fast; a lot of assessments are performed; new PAMs are released, and some procedures were updated. So, it is time for a next information letter to provide you an update.

Due to the steadily growing number of assessors in Asian countries we also provide translations of our information letter into other languages to lower the barrier to get information on our activities. From now on we provide a translation for China, Japan, and Korea! Thanks to our Regional Representatives to support us with translating and reviewing the content!

All the best,

Your WG "Information Management"

Table of Contents

News from the Executive Board	2
<i>intacs e.V. was exhibitor at the conference VDA SYS 2023 in Berlin (DE)</i>	2
<i>Save the date: intacs members convention 2023</i>	2
<i>Intacs offers scholarship</i>	2
<i>Behind the scenes: new training section on our website</i>	2
News from our working groups	3
<i>Status of intacs Working Group "Data management SPICE"</i>	3
<i>Status of intacs Working Group "Agile SPICE™"</i>	3
<i>Status of intacs Working Group "Procedures"</i>	4
<i>Status of intacs Working Group "Training"</i>	4
<i>New intacs Working Group "Software Automation SPICE"</i>	5
<i>Status of intacs Working Group "Assessor Support"</i>	6
News from Certification Bodies	7
<i>News from ECQA</i>	7
Disclaimer, Trademarks, and Imprint	8
<i>Trademarks</i>	8
<i>Translations</i>	8
<i>Comments and Feedback</i>	8

News from the Executive Board

intacs e.V. was exhibitor at the conference VDA SYS 2023 in Berlin (DE)

This year, intacs e.V. was represented with its own booth at the VDA SYS conference. Following the conference, three intacs events took place: a pilot training for Hardware SPICE, the Organizational SPICE Working Group meeting and the Executive Board meeting. During the conference, business packages were handed out to the Regional Representatives in attendance. The annual intacs dinner was also used intensively by the participants for personal exchanges. All discussions were important to get feedback and a mood survey on current topics such as the new training concept, new models, and extensions. We will process the feedback as part of our further planning and in discussions with our partners.

Save the date: intacs members convention 2023

Our next intacs members convention will take place on September 8th, 2023 (1:00pm - 3:00pm) as an Online event. All details with registration, time, login etc. will be communicated with the official invitation. The invitations to the members were sent out on time. So, stay tuned.

Intacs offers scholarship

Intacs e.V. aims to support students in the area of SPICE and Process Management by offering two scholarships per year. The topics can be defined by the students itself. The only requirement is that the topics are linked to SPICE or Process Management. Of course, intacs can also support in identifying an appropriate and interesting topic. The big advantage for the students is that they have the possibility to get in contact with process experts of the various topics quite easily. If you want to apply or still have questions, please get in contact with executive@intacs.info.

The scholarship is funded with 500 EUR per month and will be paid for a duration of 12 months. The good news is for 2023 one scholarship is still left.

Behind the scenes: new training section on our website

A new "Training" section has been added to our website ([Link](#)) with an overview of the training concept, the certification scheme, current dates (here: Automotive SPICE® 4.0) and a list of training providers. In the future, dates for all pilot trainings will also be published here. Intacs would like to offer the certified instructors the possibility to qualify in a timely manner and to improve the worldwide communication.

**Executive Board contact:**

Lars Dittmann (lars.dittmann@intacs.info)

News from our working groups

Status of intacs Working Group “Data management SPICE”

We are glad to have finished our first public version of the model. Thanks to all the support from the team we were able to release v1.1 in May 2023 ([Link](#) - please Login for Download).

A first pilot training and Gate4Spice Workshop caught the attention of quite a few interested parties. We got a lot of valuable information and feedback, which will lead to an updated version ideally by the end of 2023 with minor changes.

We plan to update the public training material and the associated exam by September 2023. First public trainings are now available in the market. Next year we will investigate in the alignment with Automotive SPICE 4.x.

Feel free to contact the group in case of any questions.

**Contact:**

Christian Hübscher (christian.hertneck@intacs.info)

Status of intacs Working Group “Agile SPICE™”

Agile SPICE™ Rollout

In March two pilot trainings including online exam took place with active participation. This enabled us to further improve the model, training material and exam questions. Due to the feedback, the Agile SPICE™ training was approved for general use and in the meantime numerous trainings from different training providers took place.

ECQA® acts as the certification body for Agile SPICE™ and conducts the exams online. Starting in July, certificates were sent out upon successful completion of the exam.

The participants and their companies benefit a lot from Agile SPICE™. They are specifically oriented towards the base practices of Agile SPICE™, which fits well with agile development in terms of structure and, above all, wording. The mapping to ASPICE® also allows projects to report progress in Agile SPICE™ and ASPICE® at the same time.

The Gate4SPICE meeting on Agile SPICE™ in May was well received. The results will flow into the next optimization cycles in 2023. In particular, an alignment with ASPICE® 4.0 is planned.

**Contact:**

Christian Knüvener (christian.knuevener@intacs.info)

Status of intacs Working Group “Procedures”

The procedures work group is further strengthened to enhance the relationship to the Executive and Advisory Boards with Lars Dittmann – Vice President Intacs, officially has joined the workgroup.

In the last months the WG “Procedures” has worked on certain challenging reviews and documentation procedures to support the further structuring of the Association. The procedures and rules are revised in close cooperation with the Working Groups:

- Review of Training and Exam procedures and its translation to English. – The scope of this document is to ensure planning, execution and monitoring of trainings and examinations in the context of the expert and assessor training.
- Development of Procedure for Release of Training course – The scope of this procedure is to provide the definition of certificates that are formally provided by Intacs and to define rules for signature (both physical and digital).
- Development and Release of Procedure Approval Process – The purpose of this procedure is to define the workflow of review and approval of new and modified work products for release and publication.
- Development of Procedure for Providing certificates
- Minor updates of existing forms and templates in addition to update on the naming convention

We would like to point out once again in this context that the business language of intacs e.V. is English. The reference of all documents is in English.

See also: [Download intacs Files](#)


	Contact: Rajesh Ganji (ganji.rajesh@intacs.info)
---	--

Status of intacs Working Group “Training”

Starting in April 2023 intacs has split the WG Training into two teams to be able to manage the increased work load due to a lot of updates and new extensions.

- Team 1 will focus on the maintenance of our existing course material e.g., Process Expert, Provisional Assessor and Competent Assessor. Lead: Dr. Jürgen Schmied
- Team 2 will focus on the training coordination, creating new courses and new course material for extension trainings. Lead: Josefin Benning

More details e.g., a roadmap for the rollout of new training material are available on the new website category: <https://intacs.info/training-center>

	Contact: Josefin Benning (josefin.benning@intacs.info) and Dr. Jürgen Schmied (juergen.schmied@intacs.info)
---	---

New intacs Working Group “Software Automation SPICE”

Purpose

The aim of this Working Group is to establish a process reference model as SPICE extension that is aligned with the ISO/IEC 15504:2012 standard and allows the determination of the capability level for the Automation of the SW development processes and supporting processes of a project.

The working group will also take care for the creation of the standard training material and the exam questions.

Motivation

In SW development and for all supporting processes Automation plays an increasing role. Examples for Automation are Test Automation (Software unit, integration, system test), Continuous Deployment and Continuous Integration, supporting processes, e.g., configuration management, etc. So far, no standard exists to check, how much is automated and how mature the Automation is. With the SW Automation Reference Model, it is intended to close this gap.

Development tools and methodologies provide and require an increasing support for software automation.

The software automation reference model does not depend on the used project model. Besides, software automation can be used at organization and at project level.

Benefits of using a process reference model (PRM) for software automation could decrease the effort and costs of the implementation of automation processes within projects and companies.

Current Status & Next Steps

Process reference models and the international standards have been analyzed. Current activities of the working group aim at establishing the structure of the envisaged process reference model. In the next phase, we plan to elaborate the first draft of the model.

**Contact:**

István Kocsis (istvan.kocsis@intacs.info)

Status of intacs Working Group “Assessor Support”

The Working Group “Assessor Support” is mainly responsible for organization and support of the well-established Gate4SPICE events.

Thanks to the support of the intacs community, 21 Gate4SPICE events have already been held in the first half of 2023. For the second half of 2023, 10 Gate4SPICE events are already planned.

We are happy that meanwhile Gate4SPICE events are taking place all over the world. So, this year first G4S events took place in Mexico and the UK. The first G4S event in France is planned for October.

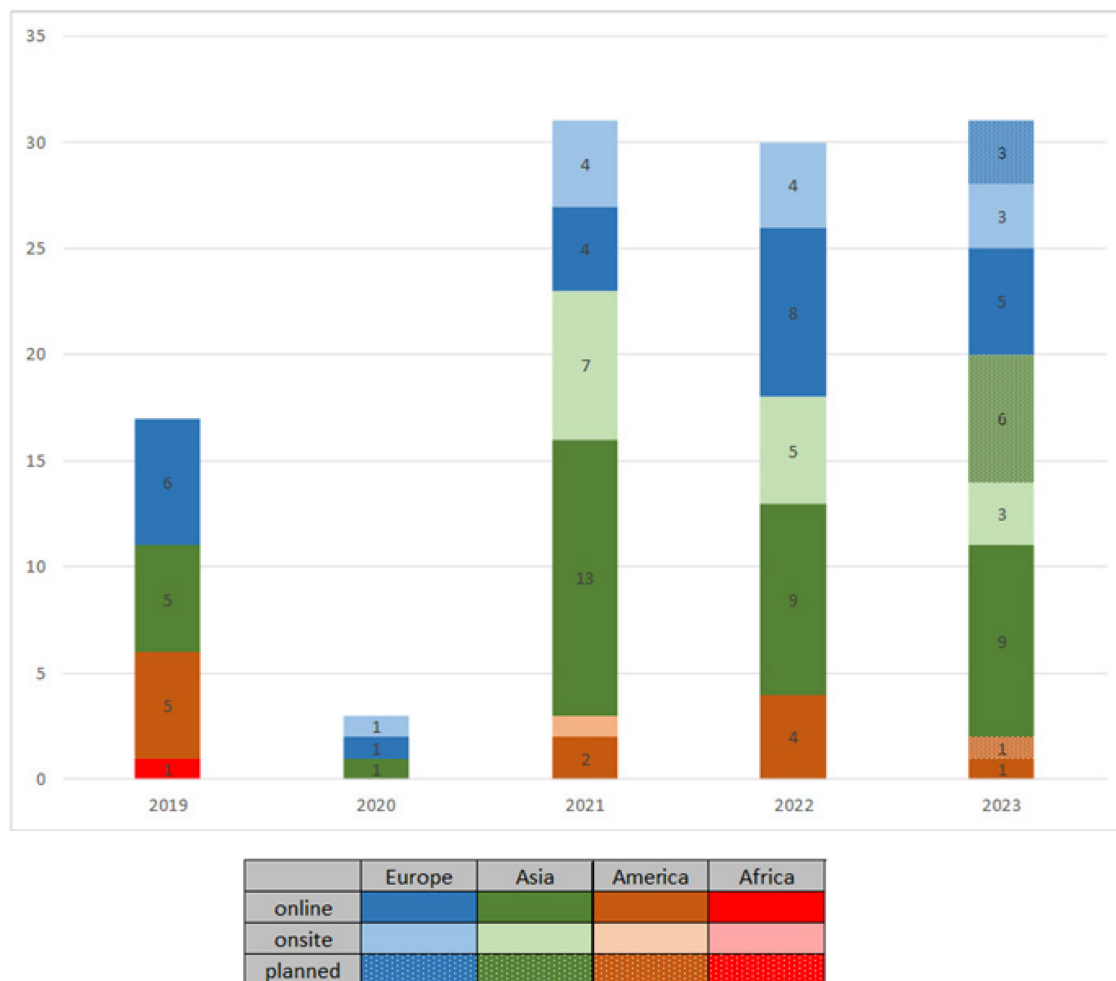


Figure 1: Gate4SPICE event within the last years

To ensure that also in the future Gate4SPICE events can continue to be successful and beneficial for the assessor’s community, your support with suggestions for interesting future topics, as a speaker or as a host is highly appreciated. Mr. André Zeh would be happy to support you with organizational questions or to discuss your ideas.



Contact:

André Zeh (andre.zeh@intacs.info)

News from Certification Bodies

News from ECQA

ECQA's mission is to provide Europe-wide certification schemes for people's competences and skills in numerous professions. Backed by a large, continuously expanding European and international network of both industrial and academic expert professionals and organizations in numerous domains, the ECQA fosters the elaboration and deployment of competence frameworks and skill cards, as well as their frequent adaptation to the rapidly evolving needs and requirements on the job market. Based on these competence frameworks and skill cards, the ECQA provides certification processes and facilities for currently more than 30 job roles in various domains.

The ECQA has built Focus Groups around strategic domains such as Accessibility, Cultural Heritage, Cybersecurity, Functional Safety, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Mobility, Sustainability, etc. These European expert groups drive forward the filling of the skills gaps in existing and emerging job roles in their domains, as well as across those. ECQA board members have themselves expertise in at least one of these domains, allowing them to get actively engaged in defining the strategic direction of these groups.

Apart from certification, the ECQA also defines and verifies quality criteria for training organizations and trainers to leverage comparable quality levels of trainings across Europe and beyond. Furthermore, the ECQA also centrally promotes all certified job roles via newsletters, website, social media, and participation in dissemination events. So far, the ECQA GmbH has certified more than 10.000 professionals in Europe and beyond, they have had more than 15.000 candidates attending online skills browsing and exam facilities. They unite about 60 accredited VETs (Vocational education and training) as training bodies in 18 EU countries. The facilities are owned by the ECQA, and the premise is entirely independent from other beneficiaries and/or partner organizations in the consortium.

As a certification body ECQA works for intacs in organizing and certifying the exams for the non-automotive PAM (ISO/IEC 15504, ISO/IEC 33xxx, SPICE for IT Services, Test SPICE...) and new extension modules (Agile SPICE, Data Management SPICE). ECQA also is the certification body for the VDI (Association of German Engineers) and their Medical SPICE PAM.

This text is kindly provided by ECQA.

**Contact:**

Michael Reiner (info@ecqa.org)

Disclaimer, Trademarks, and Imprint

In case you like to register or cancel your registration for this newsletter, please log-in into your account at intacs.info and edit your profile - Newsletter Language.

Trademarks

We would like to point out that the use of trademarks has been detailed in agreement with our partners as follows:

intacs®, Automotive SPICE®, VDA QMC® and ECQA® are registered trademarks. The usage of the forenamed trademarks and any associated logo for any kind of certificate is prohibited.

The usage of logos for other purposes must always be approved in writing in advance by the respective rights holder. Any infringement may lead to a loss of the assessor's certification and may trigger legal consequences.

Please also mind the statements in the "[Application for Assessor Certification](#)" document signed by each assessor for the first and re-application of the assessor license.

Used trademarks in this document:

- Automotive SPICE®, ASPICE®, VDA® and QMC® are registered trademarks of VDA Verband der Automobilindustrie e.V., 10117, Berlin, DE
- ECQA® is a registered trademark of Reiner, Michael, 3552, Dross, AT
- intacs® and Agile SPICE™ are registered trademarks of International Assessor Certification Scheme e.V. (iNTACS e.V.), 51147, Köln, DE

Translations

All translations are based on the English version of the information letter. The English version is the leading version. This information letter and all translations are property of intacs e.V.

Comments and Feedback

Do you have comments or feedback to our information letter?

Your feedback is highly welcome!

All the best,

Thomas Kömmerling & Team

**Contact:**

Thomas Kömmerling (thomas.koemmerling@intacs.info)
intacs® Working Group Lead Information Management

International Assessor Certification Scheme e.V. (intacs e.V.), Herderstr. 7, 51147 Köln, Germany