

FAQ

Is SPiCE 1-2-1 compatible to ISO 15504?

Not only compatible. The 1-2-1 in the name of the tool means "one to one", so we depicted the standard on a one to one basis. That means: SPiCE 1-2-1 contains 100% of ISO 15504 Part 2 "Performing an Assessment" and additionally all defined Base Practices and Work Products from Part 5 "An exemplar Process Assessment Model".

Note: This version represents the 2012 release of Part 5. Upon request we still have another edition of the tool, which represents the 2006 release of Part 5. Since the processes have changed (mostly structural, not from their content), assessment files from SPiCE 1-2-1 IS (2006) can not be opened with SPiCE 1-2-1: 2012 and vice versa.

What about SPiCE 1-2-1 and CMM?

Now there is a newer version of CMM (Capability Maturity Model) available, it is called: CMMI (CMM Integrated). This CMMI is a direct successor of the well known CMM version 1.1 and it arrived instead of CMM 2.0. The good message is: CMMI claims to be SPiCE (ISO 15504) "compatible and compliant". So now, in theory, a SPiCE 1-2-1 assessment would be comparable to a CMMI assessments. but in practice, the assignment to the CMMI *Process Areas* is not that easy, because there sometimes is a different picture of the world behind. More info can be found at CMMIInstitute.com, but we think you will be happier if you can check it out from the viewpoint of the assessment tool. See: CMM-Quest-com.

Why ISO 15504 (SPiCE) and nothing else?

Of course, alternative assessment methods do have their advantages. SPiCE was established through an international committee of experts and thus contains most of the advantages of all existing assessment methods in a standardized shape. The biggest disadvantage of SPiCE is the huge amount of information. Consider to read 400 pages.

But this was especially the reason for us to create the SPiCE 1-2-1 Assessment Tool: With this tool, it is much easier and entertainingly to read and learn about ISO 15504 - instead of reading 400 pages!

Why should a software company use SPiCE?

- Because your customer wants it (space, automotive industry, finance etc.)
- Because it guarantees comparability
- Because it is the smallest common denominator: SPiCE is THE standard!

But, take care: Small software enterprises can hardly put the whole standard into realisation. A minimum size of the organisation is needed. For small companies (up to 15 employees) we recommend to use the assessment tool [SPiCE-Lite](#).

What does SPiCE 1-2-1 "bring"?

SPiCE 1-2-1 shows up the current situation concerning software development in a brilliant way. The degree of process orientation, the amount of relevant definitions and the extent of adoption are measured. With this, you have a basis which allows you to define future goals and derive corresponding plans on how to reach these goals in substantial improvement projects.

SPiCE 1-2-1 is used in many organizations to create the right atmosphere of motivation and information to enable changes into the right direction.

Because "Motivation without Information is Illusion"