

## ISA Security Compliance Institute Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What does the ISA Security Compliance Institute do?  
The Institute provides market awareness, technical support, education and, compliance for the *ISASecure* industrial automation control systems (IACS) security requirements that are based on ISA99 and other relevant IACS security standards.
2. Who owns the ISA Security Compliance Institute?  
The Institute operates as a Forum within the Automation Standards Compliance Institute, a non-profit entity established and owned by ISA for the purpose of creating linkages between IACS industry standards and adoption / adherence to those standards.
3. Are ISA Members automatically members of the Institute?  
No. The Institute is a consortium whose members are comprised of organizations, not individuals. The Institute is part of ASCI a non-profit entity separate from ISA.
4. Isn't the ISA Security Compliance Institute duplicating the efforts of the ISA99 Standards Committee?  
No. The Institute is not a Standards Development Organization (SDO) while the ISA99 Standards Committee is a standards development initiative within ISA, an ANSI accredited SDO. The Institute promotes the adoption of work products resulting from efforts of the ISA99 Standards Committee and other relevant IACS SDO's.
5. Is the Institute ensuring conformance to the ISA99 Standards only or will the *ISASecure* designation include requirements from other sources?  
The Institute was founded by members associated with ISA99 Standards efforts and will include ISA99 Standards as the basis for *ISASecure* conformance requirements. However, the Institute recognizes the value of other IACS Security initiatives and is chartered to include their output in the *ISASecure* conformance requirements based upon consensus from Institute's Technical Committee Members.
6. Why are the Institute's membership fees so much higher than ISA's membership fees?  
ISA is an individual membership organization whose mission does not include compliance programs and as a mature industry organization ISA has over 30,000 members. The Institute is an industry consortium comprised of companies/organizations and will manage compliance programs that typically experience high funding requirements during startup. The Institute is expected to have 200-300 members when the program matures.

7. Why do users have to pay a membership fee?  
The Institute provides value to the IACS community over the full life cycle of control systems. This includes the development process for control system products, the control system devices/systems and, the deployment and life cycle management of control systems at user sites. As such, users/asset owners benefit from the *ISASecure* program over and above assurances of product conformance.
8. Will the Institute build testing labs to perform *ISASecure* device conformance testing?  
Building test labs is not part of the Institute's launch and growth strategy. Labs require extensive capital investments and intensive planning and development. The Institute seeks to use existing relationships between suppliers and testing labs in combination with developing business agreements with established labs who meet the qualifications to conduct conformance testing on behalf of the ISA Security Compliance Institute. A key objective is to minimize the cost and inconvenience to suppliers associated with establishing new relationships with testing entities.
9. How much will it cost to have a device / system tested for *ISASecure* conformance?  
Since the Institute expects to use existing testing entities, the conformance tests are anticipated to be in line with existing fees for product testing. For example, a new release of a simple field device may be \$1,500 while a more complex, intelligent routable device may be \$20,000.
10. How long will it take to have a device tested?  
The Institute expects to use existing testing entities, selected based on input from suppliers. We will seek testing entities with demonstrated track records for reasonable turnaround and service levels so as not to adversely affect a vendor's ability to go to market according to their product release schedules.
11. Who owns the *ISASecure* specification?  
The Automation Standards Compliance Institute owns the *ISASecure* specification.
12. Who determines what goes into the *ISASecure* specification and how?  
The ISA Security Compliance Institute has a technical steering committee comprised of volunteer members who evaluate and vote upon the specification in a process similar to the ISA Standards committees. The key difference is that the committee work is limited to individuals from member organizations and is NOT open to non-members wishing to participate.
13. How do you ensure that the efforts of the ISA99 Standards Committee are properly considered in the *ISASecure* program and how will the Institute provide marketplace feedback to the ISA99 Standards Committee?

A formal liaison exists between the ISA99 standards committee and the Institute at the Governing Board level and on the Institute's Technical Steering Committee to assure that the work of the Institute can benefit from the work of the committee and vice-versa.

14. Does the Institute use a RAND policy or do all member contributions to the specification become the property of the Institute royalty free?  
All member contributions to the *ISASecure* specification become the property of ASCI royalty free.
15. Will suppliers have to pay a royalty to use the *ISASecure* specification?  
Supplier members will pay a registration fee to have a device certified but will NOT pay per unit royalties to use the *ISASecure* specification. Suppliers who are NOT members of the Institute will pay a higher registration fee to have a device certified.
16. Will the *ISASecure* specification be published and available for free like the ISA Standards?  
No. The *ISASecure* specification is a protected brand to provide assurances to the marketplace that devices carrying the *ISASecure* logo have been tested and certified by a trusted third party. Organizations desiring to build products and operate sites that are designated *ISASecure* may purchase the specification as part of their overall effort to establish conformant products / operations. However, the *ISASecure* logo may only be claimed if a chartered entity completes independent testing for the organization's product / operation.
17. Will the Institute assure suppliers confidentiality of product submissions and test results?  
Yes. Product submissions, submission dates, test results and, feedback are considered proprietary and confidential. This process creates a fiduciary relationship between the supplier organization and the Institute.
18. Can a non-member submit a product for conformance testing and receive a valid *ISASecure* designation?  
Yes. A non-member may submit products for *ISASecure* conformance testing and receive the *ISASecure* designation. However, membership carries many benefits including reduced pricing for the Institute's products and services. Non-member companies are encouraged to join the ISA Security Compliance Institute. In addition, future *ISASecure* conformance requirements may include mandatory product development practices, making it improbable for a company who is not fully engaged with the Institute to fully understand and comply with the conformance requirements.
19. Can a non-member, or member for that matter, build product that conforms to the *ISASecure* specification and publicly claim the product is *ISASecure* without the Institute testing it?

- No. The Institute must maintain public confidence that products carrying the *ISASecure* designation will perform/ behave according to the *ISASecure* specification. Any claims of conformance must be supported by successful completion of *ISASecure* conformance testing by a chartered certification authority. Conformant products will be listed on the Institute's conformant products register. The Institute will vigorously protect the *ISASecure* brand to protect the value for participating suppliers and the consuming marketplace.
20. How are compliant products tracked and identified?  
Conformant products may carry the *ISASecure* logo on the physical device, associated packaging and, documentation. Conformant products will be registered at the Institute by vendor model number and serial number and *ISASecure* specification version number.
21. What will trigger the need to re-test a product that is already *ISASecure* compliant?  
The Institute will publish definitions that describe thresholds which will trigger product re-testing. The thresholds will be organized by product changes and changes in the *ISASecure* specification.
22. How will the marketplace know that a supplier's product has earned the *ISASecure* designation?  
At the supplier's preference, the Institute will publish conformant products on the Institute's public facing website. The Institute will also participate in joint promotion activities such as press releases and product demonstrations.
23. Is the *ISASecure* designation limited to process industries?  
No. It is a matter of circumstance that the early adopters are from the process industries. However, the *ISASecure* specification is a horizontal technology specification with applicability across most industry sectors. We have interest from organizations in many sectors including discrete manufacturing. Over time, we expect full industry participation.
24. How are you promoting the *ISASecure* program?  
We are using classic product launch and marketing approaches to promote *ISASecure* including: a dedicated website, press releases, product demonstrations, speaking engagements, trade shows and conferences, webinars, and email correspondence.
25. Which companies have joined the ISA Security Compliance Institute so far?  
Early adopters include BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil Research and Engineering, Honeywell, Siemens, Invensys, Yokogawa, Rockwell Automation, Industrial Defender, Mu Security, Wurldtech Security and, others.
26. Is the *ISASecure* program for the United States only or is it an international program?

*ISASecure* is a global program. The list of early adopters is a fair representation of the global nature of the participants.

27. Are you working with other international standards organizations or certification authorities such as TUV?

Yes. The ISA99 Standards Committee is working jointly with the IEC for IACS Security which is a key source for *ISASecure* requirements. As the Institute develops additional capacity to collaborate, we will continue to expand our liaisons with related organizations globally.