

Validation Decision

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Discussion

A Validation Decision is a determination by an authorized [Actor](#) whether an evaluated subject satisfies defined [Validation Criteria](#) for a stated purpose.

A Validation Decision can evaluate:

- A [Node](#)
- A [Node Set](#)
- A distributed system
- A [Test Environment](#)
- A [Deployment Target](#)
- An [Artifact](#)
- A [Baseline](#)
- A configuration
- An interface
- A process
- A capability
- A requirement
- Another subject of [Validation](#)

A Validation Decision can use:

- Applicable Validation Criteria
- Applicable [Acceptance Criteria](#)
- Applicable [Test Definitions](#)
- Applicable [Test Runs](#)
- Applicable [Test Results](#)
- Applicable [Verdicts](#)
- Applicable [Evidence](#)
- Applicable [Baselines](#)
- Applicable [Policies](#)
- Applicable [Governance Policies](#)
- Applicable exceptions and waivers
- Applicable expert judgment

A Validation Decision can identify:

- Its identity
- Its name
- Its description
- Its evaluated subject
- Its validation purpose
- Its decision value

- Its decision status
- Its decision time
- Its effective time
- Its expiration time
- Its authorized decision-maker
- Its applicable [Role](#)
- Its Validation Criteria
- Its Acceptance Criteria
- Its supporting Test Runs
- Its supporting Test Results
- Its supporting Verdicts
- Its supporting Evidence
- Its applicable Baseline
- Its applicable limitations
- Its applicable conditions
- Its applicable exceptions
- Its applicable Governance Policies
- Its superseded Validation Decision
- Its [Provenance](#)
- Its [Traceability](#)

A Validation Decision can determine that the evaluated subject:

- Satisfies the applicable Validation Criteria
- Does not satisfy the applicable Validation Criteria
- Conditionally satisfies the applicable Validation Criteria
- Cannot be evaluated conclusively from the available information
- Requires additional testing or Evidence

Definition

determination by an authorized [Actor](#) whether an evaluated subject satisfies defined [Validation Criteria](#) for a stated purpose

Source

Adapted from:

- [OMG Test Information Interchange Format \(TestIF\), Version 1.0 Beta 3, Sections 1.3 and 7.3.11](#)
- [Validation](#)
- [Validation Criteria](#)
- [Test Result](#)
- [Verdict](#)
- [Evidence](#)
- DIDO Reference Implementation Conceptual Model
- DIDO-TE draft Requirements Register

OMG TestIF supports the interchange of Test Results, Verdicts, and traceability information needed for external arbitration. OMG TestIF leaves the arbitration rules and resulting higher-level determinations outside its scope.

This definition introduces Validation Decision as the governed determination made by applying defined Validation Criteria to the applicable Test Results, Verdicts, Evidence, and related information.

Note

A Validation Decision differs from [Validation](#):

- Validation is the evaluation activity
- A Validation Decision records the resulting determination

A Validation Decision differs from a [Test Result](#):

- A Test Result records an outcome associated with a Sequenced Test Object or Sequence Step
- A Validation Decision determines whether the evaluated subject satisfies the applicable Validation Criteria

A Validation Decision differs from a [Verdict](#):

- A Verdict classifies an individual or aggregated Test Result
- A Validation Decision applies the governing Validation Criteria to the relevant Test Results, Verdicts, Evidence, and contextual information

A PASS Verdict does not, by itself, establish a positive Validation Decision.

A Validation Decision differs from an acceptance decision:

- A Validation Decision determines whether the evaluated subject satisfies defined Validation Criteria for a stated purpose
- An acceptance decision determines whether an authorized party accepts the evaluated subject

An authorized party can accept a subject subject to limitations or waivers even when the Validation Decision identifies unresolved deficiencies. Conversely, a positive Validation Decision does not compel an authorized party to accept the subject.

A Validation Decision differs from an authorization decision:

- A Validation Decision determines whether the evaluated subject satisfies defined Validation Criteria
- An authorization decision grants or denies permission to use, deploy, operate, release, or rely on the evaluated subject

A positive Validation Decision can support an authorization decision but does not replace it.

A Validation Decision must identify the applicable validation purpose. A subject can satisfy Validation Criteria for one purpose and fail to satisfy criteria for another purpose.

A Validation Decision does not establish universal correctness, suitability, safety, security,

interoperability, or compliance. Its scope remains limited to:

- The identified evaluated subject
- The stated validation purpose
- The applicable Validation Criteria
- The applicable Baseline
- The evaluated conditions
- The available Evidence
- The effective period
- Any recorded limitations or exceptions

An authorized Actor must make or approve the Validation Decision under the applicable Governance Policy.

An automated mechanism can calculate a proposed Validation Decision when the applicable Validation Criteria are machine-processable. The Governance Policy determines whether the automated determination constitutes the authoritative Validation Decision or requires approval by an authorized Actor.

A Validation Decision can change when:

- The evaluated subject changes
- The applicable Baseline changes
- The Validation Criteria change
- The applicable Test Results change
- New Evidence becomes available
- An exception or waiver changes
- The effective period expires
- An authorized review overturns the previous determination

A revised Validation Decision should preserve:

- The previous Validation Decision
- The reason for the revision
- The responsible Actor
- The applicable Validation Criteria
- The supporting Test Results
- The supporting Verdicts
- The supporting Evidence
- The applicable Provenance
- The applicable Traceability

Example

An authorized Evaluator reviews whether a selected [Node Set](#) satisfies the Validation Criteria for use in a defined distributed test scenario.

The Evaluator considers:

- The approved Test Definition Versions

- The applicable Test Environment
- The applicable Test Runs
- The resulting Test Results
- The assigned Verdicts
- The supporting Evidence
- The approved Baseline
- The applicable Governance Policies
- Any recorded exceptions

All required Test Results have PASS Verdicts except one Test Result with an INCONCLUSIVE Verdict caused by missing timing Evidence.

The applicable Governance Policy prohibits a positive Validation Decision when required timing Evidence is missing.

The Evaluator records a Validation Decision stating that the Node Set cannot yet be determined to satisfy the Validation Criteria. The Validation Decision identifies:

- The evaluated Node Set
- The stated validation purpose
- The applicable Validation Criteria
- The inconclusive Test Result
- The missing Evidence
- The additional Test Execution required
- The authorized Evaluator
- The decision time
- The applicable Provenance
- The applicable Traceability

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