



Achilles Practices Certification from GE Digital

Safeguard your devices and meet industry benchmarks for security

Strengthen device security across the development lifecycle

To gain operational efficiency from advances in technology, operational technology (OT) environments are being connected to the broader enterprise IT infrastructure. That infrastructure, however, is under near constant attack from increasingly organized, sophisticated attackers. Advanced malware is finding its way into OT systems at an increasing rate.

In an effort to reduce the risk to reliability, continuity, and operational quality of industrial control and automation systems, a standard was established for the incorporation of security best practices into the system development lifecycle. The standard, IEC 62443-2-4, was adopted globally and created a framework and a common language that helps end-users communicate their requirements and expectations for the security of systems developed and serviced by their vendors.

01 Business challenge

IEC 62443-2-4 established that manufacturers must now demonstrate that security measures are incorporated in their development lifecycle across four key areas:

- **Organization:** The development and implementation of security governance, policies, and procedures
- **System capability:** Building security functions into the manufacturers' systems or services, and that compensating security functions are used to protect system components and subsystems that do not have built-in security capabilities
- **Commissioning and acceptance testing:** Demonstrating that the security functions built into the vendor's system are correctly implemented and that the systems are ready to be operated by the principal or selected vendor
- **Maintenance and support:** Ensuring that maintenance of security functions built into the manufacturers' systems are correct and timely support is delivered in response to security-related events

02 Solution

Achilles Practice Certification from GE Digital helps ensure device manufacturers include cyber security best practices in the processes and procedures used for product development. It was created to enable product suppliers, system integrators, and maintenance service providers to formally illustrate compliance of their solutions with cyber security capabilities required by the IEC 62443-2-4 standard.

Achilles Practices Certification spans the entire system lifecycle—from organizational governance, through solution design and services development, testing and commissioning, to maintenance and support.

The certification is recognized as the industry standard for the development of best practices and provides peace of mind with documented evidence of compliance. Solutions with the certification are found to be robust and designed according to security best practices.

03 Benefits

- A simple, scalable, and cost effective solution that demonstrates compliance with the industry standard.
- Validates third party incorporation of security best practices.
- Provides practical metrics and requirements for secure installation and configuration.
- Improves supplier, vendor, and end-user communication of requirements.
- Helps ensure systems and networks meet current and emerging international cyber security standards and government regulations.

GE Digital helps you harden your security posture and prepare to succeed in the new digital industrial landscape.

LEARN MORE





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Features

- **Phase 1: Scoping**
You determine the desired outcomes of the certification and define the specific system to be certified. The scope of project is designed specifically to achieve your goals. The desired level of certification is dependent upon the purpose, current security practices, and resources.
- **Phase 2: Vendor preparation**
The information you provide is reviewed to ensure it meets the requirements and identifies any ambiguity or other parameters that need to be corrected.
- **Phase 3: Appraisal**
GE Digital verifies that the information you provided accurately depicts security best practices. We will also look at specific process areas and the applicable requirements to ensure that all of the relevant criteria are met.
- **Phase 4: Reporting**
Upon attaining certification, you will receive a final confidential report that details your practices and assesses its conformance to necessary regulations. You will also receive a certificate of accomplishment and a public report that you may use to demonstrate your achievement.

Certification categories

We offer four certification categories with four certification levels in each category:

- **Product supplier**
Certificate for security capabilities of automation solution products in support of APC integrators and maintenance provider certificates. IEC 62443-2-4 identifies security capabilities required of the automation solution.
- **Integrator certificate**
Certificate for integrator security programs. Certifies that the applicant has a verified set of security capabilities that can be performed for the implementation and deployment of an automation solution.
- **Maintenance provider certificate**
Certificate for maintenance provider security programs. Certifies that the applicant has a verified set of security capabilities that can be performed for the maintenance of an automation solution.
- **Solution certificate**
Certificate for the application of security capabilities during integration and/or maintenance of a specific automation solution.

Certification levels



Awarded for successful completion of requirements that you select for verification.



Our entry-level certification, awarded for successful completion of all applicable requirements for security policies and practices that have been implemented and verified.



Awarded for successful completion of all applicable requirements and selected requirement enhancements that have been implemented and verified through direct measurement or analysis.



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Services

In the world of Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT), organizations are able to optimize productivity, reduce costs, and achieve Operational Excellence. While this is an exciting time for opportunity and growth, it can also bring on new challenges, questions, and uncertainty. No matter where you are on your IIoT journey, GE Digital has the right services offering for you.

[Advisory Services](#) We can help you plan and start your IIoT journey in a way that aligns to your specific business outcomes.

[Managed Services](#) We can help you maintain your critical machines from one of our remote locations around the world using model-based predictive-analytic technology.

[Implementation Services](#) Our team will help develop a collaborative, multi-generational plan that will marry your existing investments to the right process enhancements and technology.

[Education Services](#) We specialize in education services to ensure that you're leveraging our solutions to the fullest extent with our training and certificate programs.

[GlobalCare Support Services](#) Let us help by ensuring that your business continues to operate at its highest efficiency, all while mitigating risks to your investments.

[Cyber Security Services](#) Our solutions provide industrial-grade security for a wide range of OT network and application topologies.

Related products

GE Digital's OT cyber security suite helps protect industrial and healthcare companies against misconfigured devices and unplanned downtime due to cyber incidents. We can help you test, certify, and secure industrial connected devices, applications, and processes.



[OpShield](#) →

Designed to help protect critical infrastructure and controls network by defending the processes, communications, and assets that underpin your control strategy.

[Predix](#) →

Innovate and transform your business with the cloud-based operating system for the Industrial Internet, purpose-built for industry.

PREDIX

Continue your IIoT journey

Transforming your business requires innovative foundational solutions that lay the groundwork for optimized performance.



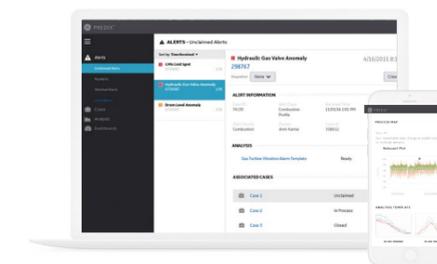
[Historian](#) →

Optimize asset and plant performance through time-series industrial data collection and aggregation, leveraging Predix IIoT connectivity.



[iFIX](#) →

Gain visibility into your operations and secure agility for smarter decision making that drives results.



[Asset Performance Management](#) →

Move from reactive to proactive maintenance to reduce unplanned downtime, minimize maintenance costs, improve efficiency and extend asset life.

About GE

GE (NYSE: GE) is the world's Digital Industrial Company, transforming industry with software-defined machines and solutions that are connected, responsive and predictive. GE is organized around a global exchange of knowledge, the "GE Store," through which each business shares and accesses the same technology, markets, structure and intellect. Each invention further fuels innovation and application across our industrial sectors. With people, services, technology and scale, GE delivers better outcomes for customers by speaking the language of industry.

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