

ISO 14298 | INTERGRAF 15374

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# SIMPLIFY YOUR PROCUREMENT PROCESS

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OF SECURITY PRINTING PRODUCTS



## Who is Intergraf?

Intergraf is a European non-profit organisation dedicated to the printing industry, acting as a unified voice for over 20 national printing federations from more than 20 countries. Collaborating with the European institutions, we actively advance and safeguard the sector's interests while enhancing its competitive edge through advocacy, knowledge exchange, and networking.

## What services do we provide?

One of the core elements of our mission is to offer specialised services to the security printing industry worldwide. Therefore, we play a crucial role in establishing industry standards by providing **INTERGRAF ISO 14298** and **INTERGRAF 15374** certifications to security printers and suppliers. Through this, we assist solution providers and institutional end users in addressing the challenges they encounter within an ever more competitive landscape.

On an eighteen monthly basis, we also organise an international conference and exhibition: **Intergraf Currency+ Identity**. An independently funded, genuinely neutral platform where customers, printers, and suppliers gather to discuss the most pressing issues in the currency and identity industry.

## Are you responsible for selecting reliable partners for security printing products?

As an important decision-maker in procurement processes for sensitive security printing products, you are often faced with the difficult task of selecting reliable partners.

Security printing has changed drastically over the past decades. New technologies have emerged. Security features have grown in complexity to deter fraud and combat counterfeiting.

Yet some problems have grown larger, posing serious threats to both our industry and society as a whole - forged identity and travel documents facilitating illegal border crossings, counterfeit currency passing into worldwide circulation and false identities created from fake birth certificates, to name but a few.

Banknotes and identity documents are becoming ever more sophisticated, but so is counterfeiting. Security printers and their suppliers cannot afford to stand still. Closing gaps and keeping ahead of the counterfeiters on a global level remains a constant challenge.

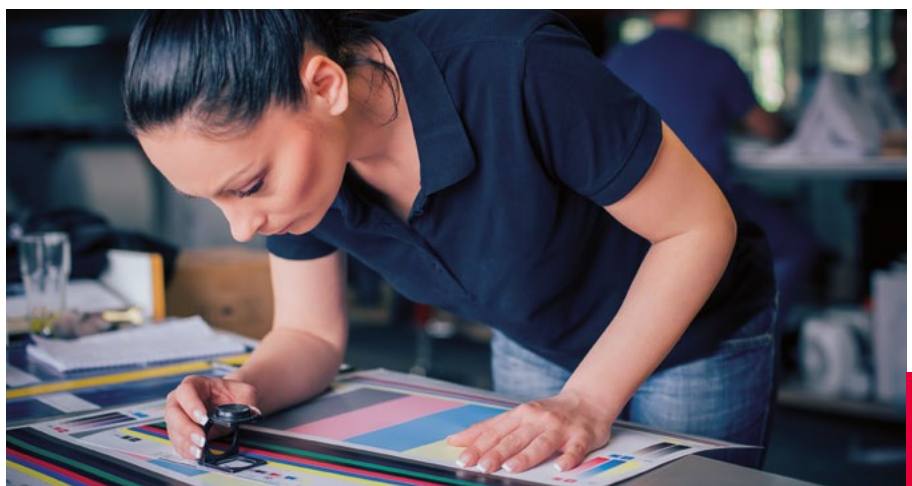
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## Benefit from expert advice, consistency, transparency and efficiency

In today's globalised world where public policies can no longer be developed and implemented in isolation, international standards offer a means of communication and cooperation across borders, making them increasingly useful tools in the policy maker's kit.

Benefit from international standards that are precisely tailored to the needs of the security printing industry!

On the following pages we would like to introduce **INTERGRAF certification**. This brochure is intended as a small guide. We are happy to help you if you have specific questions, e.g. if you want to understand how the printing facilities of security printing companies should be secured, which special process steps have to be followed, etc.



Ensure that experts look at security printing processes.

## Short history of Intergraf certifications

For over 20 years, INTERGRAF has played a crucial role in establishing standards for security printers and their suppliers. This effort has involved collaborating with representatives from standardisation institutes and industry experts from 25 countries across six continents. Noteworthy achievements include the development of key benchmarks like CWA 14641 and the ISO 14298 standard. In October 2023, INTERGRAF 15374 was formally announced as an upgrade of the standard for suppliers to security printers.

INTERGRAF certifications have emerged as a widely acknowledged reference for governments and the security printing industry. They provide assurance of a robust management system that contributes significantly to the combat against counterfeiting in printed materials, including vital documents like ID cards, passports, banknotes, tax stamps, and other products produced by security printers and their suppliers.

## Our schemes in brief

From logical security to physical security to supply chain assurance, **INTERGRAF ISO 14298 and INTERGRAF 15374** ensure that a set of requirements is met to guarantee a high level of security across all operations and processes, eliminating risk for customers and their products.

for printers

### INTERGRAF ISO 14298

specifies the requirements for the management of security printing and hologram manufacturing processes

for suppliers

### INTERGRAF 15374

specifies the requirements for suppliers to the security printing industry

## Who is already certified?

Currently, more than 180 production facilities in over 55 countries spread across six continents are reaping the benefits of INTERGRAF certifications. Most of the globally renowned market players are among the certified companies. Our website maintains an up-to-date list of these certified companies, featuring their names, certificate validity, and the scope of their certification. [www.intergrafcertification.com](http://www.intergrafcertification.com)

## Intergraf Academy

We offer regular INTERGRAF ISO 14298 & INTERGRAF 15374 workshops and training sessions to certified companies and end customers. Tailored to their needs and requirements, they can be organised on-site, in our Brussels office or elsewhere based on individual agreements. The overall focus is on the implementation and maintenance of security printing management systems, but a broad range of topics can be covered including, among others:

- Gap analysis
- Training for security managers
- Internal auditing processes
- Improvement of internal processes and efficiency
- Benefits of ISO High Level Structures (HLS)
- Information security
- Employee awareness and positive attitude in the workplace

**INTERGRAF**  
A C A D E M Y

# What is ISO 14298 and why an INTERGRAF ISO 14298 certificate?

The ISO standard for security printers, ISO 14298, specifies requirements for the management of security printing processes.

Besides the official and publicly available ISO 14298 standard, Intergraf provides confidential Implementation Guidelines and the Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR), exclusively developed for the security printing industry and the specific needs of this market. Those requirements are **confidential**.

The public ISO 14298 Standard does not detail specific measures companies need to take in order to secure their production processes. The Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR) therefore complement the standard. They contain **comprehensive guidance** on implementing and ensuring a secure management system for security printers. Only once these requirements are fulfilled, confirmed by independent accreditation bodies, can a company be recognised as maintaining a high level of security and become an Intergraf certified 'Security Printer' according to ISO 14298.

Unlike the public ISO 14298, the Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR) are **reviewed and updated yearly** to ensure that the highest standards of security are met. They enable companies to implement and maintain an outstanding security management system according to the latest technical developments. Crucially in today's increasingly competitive environment, they send a strong message of trust and guaranteed quality. Well-known associations such as the UPU (Universal Postal Union, a United Nations organisation) and IHMA (International Hologram Manufacturers Association) acknowledge and recommend certification according to ISO 14298 and the Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR). It is also no coincidence that both the European Parliament and the European Council refer to INTERGRAF ISO 14298 in their regulations for a uniform format for visa documents (EU) 2017/1370 and for residence permits for third-country nationals (EU) 2017/1954.

## INTERGRAF ISO 14298 applies to

Security printers, hologram manufacturers and producers of documents of value which are physically protected against counterfeiting by added security features, e.g. banknotes, ID cards, passports, driving licenses, postage and tax stamps, holograms, certificates, breeder documents, bank cards etc.

## INTERGRAF ISO 14298 certification levels

<b>FUNDAMENTAL</b>	applies to printers supplying commercial security printing products and security products to government organisations. A set of minimum requirements has been established that must be met by all companies in order to obtain a Level F certificate.
<b>GOVERNMENTAL</b>	applies to printers supplying commercial security printing products and security products for government organisations including ID documents and/or passports. An additional set of requirements must be met by all printers certified at G level.
<b>CENTRAL BANK</b>	Further requirements apply to the CB (Central Bank) level for printers supplying central banks or credit card issuing offices and centres for the personalisation of ID cards or passports. CB level certification covers all requirements of G and F levels.

# 13 risk groups are covered by the Intergraf Certification requirements

The official ISO 14298 document stipulates 13 risk groups. These 13 risk groups form the chapters of the Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR):

- A. **Customer related risk**
- B. **Information related risk**
- C. **Security material, product and waste related risk**
- D. **Supply chain related risk**
- E. **Physical intrusion and access related risk**
- F. **Personnel related risk**
- G. **Disaster related risk**
- H. **Security failure related risk**
- I. **Security management related risk**
- J. **Use of machinery related risk**
- K. **Sales of equipment related risk**
- L. **Transportation related risk**
- M. **Any additional security related risks unique to the organisation**

Chapter M also contains requirements for stamps printers, hologram manufacturers and ID personalisation centres..

Below all 13 risk groups are explained. Please note that the content is a short description and does not represent the complete requirements. The full list of requirements for each risk area is to be found in the Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR).

## Summary of risk areas covered in the Intergraf Certification requirements

### A **Customer Related Risk**

Documents provided by the customer shall show their entitlement to buy the product. Documented processes regarding order handling, changes, delivery, and receipt of goods shall be implemented and maintained.

### B **Information Related Risk**

There shall be documented procedures and processes implemented and maintained which assure preservation of confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information. This includes procedures for IT and network security, to ensure that all media and network elements are protected against any security breaches. Procedures shall also consider the access to media and network elements by third parties.

### C. **Security material, product and waste related risk**

The organisation shall be able to determine and ascertain any security-relevant material or product from receipt through storage and production to delivery to the customer and subsequent destruction of waste material and products. In addition, implemented processes must ensure that the status of all materials and products can be identified at each stage.

## Summary of risk areas ( D – M)

### **D. Supply chain related risk**

To safeguard the entire product value chain, the organisation shall enforce the evaluation and qualification of suppliers, and sub-contractors. Documents provided by the supplier or subcontractor shall show their entitlement to sell/produce the product. There shall be a procedure for defining, agreeing, and verifying the purchasing process for security-relevant materials.

### **E. Physical intrusion and access related risk**

The organisation shall have strict procedures and processes in place to safeguard its premises, personnel, and other assets. A set of security measures shall be implemented to ensure and maintain internal and external security.

### **F. Personnel related risk**

The organisation shall have procedures and processes implemented to prove that personnel is screened and trained prior to employment and regularly during their contract.

### **G. Disaster related risk**

The organisation shall have procedures implemented and maintained, in case of any kind of disaster, such as a natural disaster or malicious attack. These procedures shall ensure that the consequences resulting from the disaster are mitigated.

### **H. Security failure related risk**

The organisation shall have procedures implemented and maintained to ensure security in case of any failure or breach of security.

### **I. Security management related risk**

Top management shall be committed to communicate and strengthen the security culture of the organisation and have the relevant procedures implemented and maintained.

### **J. Use of machinery related risk**

The organisation shall have processes in place against unauthorized access to machinery, and protection against unauthorized operation.

### **K. Sales of equipment related risk**

The organisation shall have procedures implemented and maintained to evaluate the buyer when selling security printing related production machinery. All parts that could carry data shall be wiped prior to selling.

### **L. Transportation related risk**

The organisation shall have procedures and processes implemented and maintained to ensure that material/product is packed, stored, loaded, or unloaded, transported, and delivered under controlled and secure conditions and in vehicles that provide adequate security.

### **M. Any additional security related risks unique to the organisation**

The organisation shall have procedures and processes in place to mitigate any additional security risk that is specific to it. This includes but is not limited to the organisation's activities, products, location, customers, or processes.

**With regard to the interpretation and implementation of this set of requirements, local legislation is taken into due account. Whilst fully respecting local legislation, the aims and the spirit of these requirements shall be followed as much as possible with the objective of implementing the highest possible level of security for each aspect.**



# What is INTERGRAF 15374?

In 2005, Intergraf and CEN (the European Committee for Standardisation) collaborated to introduce the supplier standard, initially known as CWA 15374. The aim was not just to assist security printers in implementing secure procedures through the security printer standard, but also to broaden the secure supply chain to encompass their suppliers, who provide security features, machinery, software or other components crucial for producing sensitive printed materials. This standard was rebranded as INTERGRAF 15374 in October 2023. Much like **INTERGRAF ISO 14298**, the **INTERGRAF 15374** standard is founded on the principle of continuous improvement, incorporating a range of risk-based prerequisites to ensure the highest level of security throughout the entire supply.

Two categories of suppliers are identified:

**1 SCP SUPPLIERS**  
of Security Components  
and Production elements

**2 SMS SUPPLIERS**  
of Security Machinery  
and Software

## INTERGRAF 15374 applies to

Suppliers of products that include security features and suppliers of services that ensure the physical security of printed matter manufactured by a security printing company, e.g. producers of inks, security paper, lamination plates, security foils, inlays, security design software, substrates, pigments, coatings, machinery etc.





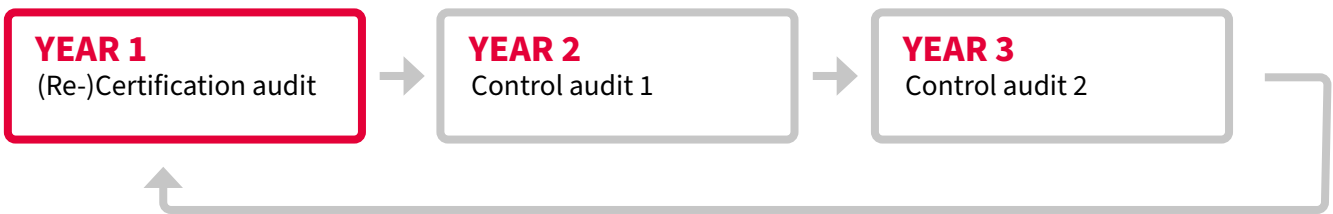
# Certification procedure

Security printing companies and their suppliers apply to Intergraf. After an initial security screening aiming to establish if the company is eligible, they are granted access to the confidential Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR) to prepare for the audit.

The company's production site is thoroughly audited against all security management requirements determined by the INTERGRAF standards and the detailed confidential Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR). An annual audit is conducted to verify compliance of the high level of security during the 3-year certification period.

## Certification cycle

Certification is a long-term project of continual improvement. The INTERGRAF certificates are valid for 3 years. To ensure continued compliance with the standard, a first control audit will take place in year 2, followed by a second in year 3. After 3 years, a re-certification audit must be conducted.



## Auditors

Independent INTERGRAF accredited auditors will ensure an assessment of a company's security management system. This will assure top management that its system is compliant with the requirements of the standard. Intergraf accredited auditors have many years of practical, hands-on experience and a high level of sector expertise. They travel all over the world. Their system skills, combined with a keen eye for what is important, allow them to provide information for improvement, and direction for decision making processes.



# What are the benefits for your procurement process?

ISO standards draw on international expertise and experience. Therefore they are a vital resource for governments, tender issuing authorities and other end customers when developing public policy. **ISO 14298 certification according to Intergraf** can be used to support public policy, for example, by referencing it in regulations or tenders.

## + Expert opinion

ISO standards are developed by experts. By integrating **INTERGRAF ISO 14298** certification into national regulations or tenders, governments can benefit from international expertise without having to call on consultants themselves.

## + Consistency

**INTERGRAF ISO 14298** certification is international and adopted by many governments. By integrating it into national regulation, governments help to ensure that requirements are the same worldwide and standards are globally relevant.

## + Governance

Greater transparency in public procurement and essential requirements for the production of security printing products.

## + Efficient and cost effective

Enables governments to provide detailed security and process requirements in public tenders without making it unnecessarily long and complicated, thus saving time and money.

## + Sign of trust

Successful certification according to **INTERGRAF ISO 14298 + INTERGRAF 15374** are trusted signals of an organisation's resilience to risk and potential threats. Governments, tender issuing authorities and other end customers can rely on a trusted security printer and security supplier without having to invest in or establish their own criteria.

## + Fighting forgery

Contribute to fighting forgery and counterfeiting. Intergraf's ICR is updated yearly to ensure state-of-the-art security requirements.



**Requiring Intergraf certification according to Intergraf Certification Requirements (ICR) is a secure, time- and cost-effective step for you and your suppliers. It is a prerequisite for tender documents, RFPs, and contracts, and acts as a long-term strategy to prevent security breaches, theft, and counterfeiting. Feel free to meet with the Intergraf certification team for further insights.**

# Meet our team

Dedicated and knowledgeable, our team collaborates closely with you to deliver exceptional customer support throughout your certification journey.

For many years, we have been trusted partners of security printers and suppliers all over the world. Our global experience with security management systems in the graphic industry makes us the ideal partner – independent, pragmatic and objective!



**Beatrice Klose**  
Secretary General



**Doris Schulz-Pätzold**  
Customer Relations &  
Certification Director



**Jeremy Tawedian**  
Certification Assistant

If you have questions or would like to know more about Intergraf certification, feel free to contact us to schedule an online meeting

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## Get in touch

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