



32nd Annual **INCOSY**
international symposium

hybrid event

Detroit, MI, USA
June 25 - 30, 2022

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Look in All the Corners: Gathering, Tracking, and Verifying Requirements



What are requirements?

- Agreed-upon characteristics of a system
 - Agreed by whom?
 - When?
 - In what format?



Consumer example

- When buying from a store, who sets the requirements for the products sold there?
 - Government regulations, store owner, product developer, customers
- When do they set those requirements?
 - Some before manufacture, some after
- In what format?
 - Laws, business rules, preferences



Why do we need requirements?

- The conversations necessary to agree on requirements reveal other things.
- They support decision-making.
- Requirements in a contract give us a legal backup if we don't get what we asked for.

How should we capture our requirements, if we are sharing them?



- Written
- Accessible
- Editable
- Controlled

Consumer example: requirements for a babysitter's job duties, or for a restaurant meal



When do we not need requirements?

- When is a handshake enough?
- When are written requirements not allowed or not useful?
- Low risk situations or when power imbalance is high

When do we generate requirements but keep them to ourselves?



- When the system developer doesn't care or won't listen (COTS)
- To encourage competition
- Dating / negotiating (same as above?)



Trust but verify

- Under what conditions would you buy clothes without trying them on?
 - Returnable or low cost risk
 - Same as something you have already
 - Made to your measurements by someone trustworthy
- Should we bother verifying requirements have been met if we can't get our money back?
 - Yes, try on your dress before your wedding day.



Learn more about requirements

- [INCOSE Requirements Working Group](#)
 - YouTube videos
 - Technical Products
 - New! Guide to Writing Requirements
 - Available for free download from INCOSE Store

<https://www.incose.org/incose-member-resources/working-groups/process/requirements>



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www.incose.org/symp2022