

Discussion of dependability terminology

Editorial note

Our Journal has published a number of papers that deal with the subject of dependability-related terminology and its standardization. However, our readers continue to have a keen interest in the matter and send new papers dedicated to it. Unfortunately, many authors who express reasonable (as they believe) proposals often disregard a whole range of factors that must be taken into consideration with respect to the development of a general (multisectoral) dependability standard. Those include the requirements of general regulatory documents, Russian and international experience of standardization in this domain, provisions of other general standards, requirements of other industries, etc. In this context, we suggest interested experts should take part in discussion regarding the dependability-related terminology. This issue opens discussion by the article of V.A. Netes, member of the Editorial Board, in which he, drawing from his experience in dependability-related terminological standardization, lays down its general principles. The editors believe it to be reasonable – before even starting the discussion of specific terms and definitions – to agree upon such common principles and then examine their specific applications in certain areas of science and practices.