

## How to Read USA-ADL™

**SUMMARY**

What USA-ADL Is..... 3

What USA-ADL Is Not ..... 3

How the Lifecycle Works ..... 3

Relationship to External Standards ..... 4

How to Use USA-ADL..... 4

USA-ADL™ (Uranusys Secure AI Agent Development Lifecycle) is a security-first framework that governs the secure design, development, deployment, and operation of AI Agents throughout their lifecycle.

This document explains how to interpret and apply USA-ADL v1.0.

## What USA-ADL Is

USA-ADL is:

- A **lifecycle framework**, not a single control
- Focused on **AI Agents**, not general AI models
- Designed to ensure AI Agents are:
  - Secure by design
  - Governed end to end
  - Auditable and accountable
  - Operated within explicit boundaries

USA-ADL treats every AI Agent as a **non-human identity** with defined ownership, permissions, and audit responsibility.

## What USA-ADL Is Not

USA-ADL does not:

- Define business objectives or ethical policy
- Replace enterprise AI governance or legal review
- Determine whether an AI Agent use case should be approved
- Provide certification or regulatory compliance on its own

Those responsibilities remain with the organization deploying AI Agents.

## How the Lifecycle Works

USA-ADL consists of **seven lifecycle phases**, spanning strategy, development, deployment, monitoring, and incident response activities.

Each phase:

- Has a defined objective
- Specifies required controls
- Produces auditable artifacts

Lifecycle phases are continuous and iterative, not linear.

## Relationship to External Standards

USA-ADL is proprietary to Uranusys LLC but intentionally aligned with:

- ISO/IEC 42001 (AI Management Systems)
- NIST CSF 2.0 risk-based governance
- Zero Trust and identity-first security principles

USA-ADL provides **technical and lifecycle controls** that support these standards without reproducing or replacing them.

## How to Use USA-ADL

Organizations use USA-ADL to:

- Govern secure AI Agent development and operations
- Demonstrate AI risk control maturity
- Support audits and due diligence
- Accelerate responsible AI adoption

USA-ADL can be adopted through direct use, licensing, or engagement with Uranusys.