

CWS-001 — Terminology & Definitions

Normative Module

Meta

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Scope & Language

This module defines the normative terminology used throughout the CWS framework.

All terms defined herein are mandatory for interpretation of CWS requirements.

Normative terms are defined in English to ensure international stability and unambiguous usage across jurisdictions.

Any translated version of the CWS framework shall defer to the English terminology defined in CWS-001 in case of discrepancy.

Terminology

Terme 1 — *Dog*

Dog

Any domesticated canine (*Canis lupus familiaris*) under the responsibility, control, or influence of a structure, individual, or organization subject to the CWS framework.

Terme 2 — *Structure*

Structure

Any public or private entity, organization, facility, or operational context that assumes temporary or permanent responsibility for one or more dogs.

Terme 3 — *Responsibility*

Responsibility

The condition by which a structure or individual is accountable for the welfare, safety, management, and outcomes affecting a dog, regardless of ownership status.

Terme 4 — *Welfare*

Welfare

The state resulting from the interaction between a dog and its environment, including physical, behavioral, and environmental conditions, as relevant to risk exposure and safety.

Terme 5 — *Safety*

Safety

The condition in which risks of harm, injury, or adverse outcomes involving dogs, humans, or other animals are identified, mitigated, and controlled within acceptable thresholds.

Terme 6 — *Incident*

Incident

Any event, interaction, or situation involving one or more dogs that results in, or has resulted in, physical harm, injury, significant distress, escape, or damage to humans, animals, property, or the dogs themselves.

Terme 7 — *Near-Miss*

Near-Miss

Any event or situation involving one or more dogs that did not result in harm or injury but demonstrated a credible potential to escalate into an Incident under slightly different conditions.

Terme 8 — *Risk*

Risk

The combination of the probability of occurrence of an Incident and the severity of its potential consequences within a given context.

Terme 9 — *Risk Factor*

Risk Factor

Any identifiable condition, attribute, circumstance, or variable that increases the likelihood or severity of an Incident or Near-Miss.

Terme 10 — *Exposure*

Exposure

The duration, frequency, and intensity of a dog's contact with identified Risk Factors within a defined environment or operational context.

Terme 11 — *Environment*

Environment

The physical, social, and operational context in which dogs are housed, managed, transported, or interact with humans, animals, or infrastructure.

Terme 12 — *Density*

Density

The ratio between the number of dogs present and the available physical, social, and operational space within a defined Environment.

Terme 13 — *Compatibility*

Compatibility

The degree to which two or more dogs can coexist or interact within a given Environment without generating unacceptable Risk, based on observable behavior, history, and contextual factors.

Terme 14 — *Threshold*

Threshold

A defined limit beyond which Risk, Exposure, Density, or other factors exceed acceptable levels under the CWS framework.

Terme 15 — *Conformance*

Conformance

The state in which a structure demonstrably meets all applicable requirements of the CWS framework at a defined level.

Terme 16 — *Non-Conformance*

Non-Conformance

The state in which one or more CWS requirements are not met, are insufficiently documented, or cannot be verified.

Terme 17 — *Conformance Level*

Conformance Level

A classification indicating the degree of compliance of a structure with the CWS framework, as defined by CWS-1, CWS-2, or CWS-3.

Terme 18 — *Audit***Audit**

A systematic, documented, and independent evaluation conducted to determine the level of Conformance of a structure with the CWS framework.

Terme 19 — *Registry***Registry**

The official record maintained under the CWS framework listing structures whose Conformance Level has been formally attested.

Terme 20 — *Claim***Claim**

Any public or private statement asserting, implying, or representing Conformance with the CWS framework or the use of CWS designations.