This year the process industry has reached an important milestone in process safety --- the acceptance of an internationally recognized standard for safety instrumented systems (SIS). This standard, IEC 61511, documents good engineering practice for the assessment, design, implementation, operation, and maintenance of safety instrumented systems. Successful implementation of the standard requires that the user establish a quality assurance process for the entire SIS lifecycle. For cost effective implementation, the deliverables and quality control checks required by the standard should be integrated into the capital project process. This paper will take a typical capital project process, such as a gated process, and overlay important deliverables from IEC 61511. From this perspective, it is possible to see that IEC 61511 lifecycle process is something that drives the entire capital acquisition of protection layers rather than simply serving as a line item in the specification of the equipment.