International Update

International items of interest for February 2015 are as follows:

1. WTO Trade Policy Review took place in February 2015
2. IAF has launched a new website—promoting accredited conformity assessment to the public sector
3. WTO is calling for papers for 2015 Essay Award for Young Economists

ISO items of interest for February 2015 are as follows:

1. Nominations for the 2015 Lawrence D. Eicher Award are now open
2. Re-allocation of the Secretariat of ISO/TC 182
3. Proposal on a new field of technical activity: Waste management, recycling and road operation service
4. ISO 37101 Sustainable development of communities—Management systems—Requirements with guidance for resilience and smartness has reached DIS stage
5. New ISO subcommittee ISO/TC 82/SC 7 Mine reclamation management is established
6. IWA 16:2015 International harmonized method(s) for a coherent quantification of CO2e emissions of freight transport is published

IEC items of interest for February 2015 are as follows:

1. IEC celebrated World Radio Day on 13 February
2. IEC 60034-30-1 Rotating electrical machines - Part 30-1: Efficiency classes of line operated AC motors (IE code) is put in place
3. White Paper on orchestrating infrastructure for sustainable smart cities is released
4. New Edition of IEC Code of Conduct for delegates and experts involved in standards development is released
International

1. WTO Trade Policy Review

The third review of the trade policies and practices of Brunei Darussalam took place on 10th and 12th February 2015. The basis for the review is a report by the WTO Secretariat and a report by the Government of Brunei Darussalam.

The Secretariat report, a detailed report written independently by the WTO Secretariat is available here: https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/s309_e.pdf

Trade Policy Reviews are an exercise, mandated in the WTO agreements, in which member countries’ trade and related policies are examined and evaluated at regular intervals. Significant developments that may have an impact on the global trading system are also monitored. All WTO members are subject to review, with the frequency of review depending on the country’s size.

Australia’s review is scheduled on 21st and 23rd April, 2015.

2. IAF has launched a new website to promote accredited conformity assessment

To support the public sector in meeting their policy objectives, the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) has launched a new website, publicsectorassurance.org to illustrate the value of accredited conformity assessment, by referencing many case studies from around the world in key policy areas, showing how different tools help government officials and regulators deliver results.

The site, which has been put together by IAF, ILAC, ISO, IIOC and IEC, also contains links to independent research and supporting information to provide additional supporting evidence.

By showcasing the policy areas conformity assessment is, and can be, used for, such as economic development, healthcare, environmental protection, energy, food safety, construction, crime and security, the site provides inspiration for central government, local government and regulators to deliver positive benefit by the use of more conformity assessment tools.

With these case studies, independent research and supporting information, those in the conformity industry have more tools to engage in a positive dialogue with the public sector, encouraging:

- Government to help improve the performance of business by encouraging the use of accredited conformity assessment;
- Accredited Conformity assessment to help government deliver its policies;
- Accredited Conformity assessment to help regulators regulate; and
- Government to improve its own performance by the use of accredited conformity assessment by its own departments.

Supporting the needs of government, regulators and the public sector remains a core objective of the conformity assessment community. This website, by setting out many instances around the world where the public sector has embraced conformity assessment to meet public policy objectives, provides a means of developing and strengthening relationships with the public sector at all levels.
The WTO launched on 4 February 2015 an invitation to young economists to submit papers for the 2015 WTO Essay Award for Young Economists. The Award aims to promote high-quality research on trade policy and international trade co-operation among young economists and to reinforce the relationship between the WTO and the academic community.

The paper must address issues related to trade policy and international trade co-operation. The author(s) of the paper must possess or be engaged in the completion of a PhD degree and, if over 30 years of age, be no more than two years past a PhD defence. In the case of co-authored papers, this requirement shall apply to all authors. To be considered for the Award, essays cannot exceed 15,000 words.

The annual WTO Essay Award consists of a prize of CHF 5,000 to the author(s) of the winning essay. An Academic Selection Panel is responsible for the selection of the winning paper. The winning paper will be officially announced at the annual meeting of the European Trade Study Group (ETSG), which is the largest conference specializing in international trade.

Essays must be submitted by 1 June 2015. The Economic Research and Statistics Division of the WTO Secretariat will shortlist eligible papers by 15 June 2015 and the Selection Panel will take a final decision by 15 July 2015.

All submissions should be sent to essay.award@wto.org. Submissions should include 1) the essay 2) the CV of the author(s), specifying (i) current affiliation(s), (ii) the academic institution awarding the PhD, (iii) the year (or the expected year) of the PhD, (iv) the date of birth of the author(s).
ISO

1. Nominations for the 2015 Lawrence D. Eicher Award are now open

The Lawrence D. Eicher Award recognizes excellence in technical work and is open to all ISO (and joint ISO/IEC) technical committees and subcommittees. Nominations for 2015 are now open and should be sent to tmb@iso.org by 31 March 2015.

This award was introduced in honour of Lawrence D. Eicher, ISO Secretary General from 1986 to 2002, who sadly passed away while still in office.

The winner of the 2014 Lawrence D Eicher Award was ISO subcommittee (SC 2), Testing and analysis, of ISO technical committee ISO/TC 45, Rubber.

For details, please refer to the ISO Award website: http://www.iso.org/iso/home/about/iso-awards.htm

2. Re-allocation of the Secretariat of ISO/TC 182

NEN (Netherlands) informed the Central Secretariat in February 2015 that it wishes to relinquish the Secretariat of ISO/TC 182 Geotechnics.

The P-members of ISO/TC 182 have been asked to advise the Central Secretariat if they wish to assume the secretariat of the technical committee. For more information, please email Jennifer Harwood, Senior National Sector Manager: Jennifer.Harwood@standards.org.au by 1 May 2015.

3. NFTA: Waste management, recycling and road operation service

A proposal has been submitted by DIN (Germany) for a new field of technical activity – Waste management, recycling and road operation service.

The scope of this new field of technical activity is the Standardization of equipment for waste management, recycling, public cleaning and road operation; taking into particular account technical and logistical aspects; drafting of International Standards for products and procedures as well as safety requirements for the collection, transport, storage and transfer of solid and liquid waste.

Sludge recovery, treatment and disposal and also water re-use are not covered by the scope of this ISO/TC, but are handled e.g. in ISO/TC 275 and ISO/TC 282. Exclusion includes general environmental management (e.g. ISO 14000) and road traffic safety management systems aspects (e.g. ISO 39001), which are handled by ISO/TC 207 and ISO/TC 241.

For more information or to provide any comments on this proposal, please email Jennifer Harwood, Senior National Sector Manager: Jennifer.Harwood@standards.org.au by 14 May 2015.
ISO 37101 Sustainable development of communities—Management systems—Requirements with guidance for resilience and smartness, has reached DIS stage.

By setting out requirements and guidance to attain sustainability with the support of methods and tools including smartness and resilience, this standard can help communities improve in a number of areas, including:

- developing holistic and integrated approaches instead of working in silos;
- fostering social and environmental changes;
- improving health and wellbeing;
- encouraging responsible resource use; and
- achieving better governance.

Bernard Leservoisier, Secretary of the technical committee that developed the standard and Standardization Program Manager at AFNOR, the ISO member for France, said ISO/DIS 37101 will be a valuable contribution towards sustainability of society as a whole.

"Communities collectively applying this standard will derive many mutual benefits if they follow a longer term and a more consistent and integrated approach," he said.

"It fosters the establishment of a multi-actor process in communities and will be a source of inspiration and guidance for all sectors, including energy, health and transport."

ISO/DIS 37101 is now at the public enquiry stage of the standard development process, whereby the draft is put to vote by ISO members from 9 April to 10 July 2015.


A new ISO subcommittee on mining reclamation management, ISO/TC 82/SC 7 Mine reclamation management, has recently been created to develop International Standards that can help minimize the potential long-term damage from mining activities, thus enhancing the quality of life of residents living in a mining area and helping to improve the relationship between the mining industry and local residents.

The scope of this committee is the Standardization of mine reclamation management to minimize mine hazards that occur during the lifecycle of resource development, such as during exploration, exploitation, suspension of operation, mine closure (restoration), and follow-up management.

However, it is expected that safety and health issues related to mining activity will be excluded from this context. Mine closure planning shall be re-established at every stage for sustainable resource development and risk management.

Australia is currently a Participating member in this new subcommittee.
A new International Workshop Agreement (IWA), IWA 16:2015 *International harmonized method(s) for a coherent quantification of CO2e emissions of freight transport* has been published. With more than half the world's CO2 emissions generated by the transportation sector, this IWA from ISO represents a major step towards reducing emissions from freight transport.

It defines the framework for methods for coherent quantification of CO2e emissions of freight transport (total and intensity) on the following three levels:

- Level of operation of transport chain element (TCE);
- Level of network including company level;
- Level of cargo.

IWA 16:2015 provides a gap analysis identifying starting points and recommending further specification and possible alignment on mode specific and intermodal levels, including transhipment centres and warehouses. Consideration needs to be given to the practicality of the methods and the intended use of the outputs to the potential user groups, particularly providers of freight transport and logistic services as well as their customers.

According to Dr. Verena Ehrler and Alan Lewis, Chairs of the group that developed IWA 16, the added value of the Agreement is the thorough scientific comparison it makes of currently existing standards against the industry and stakeholder perspective, thus building a valid and practical foundation for the development of a global standard for emissions calculation in freight transport chains.

IWA 16 is the result of a workshop kicked off in Berlin, Germany, in July 2014, and hosted by DIN, the German Institute for Standardization. It sets the stage for all transport stakeholders to innovate and find more environmentally efficient solutions.
IEC

1. IEC celebrated World Radio Day on 13 February

IEC celebrated World Radio Day on 13 February, which marks the anniversary of the first broadcast by UN Radio in 1946. With this event, it is worth recalling the IEC’s central role and continuous involvement in the technical development of radio broadcasting for nearly 90 years.

Radio remains to these days one of the most widespread and popular communication medium in spite of the growing popularity of television and, more recently, of the Internet. It depends entirely on electricity as a source of power for transmission and reception, and on electrical and electronic components for its broadcasting and receiving equipment.

A multitude of IEC TCs (Technical Committees) and SCs (Subcommittees) develop International Standards for such components and systems. In 1926, shortly after radio broadcasting was introduced, the IEC created TC 12: Radiocommunications.

Nowadays, IEC standardization work for radio broadcasting and receiving equipment is carried out by TC 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment, TC 103: Transmitting equipment for radiocommunication, and TC 108: Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology.

2. IEC 60034-30-1

The IEC has put in place energy efficiency classes for electric motors, known as the IE code, which are summarized in IEC International Standard: IEC 60034-30-1 Rotating electrical machines - Part 30-1: Efficiency classes of line operated AC motors (IE code)

It specifies efficiency classes for single-speed electric motors that are rated according to IEC 60034-1 or IEC 60079-0, for operation on a sinusoidal voltage supply. This standard establishes a set of limit efficiency values based on frequency, number of poles and motor power. No distinction is made between motor technologies, supply voltage or motors with increased insulation designed specifically for converter operation even though these motor technologies may not all be capable of reaching the higher efficiency classes.

The Standard includes four levels of motor efficiency:

- IE1 Standard efficiency
- IE2 High efficiency
- IE3 Premium efficiency
- IE4 Super premium efficiency.

With their help regulators are able to determine the minimum efficiency levels for electric motor energy performance in their regulations. The IEC 60034-30-1 classification system has stimulated competition among motor manufacturers and generated massive technology improvements, and while IEC International Standards are voluntary, the EU (European Union) and numerous other countries have adopted the IEC classification system.

In the EU (Directive 640/2009) as of January 2015 for motors with a rated output from 7.5-375 kW and from 2017 for motors with a rated output from 0.75-375 kW. This measure, which is generally referred to as EU Minimum Energy Performance Standard (MEPS), is expected to result in energy efficiency improvements of 20% to 30%. Australia and New Zealand set MEPS levels for electric motors at IE2 effective since 2001.

The IEC has also developed an International Standard IEC 60034-2-1:2014 for the testing of electric motors. Many countries use national test standards but at the same time also reference the International Standard IEC 60034-2-1.
3. White Paper on orchestrating infrastructure for sustainable smart cities

The IEC, with the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) as principal partner, has produced a White Paper aimed at identifying ways to orchestrate infrastructure for sustainable Smart Cities. This White Paper explains the what, who and how of Smart City development. By 2050, it is projected that 67% of the global population will live in cities.

Smart Cities are necessary to reduce emissions and to handle this rapid urban growth. Their development requires the right environment for smart solutions to be effectively adopted and used. Electricity is core in any urban infrastructure system and the key enabler of cities development, so IEC has a specific role to play in the development of Smart City Standards. Delivering the full value of Standards to accelerate the development of Smart Cities and lower its costs also clearly needs a strong collaboration of all city stakeholders.

This White Paper explains what it needs to move cities to greater smartness. It calls for a wide collaboration between many stakeholders, including other international standardization bodies to ultimately lead to integrated, cost-efficient, and sustainable solutions.

The development of this White Paper was led by the IEC MSB (Market Strategy Board) project team on Smart Cities in cooperation with CEPS. The MSB brings together the CTOs of leading international organizations.

The White Paper can be downloaded from here or, with the option of requesting printed copies, at: www.iec.ch/whitepaper/smartcities/.

4. New IEC Code of Conduct

The IEC code of conduct for delegates and experts involved in standards development has been published.

This document provides brief guidelines on a number of issues which delegates and experts may be confronted with as participants in the IEC standards process. It provides information additional to that given in the ISO/IEC Directives (all parts) and reference should be made to these for details.

Delegates are reminded at the beginning of each TC/SC meeting that general guidance on the conduct of delegates and experts taking part in IEC meetings and contributing to IEC work is given in the document 'IEC code of conduct for delegates and experts', available on the IEC website at: iec.ch/conduct