

International and regional items of interest for January / February 2021 are as follows:

1. Online Aid for Trade event to examine the impact of COVID-19 on developing countries  
[More>>](#)
2. WTO DDGs call for heightened cooperation on vaccine availability  
[More>>](#)
3. New WTO publication looks at impact of digital technologies on developing countries  
[More>>](#)

ISO items of interest for January / February 2021 are as follows:

1. Assistance dogs: Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity  
[More>>](#)
2. Chain of Custody: Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity  
[More>>](#)
3. Roofing and waterproofing building materials: Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity  
[More>>](#)
4. Invitation to virtual workshop on 'Guidelines for contactless delivery service'  
[More>>](#)
5. Invitation to virtual workshop on 'Guidelines for cloud kitchen service'  
[More>>](#)

IEC items of interest for January / February 2021 are as follows:

1. Virtual Conference: IoTTechExpo – Global Virtual 2021  
[More>>](#)
2. Using data to assess the circular economy  
[More>>](#)

\* For further information about any article please email: [mail@standards.org.au](mailto:mail@standards.org.au)

## International

1. [Online Aid for Trade event to examine the impact of COVID-19 on developing countries](#)

The WTO will host an online event on 23-25 March 2021 to explore the trade-related challenges faced by developing countries in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The “Aid for Trade Stocktaking Event” will look into measures to assist developing and in particular least-developed countries increase their trade capacity and recover from the crisis.

Learn more [here](#).

2. [WTO DDGs call for heightened cooperation on vaccine availability](#)

The WTO’s four Deputy Directors-General — Yonov Frederick Agah, Karl Brauner, Alan Wolff and Yi Xiaozhun — urged members on 1 February 2021 to step up cooperation in order to ensure worldwide access to vaccines to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn more [here](#).

3. [New WTO publication looks at impact of digital technologies on developing countries](#)

A new WTO publication launched on 28 January looks at how the rapid adoption of digital technologies can create challenges and opportunities for developing countries. The publication — written by chairholders and Advisory Board members of the WTO Chairs Programme and by WTO Secretariat staff — examines the role of domestic policy and international cooperation in creating a more prosperous and inclusive future for these countries.

Learn more [here](#).

## ISO

### 1. [Assistance dogs: Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity](#)

A proposal to establish a new ISO Technical Committee on *Assistance dogs* has been submitted by NEN (the Netherlands). Standards Australia invites stakeholders to share their views on the proposal to help inform the Australian position (feedback is requested **by 25 March 2021**).

The scope of the proposal is focused on Standardization in the field of assistance dogs, but not limited to terminology, health and welfare, breeding and puppy development, training, client services, assistance dog professionals, conformity assessment and accessibility.

Assistance dogs are specifically trained to perform tasks to increase independence and to mitigate limitations of a person with a disability.

Excluded are:

- dogs that offer only emotional support and/or comfort (i.e. emotional support dogs)
- dog assisted interventions such as facility dogs or dog assisted therapy
- other kinds of working dogs such as herding dogs, police dogs, search & rescue dogs

To provide feedback or learn more about the proposal, please contact us at [sem@standards.org.au](mailto:sem@standards.org.au).

### 2. [Chain of Custody: Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity](#)

A proposal to establish a new ISO Technical Committee on *Chain of Custody* has been submitted by ISO/PC 308. Standards Australia invites stakeholders to share their views on the proposal to help inform the Australian position (feedback is requested **by 16 April 2021**).

The scope of the proposal is focused on Standardization in the field of chain of custody (CoC) for products and associated processes with specified characteristics, with the aim of ensuring that associated claims are reliable.

Chain of custody is the process by which inputs and outputs and associated information are transferred, monitored and controlled as they move through each step in the relevant supply chain. Chain of custody processes operate in parallel with regulatory process at borders and international financial transactions, all of which need to operate in close concert to ensure that supply chain actors meet regulatory, transparency and quality requirements.

To provide feedback or learn more about the proposal, please contact us at [sem@standards.org.au](mailto:sem@standards.org.au).

### 3. [Roofing and waterproofing building materials: Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity](#)

A proposal to establish a new ISO Technical Committee on *Roofing and waterproofing building materials* has been submitted by GOST R (Russia). Standards Australia invites stakeholders to share their views on the proposal to help inform the Australian position (feedback is requested **by 28 April 2021**).

The scope of the proposal is focused on Standardization of materials and components used for roofs design and construction processes, as well as materials used for waterproofing in construction. The objective is to develop a basic set of foundation roofing materials international standards.

The work of the new ISO/TC in 2021-2022 shall focus on, but is not limited to the development of the following international standards:

- ISO “Roof constructions. Method for determining the resistance of flat roofs materials to dynamic walking loads (walkability)” – starting in 2021
- ISO “Roofing profiled metal sheets (metal tile). General specifications” – starting in 2022
- ISO “Waterproofing roll materials for building roofs. General specifications” – starting in 2022
- ISO “Waterproofing roll materials for building foundations and underground structures. General specifications” – starting in 2023
- ISO “Waterproofing membrane made of polyvinylchloride for building roofs. Specifications” – starting in 2023

To provide feedback or learn more about the proposal, please contact us at [sem@standards.org.au](mailto:sem@standards.org.au).

#### 4. [Invitation to virtual workshop on ‘Guidelines for contactless delivery service’](#)

SAC, the standards body for China, invites interested stakeholders to attend an international workshop (IWA 36) on ‘Guidelines for contactless delivery service’.

The IWA 36 meetings will be held virtually over the following days:

- Meeting 1: 22 to 25 March 2021 11:00-15:00 UTC / Zoom
- Meeting 2: 1 to 3 June 2021 11:00-15:00 UTC / Zoom

If you are interested in participating or would like to learn more, please contact us at [sem@standards.org.au](mailto:sem@standards.org.au).

#### 5. [Invitation to virtual workshop on ‘Guidelines for cloud kitchen service’](#)

SAC, the standards body for China, invites interested stakeholders to attend an international workshop (IWA 40) on ‘Guidelines for cloud kitchen service’.

The IWA 40 meetings will be held virtually over the following days:

- Meeting 1: 12 to 15 April 2021 11:00-15:00 UTC / Zoom
- Meeting 2: 21 to 23 June 2021 11:00-15:00 UTC / Zoom

If you are interested in participating or would like to learn more, please contact us at [sem@standards.org.au](mailto:sem@standards.org.au).

## IEC

### 1. [Virtual Conference: IoTTechExpo – Global Virtual 2021](#)

The conference (17 – 18 March 2021) will explore innovative technology in the IoT ecosystem and its impact on industries including, manufacturing, transport, supply chain, government, legal sectors, financial services energy, utilities, insurance, healthcare, retail and more.

Join Francois Coallier, Chair ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 42 on Day 1 Applied Strategies for IoT on the Panel: Building your defence – security for the IoT eco-system.

Learn more [here](#).

### 2. [Using data to assess the circular economy](#)

In an attempt to implement a new economic model that calls for the continual cycles of recovery and restoration of products and materials, known as a circular economy, data can serve an important role to assess circularity. Information on energy, material and waste can be used to better manage these resources as well as to find ways to reuse them.

According to IEC TC 111 expert Walter Jager, “We need to have standards that enable a common language to be used between the supplier and their customers in order to communicate that information. Without that kind of standardization, it is a huge effort to try and put that information together.”

Learn more [here](#).