International and regional items of interest for May 2020 are as follows:

1. WTO report looks at role of e-commerce during the COVID-19 pandemic

   More>>

2. WTO issues new report on treatment of medical products in regional trade agreements

   More>>

ISO items of interest for May 2020 are as follows:

1. Designing Tomorrow's Cities Today

   More>>

2. Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity on Child Care Articles

   More>>

3. Proposal to establish an ISO Project Committee on Managing Risk for Youth and School Trips

   More>>

4. Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity on Social Responsibility

   More>>

IEC items of interest for May 2020 are as follows:

1. Standards help some at risk groups during COVID 19

   More>>

2. IEC and ISO joint committee on AI adds focus on related data ecosystem

   More>>

3. IEC issues two publications for nanotechnology

   More>>

* For further information about any article please email: mail@standards.org.au

International

1. WTO report looks at role of e-commerce during the COVID-19 pandemic

The WTO Secretariat has published a new information note looking at how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected e-commerce, including the implications for cross-border trade. It notes the increased use of e-commerce as consumers adapt to lockdowns and social distancing measures and draws attention to several challenges, such as the need to bridge the digital divide within and across countries.

Learn more here.

2. WTO issues new report on treatment of medical products in regional trade agreements

The WTO Secretariat has published a new report on the treatment of medical products in regional trade agreements (RTAs) amid current supply shortages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The report examines the extent medical products are traded among preferential partners and the difference in liberalization rates within and outside these trade agreements.

Learn more here.

ISO

1. Designing Tomorrow's Cities Today

ISO's technical committee ISO/TC 268, *Sustainable cities and communities* develops Standards through global collaboration that spans geographical, industrial and technological boundaries. With over 20 standards published so far and many more in the making, the ISO family of standards for cities is growing to anticipate the current and future needs of urban areas around the world.

Learn more here.

2. Proposal for a New Field of Activity on Child Care Articles

A proposal to establish a new ISO technical committee on child care articles has been submitted by AFNOR (France). The proposal includes the standardisation of horizontal requirements of a range of products for children up to 4 years old including those intended for sleeping, feeding and bathing.

To learn more or provide feedback, please contact us at sem@standards.org.au.

3. Proposal to establish an ISO Project Committee on Managing Risk for Youth and School Trips

A proposal has been submitted to establish a new ISO project committee to manage risk for youth and school trips for both domestic and international travel. The proposal intends to establish a new ISO standard to address risk management for schools and tour operators as well as safety and security for minors from typical risks including weather and behavioural breaches.

To learn more or provide feedback, please contact us at sem@standards.org.au.

4. Proposal for a New Field of Technical Activity on Social Responsibility

A proposal to establish a new ISO technical committee on social responsibility has been submitted by AFNOR (France). The proposal includes the standardisation of the field of social responsibility to provide guidance and framework to all types of organisations, regardless of size, activity or location.

To learn more or provide feedback, please contact us at international.participation@standards.org.au.

IEC

1. Standards help some at risk groups during COVID 19

Numerous trials and studies are underway, as global medical and healthcare professionals race to find a vaccine or effective treatment for COVID 19. What is already clear, however, is that people with existing medical conditions, including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and hypertension, are more likely to catch the virus and succumb to it. The IEC Standard for wearable diabetes sensor has given some hope to those who suffer from the condition.

Learn more here.

2. IEC and ISO joint committee on AI adds focus on related data ecosystem

IEC and ISO Joint Technical Committee which develops standards for AI (ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 42) held its first virtual plenary, which ran from April 6 – 20.

Learn more here.

3. IEC issues two publications for nanotechnology

In early May, the IEC published two technical specifications, IEC TS 62607-2-4 and IEC TS 62607-8-1 which are part of the IEC 62607 series of publications for nanomanufacturing. Nanotechnology is considered to be one of the key technologies of the 21st century.

Learn more here.