

[International and regional items of interest for November 2019 are as follows:](#)

1. WTO highlights importance of sanitary and phytosanitary measures in agricultural trade  
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2. WTO members discuss product quality, safety and standards, debate new trade concerns  
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3. EIF launches analyses on 4th Industrial Revolution, climate change and trade landscape  
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[ISO items of interest for November 2019 are as follows:](#)

1. Establishment of Technical Committee ISO/TC 326 – Machinery intended for use with foodstuffs  
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2. How to unlock the AI promise  
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3. Calculating the value of the environment with new ISO standard  
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[IEC items of interest for November 2019 are as follows:](#)

1. IEC White Paper: Semantic interoperability: challenges in the digital transformation age  
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2. JTC1 Plenary begins in New Delhi  
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## International

1. [WTO highlights importance of sanitary and phytosanitary measures in agricultural trade](#)

Director-General Roberto Azevêdo of the WTO emphasises the vital role that SPS plays in today's agricultural trade, which is increasingly shaped by new technologies, a changing climate, and a growing population. WTO encourage developing countries to work on their action plans to enhance SPS capacities in their region to strengthen markets through improved compliance capacity of domestic businesses, and in strengthened consumer protection and plant and animal health.

Learn more [here](#).

2. [WTO members discuss product quality, safety and standards, debate new trade concerns](#)

Technical Barriers to Trade Committee voice new trade concerns and discussions on how to develop coherent ways to test, measure and demonstrate the safety and quality of products. This “quality infrastructure” helps build trust in exports, enhances competitiveness and thereby facilitates trade. These discussions were followed by a regular meeting of the committee on 13-15 November, where members discussed 62 trade concerns, 12 of which were raised for the first time.

Learn more [here](#).

3. [EIF launches analyses on 4th Industrial Revolution, climate change and trade landscape](#)

The Trade for Development News platform of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) is launching a new series of articles focusing on three major trade conversations happening today — the Fourth Industrial Revolution, climate change and the evolving global trade landscape, with a particular emphasis on the impact on least-developed countries.

Learn more [here](#).

## ISO

### 1. [Establishment of Technical Committee ISO/TC 326 – Machinery intended for use with foodstuffs](#)

A new technical committee, ISO/TC 326 – Machinery intended for use with foodstuff, has been established at ISO. Australia is currently an Observing (O) Member of ISO/TC 326.

The committee will manage standardisation of individual machine types and their accessories used in the foodstuffs supply chain, as well as processing systems and complete production lines consisting of these machines. All these machines process various raw materials and ingredients into intermediate food products and/or ready-to-eat food.

The standards to be created in this TC deal with specific and typical aspects of machines used in the food industry. These aspects include – but are not limited to – health and safety at work for operators (safety of food machinery) and consumer health and safety (food safety). Standards of this TC also focus on hygienic design principles

For more information about the committee or if you are interested in finding out how AU could participate in this work, please email the Stakeholder Engagement Management team, at [sem@standards.org.au](mailto:sem@standards.org.au).

### 2. [How to unlock the AI promise](#)

Artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and their applications continue to grow and evolve. AI technologies are now being deployed across almost every industry and sector, including transportation, healthcare, defence, finance and manufacturing. But what exactly are these technologies? How prevalent are they? And with AI developing so rapidly, how will International Standards respond to these challenges?

Learn more [here](#).

### 3. [Calculating the value of the environment with new ISO standard](#)

How does an organisation value the dependencies it has on the environment? There's a lot of information on what makes smarter sustainable strategies, but very little data. Now a new ISO standard provides the answers.

Learn more [here](#).

## IEC

1. [IEC White Paper: Semantic interoperability: challenges in the digital transformation age](#)

Humans use words, diagrams, images, context, but also sounds, facial expressions or body language to be understood. Machines use data and information models as well as algorithms to manipulate information, and human concepts need to be translated for machine use. This [white paper](#) outlines what it takes to achieve machine-to-machine communication and how standards can provide structures that will allow machines to interact truly independently.

2. [JTC1 Plenary begins in New Delhi](#)

Technologies such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, data management and exchange, IT security techniques and virtual reality are changing how we live, do business, monitor our health and communicate. The IEC and ISO Joint Technical Committee (ISO/IEC JTC 1) for information technology was held in the Indian capital this month to discuss their work programmes surrounding these areas for the development of international standards for ICT.

Learn more [here](#).