Chairman’s corner

Halfway in 2021 we are hopefully starting to see the end of the pandemic, which has had a huge impact on our daily life and work. Gradually, we see a more normalized situation but the new normal for meeting and collaboration after this pandemic is still to be established.

Based on my experience and what I see and hear, I believe that for the work of ISO and standardisation, which involves resources from all over the world, a digital way of working will actually be an opportunity for more participation in the future. And less travelling saves time, cost, and the environment.

However, it should also be recognised that meeting physically is fundamental for establishing trust and understanding. To combine these meeting places is of great importance, especially when new groups are to be created.

In TC 59 we now have a brand-new SC, SC 19 “Prefabricated building”. Our Chinese member body, SAC, has been allocated the secretariat and we are looking forward to the contribution of this new SC.

On behalf of Kari and myself I want to send warm thank you to you all – and we look forward to seeing you both virtually in upcoming meetings this year, and physically in 2022.

Kind regards, Øyvind Skarholt

News from SC 16 "Accessibility and usability of the built environment"

After the Formal Vote had been successfully passed (unanimous approval), the second edition of ISO 21542 Building construction - Accessibility and usability of the built environment has been published on 1 June 2021. A big thank you goes to all the experts and those in charge of WG 1 who have put the project on track with great commitment over the past four years.

Since WG 1 has fulfilled its purpose with the publication of ISO 21542:2021, it will now be disbanded. But no cause for sadness since a new project is already in preparation: On the initiative of the UNE mirror committee to SC 16, the Spanish standard UNE 41531:2018 IN Accessibility of Immovable Cultural Heritage - General criteria and methodology forms the basis for a new SC 16 project. For this, a new pWI was registered in March 2021 and a new working group (WG 4) was established. Two virtual meetings of WG 4 have already taken place for discussing the Spanish source document, so that the registration of a new work item can soon be proposed.

In order to supplement the expertise already existing in SC 16, a main focus of the preparations was and is on recruiting experts from the cultural heritage environment. In addition to experts from the mirror committees, a new A-liaison has been established with ENAT (European Network for Accessible Tourism). An application from ICOM (International Council of Museums) has also been submitted recently and further efforts are underway.

The new project combines two topics of high relevance for today’s societies: the conservation of our cultural heritage and the unrestricted access for all. In fact, these aspects are also addressed by the UN SDGs 10 (Reduced inequalities) and 11 (Sustainable cities and communities).

The leader of the new project and the convener of WG 4 is Nieves Peinado, who is also the SC 16 chairperson. Her 9-year term will end this December and a new candidate for the role as SC 16 chairperson will be presented to the members very soon. Spain as represented by UNE will maintain its strong commitment in the area of usability and accessibility in the built environment. Forming partnerships with Spanish organisations such as Ceapat, Fundación ACS or Fundación ONCE strongly supports this engagement.

By Steffen Jenkel, SC 16 Committee Manager

ISO 6707-4 Buildings and civil engineering works – Vocabulary – Part 4: Facility management terms

This is a new part of ISO 6707 which has just been published. It establishes preferred terms and concepts related to facility management for buildings and other types of construction works. The standard is intended to complement ISO 41011:2017 Facility management – Vocabulary and SC 2 has worked in close collaboration with ISO/TC 267 “Facility management” in the development of the standard.

New convenors for the SC 2 working groups

Following the retirement from ISO work of Mr Brian Edgill (GB) after many years of service it was necessary for SC 2 to appoint two new convenors for its working groups. Mr Gerry Pettit (UK) has been elected convenor of SC 2/SC 17/JWG 3 “Sustainability terms” and Mr Gunnar Friiborg (DK) has been elected convenor of WG4 "Maintenance of terminology standards and policies". The appointment of Mr Pettit will enable the project on revision of ISO 6707-3 (currently at CD stage) to be completed; and the appointment of Mr Friiborg will strengthen the connectivity with SC 13 “Organization and digitation of information about buildings and civil engineering works, including building information modelling (BIM)”.

By Mike Roberts, SC 2 Committee Manager

New Subcommittee, SC 19 “Prefabricated building”, in TC 59

The Chinese proposal to establish a new subcommittee on prefabricated building was approved by TC 59 in April and was submitted to ISO's technical management board, ISO/TMB, for ratification in May. The establishment of the new subcommittee, SC 19 “Prefabricated building”, has now been ratified, and the secretariat has been allocated to SAC, the Chinese member body. This means that SAC can now nominate a candidate chair to be approved by TC 59 and start planning a first meeting. Any interested national member bodies in ISO can have their preferred membership (P or O) in the new subcommittee registered in ISO Global Directory.
New standards on cure properties from SC 8 "Sealants"

The speed at which a sealant cures is crucial in many industries, including building and construction. For instance, faster cure rates enable higher production rates in manufacturing of construction parts (such as bonded windows) that rely on in-line processing of the sealant. The surface cure, the depth of cure and the rate at which cure is achieved throughout the joint are all important considerations. Typical questions asked by construction component manufacturers are:

- When can I handle the component?
- When can I ship the component?
- When will the component achieve a minimum strength that is required for installation and performance?

A new set of ISO standards, developed by SC 8/WG 22 “Cure properties”, are addressing these questions:

- ISO 24068-1:2021 specifies a method for the determination of the build-up of the tensile properties of one- and multi-component sealants in dumbbell-shaped specimens during cure.
- ISO 24070-1:2021 specifies a method for the determination of the cured thickness of one-component sealants using a taper-wedge-shaped groove test method.
- ISO 24070-2:2021 specifies a method for the determination of the cured thickness of one-component sealants using a cylindrical cup test method.

By Andreas T. Wolf, SC 8/WG 22 Convenor

News from SC 13/WG 8 "Building information models – Information delivery manual"

ISO/CD 29481-3 Building information modelling – Information delivery manual – Part 3: Data schema and classification provides a standard data schema that can make IDM documents machine readable, reusable, and connectable to other standards. It was approved as a committee draft (CD) in March 2021 and is ready to be submitted as a draft international standard (DIS) to ISO.

The figure illustrates the contents of an IDM as defined by the schema and its relationship to ISO 12006-3 (buildingSMART Data Dictionary, bSDD), ISO 16739-1 (Industry Foundation Classes, IFC), and a model view definition (MVD). As a proof of concept, the information delivery manual (IDM) data schema (idmXML data schema) and its capability to link it to other standards, such as ISO 12006-3 and ISO 16739-1, has been tested through a software implementation.

Published since the previous newsletter (December 2020)

ISO 23234-2021, Buildings and civil engineering works — Security — Planning of security measures in the built environment (TC 59)
ISO 6707-4:2021, Buildings and civil engineering works — Vocabulary — Part 4: Facility management terms (SC 2)
ISO 6927:2021, Building and civil engineering sealants — Vocabulary (SC 8)
ISO 9046:2021, Building and civil engineering sealants — Determination of adhesion/cohesion properties at constant temperature (SC 8)
ISO 13638:2021, Building and civil engineering sealants — Determination of the degree of cure — Part 1: Build-up of tensile properties in dumbbell-shaped specimens (SC 8)
ISO 24068-1:2021, Building and civil engineering sealants — Determination of the degree of cure — Part 2: Build-up of tensile and adhesion properties in test joint specimens (SC 8)
ISO 24070-2:2021, Building and civil engineering sealants — Determination of cured thickness of one-component sealant — Part 2: Cylindrical cup test method (SC 8)
ISO/TR 23262:2021, GIS (geospatial) / BIM interoperability (SC 13)
ISO 21542-2021, Building construction — Accessibility and usability of the built environment (SC 16)