The TC 59 secretariat is happy to present the fourth newsletter of ISO/TC 59, giving a brief indication of current or recent affairs in our committee. The newsletter will be distributed twice a year. Please feel free to use this as a forum to inform others of your work or draw attention to areas you would like to highlight with relevance to ISO/TC 59. Please send your contributions to the TC 59 secretary: ksb@standard.no.

Chairman’s corner
2014 has been an eventful year, particularly with the recent Plenary Week in mind. I attended a lot of good meetings in Toronto, and I would like to say that I am both proud and very grateful to see that TC 59 has so many devoted experts with such passion for what we do. I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for all your hard work during the year we are about to finish, and I look forward to tackling new challenges with you in 2015!

My Best Wishes to you and your families for the Holiday Season and the New Year!

Kind regards, Per Jæger
Photo: Johnny Syversen

Successful ISO/TC 59 Plenary Week in Toronto, Canada, 2014

TC 59 held its 2014 Plenary Week in Toronto, Canada, from 26 October to 1 November. With seven subcommittees and 20 working groups present, the week was crammed with productive meetings and great standards development progress. Our meetings were co-located with the autumn meeting of buildingSMART International, a solution that worked very well and allowed for even more interaction than we have had in the past. TC 59 took a resolution at the Plenary meeting to continue such collaboration in the future.

Heartfelt thanks go out to all who participated and made this a memorable event for all of us. A big thanks to the Standards Council of Canada, ASTM International and the Canadian Wood Council and not least all the industry sponsors who contributed to making the meeting week a reality. The next TC 59 Plenary Week will take place in Brazil in October 2016.

ISO/TC 59/SC 8 Sealants well represented at the 2014 DBCSA

On 25-26 June, the Fifth International Symposium on Durability of Building and Construction Sealants and Adhesives (2014-DBCSA) was held in Toronto, Canada under the joint auspices of ASTM International and the International Union of Laboratories and Experts in Construction Materials, Systems and Structures (RILEM). The symposium was held in conjunction with the standardization meetings of the ASTM C24 Committee on Building Seals and Sealants. The activities of ISO/TC 59/SC 8 Sealants were well represented at the symposium with Andreas Wolf (chairman) and Lawrence Carberry (head of U.S. delegation) chairing the symposium and several delegates to SC 8 from Germany, USA and Japan presenting key papers. With presentations from authors representing five countries in North and South America, Europe, and Asia, the symposium was a truly international event.

As in the previous events of this symposium series, the 2014 symposium brought together architects, engineers, scientists – researchers and practitioners. The symposium provided an excellent forum for international experts to share and compare their experiences, network with their peers, and exchange best practices with regard to the durability testing and assessment of building and construction sealants and adhesives. The current series of ASTM symposia on Durability of Building and Construction Sealants and Adhesives is a continuation of tri-annual symposia that were inaugurated by the RILEM Technical Committee 139-DBS Durability of Building Sealants in 1994. Data presented at those symposia over the past 17 years have been the single most important factor influencing ASTM International and ISO standards as well as RILEM technical recommendations related to construction sealant durability.

Photo: Dr. Hisashi Ishii, LIXIL Corporation, Japan
Text: Andreas Wolf, Chair of ISO/TC 59/SC 8 (andreas.wolf@dowcorning.com)
In the newsletters to come, we will give you short presentations of all the ISO/TC 59 subcommittees. This time, we look to SC 15.

**SC 15 Performance description of houses**
Chair: George Walker
Secretary: Ahshanur Rashid (Standards Australia)

The standard is not concerned with specifying the required levels of performance or the details of the methods of evaluation. The specification of the required levels of performance is regarded as the prerogative of specifiers and regulators, while the detailing of the methods of evaluation is the role of the relevant ISO standard design standards. This accepts that because of differing cultural and socio-economic factors it is unreasonable to expect all construction globally to be built to a single standardised level of performance, and that consequently there is a need for a relatively simple common language based on internationally standardised performance parameters which can be used in conjunction with internationally standardised methods of evaluation the parameters for specification and regulation. The ISO 15928 series is designed to provide this common language.

The objective of the series of standards is to define performance parameters for the range of attributes of houses which may be required for specification and trading of the single family dwellings. Consequently it is not just limited to commonly regulated attributes such as structural strength, although these have been given priority. To date standards have been developed for performance parameters to describe structural safety, structural serviceability, structural durability, building fire safety and operating energy. Current development is focussed on sustainability and wild fire safety, with acoustic performance being considered. Where parameters have already been defined in other ISO standards they are used in conjunction with links to the relevant standards.

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George R. Walker, Chair of ISO/TC 59/SC 15 (george.walker@aonbenfield.com)

**News from our SCs and liaisons**

**New liaisons**

SC 13 has resolved to establish a liaison with IEC/SC 3D Product properties and classes and their identification

SC 14 has resolved to establish a liaison with ISO/TC 267 Facilities management

SC 17 has resolved to establish a liaison with ISO/TC 268/SC 1 Smart community infrastructures

**Two new Task Forces under ISO/TC 59/SC 13**

BSI recently proposed to ISO/TC 59/SC 13 (The Building Information Modelling committee), the creation of two new Task Forces to sit under ISO/TC 59/SC 13, on Business Planning and Strategy; and Terminology to be led by the UK. Mark Bew, Chair of the UK BIM Task Group will be Convenor of the former and Mike Roberts, a construction standards terminology expert and Secretary to ISO/TC 59/SC 2 Terminology and harmonization of languages, will be Convenor of the latter.

Our proposals were approved at the SC 13 Plenary at the end of October in Toronto. BSI is delighted to have this opportunity to provide strategic input into the ISO BIM committee, and delighted too that Mark Bew and Mike Roberts are able to take on these important roles. Both Mark and Mike will be supported in their roles by the BSI International Secretariat. Both Task Forces are intended to be permanent groups, open to all P-members and liaisons, and once a call for experts has been carried out, are likely to hold their first meetings in the UK in the spring of 2015. A call for experts for both will be launched by the SC 13 secretariat.

Stephanie Kosandiak, Lead Programme Manager, Construction, British Standards Institution (stephanie.kosandiak@bsigroup.com)

**Awards**

Mike Roberts, Secretary of ISO/TC 59/SC 2, has been awarded the BSI Award for Leadership for his work as Chairman of TS1 - the BSI committee on Terminology.

Andreas Wolf, Chair of ISO/TC 59/SC 8, has been named a 2014 William T. Cavanaugh Memorial Award recipient by ASTM International for his leadership of and contributions to the development and worldwide acceptance of standards for the performance and durability of glazing, weatherproofing and structural sealants.