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.

New TC 59 subcommittee on construction procurement

At the 2014 TC 59 Plenary in Toronto, the committee took a resolution to establish SC 18 "Construction procurement" and invite the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) to host the secretariat. SABS accepted the invitation, and in late April, ISO/TMB approved the establishment of SC 18 with the following scope:

Standardisation of procurement processes, methods and procedures for the delivery and maintenance of construction works excluding those relating to:
- conditions of contract; and
- methods of measurement associated with a bill of quantities.

SABS’ nomination of Dr Ron Watermeyer for the chairmanship has just been approved by the TC 59 members. Dr Watermeyer was the convenor of the now disbanded TC 59/WG 2 "Construction procurement", which developed the 8-part standards series ISO 10845. These standards have now been transferred to the new SC 18.

The published ISO 10845 standards provides a number of procurement processes, procedures and methods primarily aimed at putting a contract in place and measuring key performance indicators relating to the participation of targeted enterprises and targeted labour in the performance of a contract. The objective of the procurement standards is to provide a generic and standard set of processes, procedures and methods for a procurement system that is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost effective. It currently does not provide methods and procedures relating to design competitions and so it will now be up to the new SC 18 to look into expanding the series.

The development of complimentary standards establishing the processes and procedures relating to the project life cycle which are intrinsically linked to procurement processes is something that is likely to be discussed in the new SC 18, as well as standards relating to "sustainable procurement" in the context of delivering and maintaining construction works. There is also an opportunity to develop standards relating to the development of a procurement policy and control framework to effectively implement parts of ISO 10845 and the development of procurement strategies that enable a strategic approach to be taken to procurement.

The subcommittee will meet in Madrid in October in conjunction with the scheduled TC 59 AG meeting.


There is a growing need for information about building services systems during the planning and design of buildings. The designers in building services have to execute detailed calculations and simulations to ensure saving of energy and to satisfy hygienic and comfort criteria in heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and sanitary plants. They have to provide better and better documentation to verify the compliance with these requirements. The resulting designs have to describe the complete plants without internal interference or intersection with the building.

These requirements can only be achieved with modern engineering applications like CAD and CAE systems, calculation programs, BIM tools, and management software. The software systems need exact data of the used plant components. Each component contributes to the performance data of the whole building.

Independent CAD systems and calculation software need to get data and algorithms in a uniform way. However, software providers cannot afford to provide all data from all product manufacturers in the format required by their system. Also, product manufacturers cannot provide current information about their products in the formats of all potential software systems.

Having a uniform, internationally standardised definition for product catalogue data interchange will eliminate the need to manage different data formats and to use different software systems, and this leads to significant cost reductions for manufacturers and users. Integrating this data into BIM systems (Building Information Modelling) allows data interchange between IT systems, and even other software solutions, such as software for facility management and life cycle management, will also benefit greatly.

The recently published ISO 16757-1:2015 is the first part in a standards series that will offer an interface for uniform handling of data about technical, commercial, maintenance, service, as well as geometry, images, video, and text information. (Text adapted from Introduction of ISO 16757-1)

The ISO 16757 series is being developed by SC 13/WG 11 "Product data for building services systems model". WG 11 is currently working on Part 2 Geometry, and three more parts of ISO 16757 are in the pipeline.

Chairman’s corner
I am always pleased when I note that the TC 59 family is expanding, whether by new member bodies or by new experts. This is a good indicator that the work we do and the standards we develop are important. I am now particularly excited about the establishment of our new subcommittee, SC 18 “Construction procurement”, which I am confident will be a valuable addition to the committee. This subcommittee will give us increased opportunities to expand on what has already been developed in this field under TC 59.

Finally, I look forward to seeing both familiar and new faces in Madrid in October.

Kind regards,
Per Jæger
Photo: Johnny Syversen

ISO/TC 59
Buildings and civil engineering works
Newsletter No. 7, June 2015
Our subcommittees
In the newsletters to come, we will give you short presentations of all the ISO/TC 59 subcommittees. This time, we look to SC 17.

**SC 17 Sustainable development in buildings and civil engineering works**
Chair: Jacques Lair
Secretary: Bernard Leservoisier (AFNOR)

SC 17 was established in 2002 to foster a harmonised approach to sustainable development in buildings, and in 2010, the subcommittee scope was extended to also cover civil engineering works. The subcommittee has 36 members (22 P and 14 O) from all continents and development levels, and three working groups: WG 3 on environmental declaration of products, WG 4 on environmental performance of buildings, and WG 5 on civil engineering works. In addition, SC 17 has a joint working group, JWG 3 "Vocabulary on sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works", with our SC 2 "Terminology and harmonization of languages. The JWG is placed under the responsibility of SC 2.

The construction sector is a key economic player all over the world. SC 17’s standards and other deliverables will help it become a driving force in the transition towards a more sustainable, cost-effective and green economy. SC 17’s standards and other deliverables will thus contribute to gather reliable data on the construction sector’s performance, to improve return on investment and spearhead innovation, information exchange and capacity building. This will be of particular benefit for emerging countries that will have easier access to best practices and expertise around the world. SC 17’s standards and other deliverables will foster collaboration between different players in the construction sector that generally have little interaction.

Bernard Leservoisier, Secretary of ISO/TC 59/SC 17 bernard.leservoisier@afnor.org

(Adapted)

Upcoming meetings under TC 59
TC 59 has a plenary meeting every two years, and an Advisory Group meeting every year. In 2015, there is no plenary meeting on the TC level, but the TC 59 Advisory Group will meet in Madrid on 5 October. Five subcommittees with working groups will meet in conjunction with the AG meeting. These are the dates for the SC plenaries in Madrid:

- SC 2 **Terminology and harmonization of languages**: 7 October
- SC 3 **Functional/user requirements and performance in building construction**: 9 October
- SC 15 **Performance description of houses**: 9 October
- SC 16 **Accessibility and usability of the built environment**: 7 October
- SC 18 **Construction procurement**: 6 October

SC 8 **Sealants** will have its plenary meeting in Delft, Netherlands, on 14 October, SC 13 **Organization of information about construction works** will meet in Singapore on 16 October in conjunction with the autumn meeting of buildingSMART International, (SC 14 **Design life** met in Porto, Portugal, on 26 March in conjunction with a meeting of CIB W080 **Prediction of Service Life of Building Materials and Components**), and SC 17 **Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works** will have its plenary in Mexico City on 25 September.

Relevant news from CEN
The publications of SC 13 **Organization of information about construction works** will be highly relevant to the work of a new technical committee that has recently been established in CEN with the title CEN/TC 442 - Building Information Modelling (BIM). The scope of this committee is as follows:

"Standardization in the field of structured semantic life-cycle information for the built environment. The committee will develop a structured set of standards, specifications and reports which specify methodologies to define, describe, exchange, monitor, record and securely handle asset data, semantics and processes with links to geospatial and other external data."

The secretariat has been allocated to Standards Norway, and the appointed secretary is Ms Lisbet Landfald, who is also the secretary of SC 13. CEN/TC 442 will have its first meeting in Brussels on 16 September.

Published since December 2014
- ISO 16745:2015, Environmental performance of buildings -- Carbon metric of a building -- Use stage (SC 17)

If you have ideas or contributions to the next newsletter, please make contact!