Our subcommittees
In our newsletters, we take the opportunity to give you short presentations of all the ISO/TC 59 subcommittees. This time, we look to SC 3.

SC 3 "Functional/user requirements and performance in building construction"
Chair: Satoshi Kose (Japan)
Secretary: Nobuaki Sakakura (IIBH)
SC 3 was established in 1975 to create basic performance standards for building construction. Its coverage includes general rules for performance requirements for buildings and building elements, and their coordination with performance requirements of building components to be used in buildings.

Unlike many other earlier SCs in TC 59 targeted to building production, SC 3 was intended to cover requirements from building users as a major field.

Presently, the subcommittee has 39 members (21 P and 18 O) from all continents and development levels, and one working group: WG 14 on general principles, which will soon complete its task upon publication of the new IS 19208: Framework for specifying performance in buildings, which is an extended consolidated version of previous IS 6240, IS 6241, and IS 7162.

SC 3 has played a unique role within TC 59. When a new work item was proposed, quite often, a WG was established to evaluate feasibility of the proposal because they were covering performance of buildings in one way or another. Once it was confirmed viable to stand as itself, a new SC was established. Such examples were SC 14, SC 15, SC 16, and SC 17.

In 2010, the subcommittee scope was extended to also cover civil engineering works, but for the time being, due to their nature, topics related to civil engineering works are not likely to be within the SC 3 activities.

Text by Satoshi Kose, skose@gakushikai.jp, Chair of ISO/TC 59/SC 3

ISO 29481-1:2016 is published
ISO 29481-1:2016 Building information models – Information delivery manual – Part 1: Methodology and format, was published on 1 May 2016. This is a revision of the first edition from 2010. The development has been done by SC 13/WG 8, with Convenor Henk Schaap (NL) and Project Leader Jan Karlshej (DK).

The standard has undergone a major review in the light of refined approaches to the development of information delivery manuals, IDM, and their technical implementation in software readable forms.

Building information modelling, BIM, provides a digital technology for describing and displaying information required in the planning, design, construction and operation of constructed facilities. Increasingly, this modelling approach is expanding to cover all aspects of the built environment, including civil infrastructure, utilities and public space. This approach to managing information brings together the diverse sets of information used during the life cycle of the built environment into a common information environment, reducing, and often eliminating the need for the many types of paper documentation currently in use.

An information delivery manual, IDM, provides help in getting the full benefit from a BIM. If the required information is available in the BIM to support a construction process, and the quality of information is satisfactory, then the process itself will be greatly improved.

For this to happen, there needs to be a common understanding of the processes involved across the entire life cycle development of a built environment project.

ISO 29481-1:2016 provides a basis for reliable information exchange for users so that they can be confident that the information they are receiving is accurate and sufficient for the activities they need to perform.

Text and photos provided by Lisbet Landfald, lla@standard.no, Secretary of ISO/TC 59/SC 13

Chairman's corner
In October this year, seven of our nine subcommittees and close to 20 working groups will get together under the same roof for a busy week of meetings. First and foremost, it will be important that we make good progress in our standardisation work. Having so many experts meet at the same place will be a good starting point to achieve just that.

I also hope that everyone will take some time to get an understanding of what the various groups and committees are working with. In my opinion, taking a broader view is rewarding and will help ensure that we are all pulling in the same direction. To put it simply: When building a house, we need both foundation, walls, roof, doors and windows, and the house is not complete if any of the parts are missing.

I hope to see you all at the ISO/TC 59 Plenary Week in Berlin!

Kind regards, Per Jæger
Photo: Johnny Syversen
Website for the Plenary Week in Berlin 4–11 October 2016

The ISO/TC 59 secretariat has set up a website with practical information related to the meeting week. Here you will have access to the latest meeting schedule, get tips on transportation to and from the airport, be able to book a room at the recommended hotel, etc.

This website also contains a page for meeting registration. In order to give our host a good overview of the number of attendees that can be expected to each meeting, all meeting participants at all levels (TC/SC/WG) are requested to register via this website by 1 September at the latest.

The website registration therefore comes in addition to the required notification from the national member bodies to inform the relevant SC/TC secretariats of their national delegations.


News from SC 2

ISO 6707-3 Buildings and civil engineering works – Vocabulary – Part 3: Sustainability terms

The part of ISO 6707 concerned with sustainability in relation to buildings and civil engineering works was circulated as a DIS in April. Experts from ISO/TC 59/SC 2 “Terminology and harmonization of languages” and ISO/TC 59/SC 17 “Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works” have worked together on this project in a joint working group. There has also been liaison with ISO/TC 268 “Sustainable development in communities”.

Communication is important to the implementation and operation of the concept of sustainable development related to buildings and civil engineering works. In the interest of common understanding and standardization, consistent word usage is encouraged to help eliminate the major barrier to effective technical communication. This standard focuses on concepts that have been standardized and/or applied through publication of individual standards within ISO/TC 59/SC 17. A number of other general sustainability terms are included. The ballot is open until 7 July.

Award to Brian Edgill

Brian Edgill, Convenor of ISO/TC 59/SC 2/JWG 3 and ISO/TC 59/SC 2/WG 4, received a Special Commendation from the British Standard Institution awarded for his outstanding contributions to the creation of a comprehensive and co-ordinated standard vocabulary for buildings and civil engineering works. Reference was made both to BS 6100 Building and civil engineering vocabulary and his past and present work on ISO 6707 Buildings and civil engineering works – Vocabulary.

Text by Mike Roberts, mikeroberts@blueyonder.co.uk, Secretary of ISO/TC 59/SC 2

News from buildingSMART International

BuildingSMART now has five rooms and many working groups. Its six-monthly summit meetings, each held in a different city around the world, are an opportunity for face-to-face meeting to progress standards and solutions. The most recent summit was held in Rotterdam in April 2016 – a city of innovation and exciting new construction development which provided a fitting backdrop.

Emerging from the Rotterdam meeting was buildingSMART’s decision to publish standards work in the form of a PAS or publicly available specification, allowing fast-track development to be shared swiftly. First to take this route are the prospective IFC Road PAS (an application has been received from KICT in Korea) and the IFC Rail PAS – the China Railway BIM Alliance announced at Rotterdam that it would be making an application.

In the Infra Room, there was progress on extending the buildingSMART alignment standard with Alignment 1.1, which is being run as a fast-track project, like its predecessor, 1.0. A series of pilots is being planned to stimulate uptake of the Alignment 1.0.

BuildingSMART’s 2016 international competition to find buildingSMART’s ‘heroes of interoperability‘ was launched at Rotterdam, with three main categories – Design Using Open Technology, Construction Using Open Technology and Operation & Maintenance Using Open Technology – plus a student project award. Details are on the buildingSMART website.

‘This was a productive week,’ says Chris Groome, business manager and secretary. ‘The industry is hungry for our standards: together the working groups, software implementers and funders can make it happen.’

Text by Betzy Dinesen, Editor for BuildingSMART International

Published since December 2015
ISO 19863:2016 Buildings and civil engineering works -- Sealants -- Determination of tear resistance (SC8)
ISO 29481-1:2016 Building information models -- Information delivery manual -- Part 1: Methodology and format (SC13)

If you have ideas or contributions to the next newsletter, please make contact!
See also the ISO/TC 59 home page: https://committee.iso.org/tc59

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