



Secretariat of ISO/PC 283

Date: 15 June 2016

To the Members of
ISO/PC 283
Occupational health and safety management systems

**Communiqué on the 5th meeting of
ISO/PC 283 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems,
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, 6 – 10 June 2016**

The ballot on the Draft International Standard (DIS) of ISO 45001 closed in May 2016, and failed to approve the document. It also received approximately 3000 comments giving recommendations for improvement.

The Secretariat of ISO/PC 283 had previously indicated that two meetings might be needed to process a large volume of comments received on the DIS. The meeting in Mississauga would be the first of such meetings.

The meeting was hosted jointly by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), the CSA Group, and the national mirror committees to PC283 for the USA (the US TAG for ISO/PC283) and Canada (the SMC for ISO/PC 283). The meeting was held in the offices of the CSA Group at Spectrum Way.



CSG Group's offices, Spectrum Way

The meeting received opening presentations from Norma McCormick (Chair, SMC to PC 283); David Smith (Chairman of ISO/PC 283); Sylvie Lafontaine (Vice-President of the Standards Council of Canada's Standards and International Relations branch); David Weinstein (CEO, CSA Group); Magai Depras (President of Standards, CSA Group); Michael Belcher (President of the ASSE); Vic Toy (Chair, US TAG to PC 283). While noting the disappointment of the failure of the DIS to be approved, all speakers emphasized the need

for a standard such as ISO 45001, in order to reduce the number of injuries, illnesses and fatalities incurred by workers every year, before wishing PC 283 success with its meeting.

Following the opening presentations, the Chairman of PC 283 thanked the speakers for their welcome and support for the meeting. He indicated that the objective for the meeting should be to review the received comments and to produce a revised text suitable to go forward as a second DIS, but noted that this proposal would need formal approval by the PC later in the week.

The PC 283 Secretary gave a brief presentation on the membership of the PC and the number of delegates attending the meeting, as well as asking for volunteers to participate on the resolutions editing team. The membership had increased from 59 to 65 P-members; decreased from 15 to 13 O-members; and increased from 17 to 19 Liaison members. 114 delegates were expected to attend the meetings, with 28 participating for their first time.

The meeting was then formally given over to ISO/PC 283's Working Group 1 (WG1), to start the review of comments.



Delegates to the 5th ISO/PC 283 meeting, Mississauga

Kristian Glaesel, Convener of WG1 noted the results of the DIS ballot, before showing a breakdown of the number of comments received per clause in the DIS. He commented that the volume of comments received indicated that the approach the WG had been taking to its work was not satisfactory, and that a new one was needed. He advised that his plan was for the WG to remain in plenary for its entire meeting and not to subdivide into Task Groups.

His analysis of the comments indicated that there were a number of key issues that needed to be addressed. If these could be resolved satisfactorily, then it would be possible to disposition a large proportion of the comments.

The key issues included:

- The “fulfilment of” or “compliance with”, etc., legal requirements
- The editing of Notes to avoid the inclusion of requirements
- The editing of the term “consultation” due to its definition
- Alignment with ISO 14001 and deviation from the Annex SL text
- The term “worker” and its definition
- Clause 5.4 on Participation and Consultation

After discussing these issues until the Wednesday, Mr Glaesel invited the WG1 Experts to submit their top 3 remaining concerns via an online survey.

The survey results were collated and prioritized by Ludvig Hubendick, the WG1 Secretary, in time for the recommencement of the meeting the next morning.

The WG was able to address a number of additional issues, including:

- The structure of clause 6
- Training versus competence
- The definition of “hazard”
- A bullet in 7.3 on workers and imminent danger

Towards the end of the WG 1 meeting the Convener proposed the establishment of a new Task Group 8 (TG8) to complete the review of all the outstanding comments, guided by the decisions that had been made on the key issues and the additional issues. TG8 would meet around August or September to produce a revised working draft and a detailed disposition of all the comments. A further meeting of the full WG in plenary (and of PC 283 itself) would then be held around October to review the working draft and any concerns expressed on the disposition of the comments by the Experts.

While the idea of finding a process to accelerate the review of comments and production of a revised text was generally accepted, the selection of task group members led to some difficult discussions. The Convener indicated that his preference was for himself to appoint members to TG8, taking account of their roles as TG leaders or deputy leaders, or their representation of industry/government/ labour, or to balance geographic representation. Other members indicated their preference for one expert per member body or liaison organization to participate on TG8, or for the recall of the former task groups, or remaining as a full WG. The matter was latter decided by a PC 283 resolution, which gave the Convener the authority to appoint experts directly to TG8.

During the following plenary meeting of the PC, a proposal was made to publish the DIS text as a Technical Specification, and to start an immediate revision to achieve a full International Standard on an accelerated 2 year timeframe. This could have been possible due to the 71% approval by P-members for the DIS text (the threshold for a Technical Specification being 66%). The PC chose not to adopt this proposal and instead agreed to develop and release a 2nd DIS.

The PC's Secretariat will now await the delivery of the text of the 2nd DIS of ISO 45001 from WG1 before editing it and submitting it to ISO. ISO will then review and edit the text before making it available to its member national standards bodies for a period of 2 months for translation; this is predicted to happen by mid-November. Following the end of the translation period (around January/February), the 2nd DIS will then be subject to a 2 month period of review and ballot by the national standards bodies.

Following the close of the 2nd DIS ballot, the PC will meet again in order to review the results of the ballot and any comments received. This is predicted for late April or early May 2017.

The PC will also need to decide if the text that is produced from the April/May meeting will have to go forward as a Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) or not.

An issue that could affect this decision is the formal timeframe that was agreed for this project, which was 3 years starting in October 2013. ISO now permits a single 9 month extension against such a timeframe, which will be completed in June 2017.

Assuming that the 2nd DIS is approved, ISO 45001 could be published in time to meet this June deadline provided there is agreement to avoid the FDIS stage. Alternately the project will need to be submitted to the ISO Technical Management Board for review. The PC's Secretariat has already requested the 9 month extension to the project in light of the DIS ballot results.

Also at the PC's closing plenary meeting, a report was received on the work of the PC's Ad Hoc Group (AHG). The AHG had met in November 2015 and had developed a "new work item proposal" (NWIP) for submission to ISO/CASCO, concerning the development of a set of OH&S MS auditing competency requirements, as a new Part to ISO/IEC 17021. The AHG had completed its task and a NWIP had subsequently been approved for the development of ISO/IEC TS 17021-10 by ISO/CASCO, through a joint working group (no.48) with PC 283.

Catherine Montagnon (France) had led the AHG and was appointed as Co-Convener of JWG 48. She reported that the JWG had held its first meeting in April, and had planned a further meeting to be held with PC 283; however, it may now have to await the development of the 2nd DIS of ISO 45001 before being able to proceed with its work, as it will need to determine if the 2nd DIS introduces any new requirements that could affect auditor competency. She stated that 17021-10 is on target for being available at the time of publication of ISO 45001.

The PC received a presentation from Norma McCormick (Canada) on their new national standard for psychosocial stress, which may in the future be presented to the PC as a formal new work item proposal (however this would require the PC to apply to the ISO/TMB to be converted into an ISO Technical Committee, in order to manage such a project).

The PC's WG1 went through some difficult discussions at the meeting to resolve some major obstacles on the path forward for the standard. Its method of working continuously in plenary can be extremely strenuous for those leading the work. The Convener of WG1, Kristain Glaesel, and its Secretary, Ludvig Hubendick, should be recognized for their fortitude.

The PC's programme of work could not have been achieved without the excellent facilities provided and the wonderful hospitality the PC's members have received.

The PC is grateful to the Standards Council of Canada, the American Society of Safety Engineers, the CSG Group, the Canadian SMC to ISO/PC 283 and the US TAG to ISO/PC 283, for having hosted its meetings.

It is also grateful to Brookfield Global Integrated Systems, Global Solutions Inc., Master Lock, Gleaming Factory, SPAN International Training LLC, and Corporate Health Works, for their sponsorship and assistance.

In particular, the PC would like to recognize Norma McCormick, Brenda Henry, Vic Toy, Kathy Seabrook, Tim Fisher, as well as Andrea Walczyszyn and Ruth George (CSA Staff) for their work in planning the meeting, as well as all the many USA and Canadian observers for circulating the microphones and in helping run the meeting.

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