



# Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards for technical regulations

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# This presentation

*Using ISO & IEC standards for technical regulations*

- The document can be obtained from

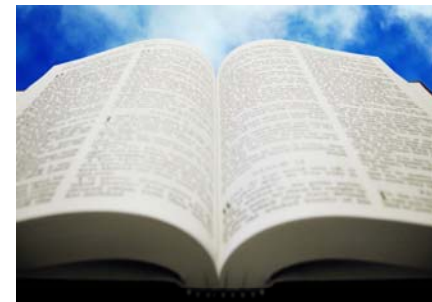
[www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

[www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

# This presentation

- Advantages & benefits
- International trade
- Global applicability
- Different types of standards
- Methods of referencing
- Other considerations
- Best practice

**Practical advice**



# Advantages & benefits

## In the context of regulation they:

- Basis - **national** technical regulations
- Adopted as national standards
- Support **societal** & **environmental** policies
- Offer **consumer** protection
- Different **markets**

# International standards & trade

- WTO ensures trade flows freely
  - TBT Agreement ensures national measures avoid TBT
  - **Harmonization** of national measures
- Value in international standards
- WTO members should
  - **Participate** in international standards work
  - **Use** international standards



# Global applicability

## Different situation in countries:

- E.G **subsistence economies**
  - e.g. extraction of **raw materials**
- **Depend on imported products**
- Less consumer infrastructure
- **Less** developed SQAM



**ALL countries can benefit!**

# Different types



- **Product** specifications
- Organizational **management**
- **Labelling & Packaging**
- **Health & safety**
- **Measurement**, & test methods
- Graphical **symbols**
- **Terminology** & definitions
- Services
- Personnel
- **Conformity** Assessment

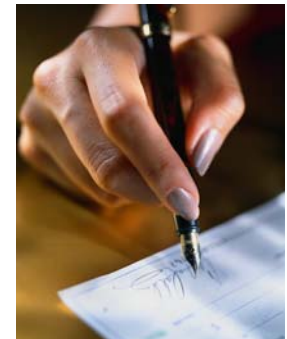


*A single standard could cover one or many of these!*

# Methods of referencing

## Some considerations:

- **Mandatory** or **voluntary**?
- **Checks** needed?
- **Whole** or **parts**?



# Methods of referencing contd.

## Direct references:

- Standard quoted by **number** & **title**
- 2 forms: **dated** & **undated**



## Examples

- *The waste hazardous material container shall conform to ISO XXXX:2003 TITLE.*
- *The waste hazardous material container shall conform to the latest edition of ISO XXXX TITLE*

# Methods of referencing contd.

## Dated:

- **Legal certainty**
- **Assurance & clarity**
- **Restrictive** reference
- New editions will need a change to the legal text



# Methods of referencing contd.

## Undated:

- **More flexible**
- No update to legal text needed
- Less legal certainty

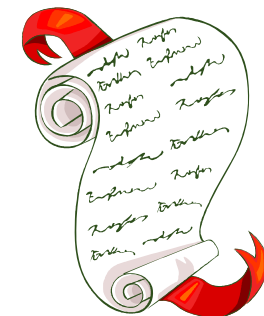
*No date!*

# Methods of referencing contd.

## Indirect reference:



- Listed on official source
- By an official process
- **External** to the legal text
- List needs to be **up to date** publicly **available**



# Methods of referencing contd.

## Advantages of indirect references:

- Revision/amendment...

**no change to legal text**

- The lists may include publication dates

**legal certainty is offered!**

**Good!**

# More considerations

## Ensuring no delegation of responsibility:

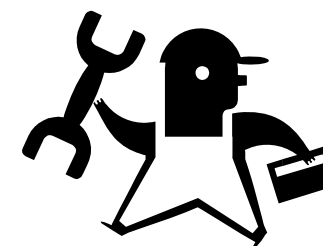
- Regulator decides!
- ISO & IEC **processes**
- Regulatory procedures **for approving** references
- Ensures regulator **confidence**
- Depends on the **risk**

**No delegation**

# More considerations contd.

## Maintenance procedures:

- Maintain standards - **state of the art**
- Regulators kept informed of changes:
  - e.g. participation in the committee
  - e.g. information exchange



# Sectors with best practice

- Ships & marine technology
- Transport of dangerous goods
- Road vehicles
- Food products
- Radio services
- Railways
- Medical devices



# Best practice

- Develop strategy
- Use **MOUs**
- Targeted **liaison** & **joint** work
- Involve standards committee when drafting regulation
- Give a formal **endorsement**

# National & regional policies

## Standards receptive regulatory policy exists in:

- China
- Europe
- Japan
- South Africa
- US



# Summary

- Advantages & benefits
- International trade
- Global applicability
- Different types standards
- Methods of referencing
- Other considerations
- Best practice

**Support your technical regulations  
with ISO!**