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Secretariat of ISO/TC 176/SC 2

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**To the Members of  
ISO/TC 176/SC 2 -  
Quality Management and  
Quality Assurance/  
Quality Systems**

**Communique on the 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of ISO/TC176/SC2  
Postillion Convention Centre, WTC, Rotterdam, during 28 November to 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016**

ISO/TC 176/SC2 held its 41<sup>st</sup> meeting hosted by the national standards body for the Netherlands, Koninklijk Nederlands Normalisatie-instituut (Royal NEN).

The SC2 plenaries and its Working Group meetings were held in the Postillion Convention Centre, WTC, in Rotterdam.



***Postillion Convention Centre WTC***

Since its last meeting in November 2015, the membership of the SC has continued to grow, and now includes 86 P-members, 11 O-members and 43 Liaison members.

With the publication of ISO 9001:2015 in September last year, the SC has focussed its attention on providing supporting guidance to that standard, as well as on the revision of the other standards in its portfolio.



Through its WG24 it achieved the development of ISO/TS 9002 *Quality management systems - Guidelines for the application of ISO 9001:2015*, as well as a revision of the ISO Handbook *ISO 9001:2015 for Small Enterprises – What to do? Advice from ISO/TC 176* (available from [http://www.iso.org/iso/home/store/handbooks\\_packages.htm](http://www.iso.org/iso/home/store/handbooks_packages.htm)).

The WG is drafting a Project Review Report to capture the lessons learned during the development of these three documents, to contribute to SC2's "organizational knowledge". It will then be disbanded.

WG22 provides a formal interpretations service on ISO 9001:2015 to national standards bodies, but has been surprised not to have received a single request for an interpretation during the past 12 months. It had proposed an accelerated interpretations process in order to cope with the expected volume of requests. It is now using hypothetical interpretation requests to test the process. The revised process is currently being balloted by the ISO/TMB for approval.

WG25 is revising ISO 9004. It has proposed a new title to the standard of "*Quality of an organization – Guidance to achieve sustained success*", which was approved unanimously in the SC2 Closing Plenary. A committee draft of ISO 9004 had been circulated prior to the meeting and had achieved a 94% vote of approval, along with 817 comments. The WG managed to complete its review of the comments and to prepare a Draft International Standard (DIS). The DIS is expected to go forward for translation and ballot starting around February/March 2017. The WG has also planned a verification exercise, to check that its draft is in accordance with the design specification that was agreed for the standard at the start of this project.

WG26 is revising ISO 10005. It has also proposed that the title of the standard be changed by truncating it to "*Guidelines for quality plans*". This was also approved unanimously in the SC2 Closing Plenary meeting. A committee draft of ISO 10005 had been circulated prior to the meeting and had achieved a 100% vote of approval, along with 271 comments. The WG managed to complete its review of the comments and to prepare a DIS. The DIS is expected to go forward for translation and ballot starting around February/March 2017.

WG27 is revising ISO 10006 *Quality management systems – Guidelines for quality in projects*. A committee draft of ISO 10006 had been circulated prior to the meeting and had achieved a 95% vote of approval, along with 246 comments. The WG managed to complete its review of the comments and to prepare a DIS. The DIS is expected to go forward for translation as soon as editing of the text can be completed, in early 2017.

WG28 is revising ISO 10007 *Quality management systems – Guidelines for configuration management*. A DIS of ISO 10007 had been circulated prior to the meeting and had achieved a 100% vote of approval, along with 129 comments. The WG managed to complete its review of the comments prior to the meeting. In consultation with the SC2 Secretariat the WG proposed that ISO 10007 should not go forward for a Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) stage ballot, but should instead go directly forward to publication. A ballot is currently under way in SC2 to determine if its members will agree to this, and it closes on 22 December 2017.

Supporting the activities of all these Working Groups is WG23 *Communications and Product Support*. It met to make some small improvements to the guidance materials it has already produced on ISO

9001:2015 (which are available from the web site: <https://committee.iso.org/tc176sc2>). It has also turned its attention to providing material to support users wanting information concerning ISO 9004, ISO 10005, ISO 10006 and ISO 10007, and this will shortly be published on the web site. The WG also revised its 5 year communications plan. Following requests from both ISO/TC 176/SC1 and ISO/TC 176/SC3, the WG also looked at how it could support their activities. Given its increased portfolio, SC2 agreed to disband the WG, to enable it to be migrated into a TC176 level WG, to manage this wider range of responsibilities.

The SC2 Strategic Planning and Operations Task Group met to review the interactions between SC2's Working Groups (particularly those between WG22, WG23 and the TC176 Auditing Practices Group), to ensure they are effective. It also recommended that the membership of the SC2 Ad Hoc Group no.3 which provides input into the work of the ISO/TMB/TAG13-Joint Technical Co-ordination Group for Management System Standards (the JTCG), should be refreshed, to include the conveners and task group leaders from WG24 that had been responsible for the revision of ISO 9001. This was on the basis that the JTCG is now becoming more active in planning a review and potential revision of the Annex SL "High level structure" for management system standards, which directly impacts ISO 9001.

ISO/TC 176/SC2 is extremely grateful to the hosts for the meeting, Royal NEN and their sponsors for the excellent facilities and for their wonderful hospitality. In particular it noted the extraordinary efforts of Annemarie de Jong, Pauline van Rheeden-Wijtvliet and the staff of NEN in supporting the meeting.



**Annemarie de Jong, Dick Hortensius, Pauline Rheeden-Wijtvliet**

Finally, it noted that Annemarie de Jong has been Secretary to ISO/TC 176/SC3 since 1993, but has now taken the decision to retire. SC2 offers her its deepest thanks for all her contributions to the work of SC2 and to ISO/TC176, as well as wishing her a long and happy retirement.

The next meeting of ISO/TC 176/SC2 is being planned for the 4th quarter of 2016, in conjunction with ISO/TC 176.

**Charles Corrie**

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