

ISO *Focus*

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Trade and conformity assessment

- Performance of glazing materials
- ISO to launch social responsibility standard



Coming up



Main Focus

Standards, Learning & Education

The United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD, 2005-2014), which was officially launched at UN Headquarters in New York on 1 March 2005, is the point of departure for the April issue of *ISO Focus*.

The aim of DESD is to see education for sustainable development implemented in thousands of local situations on the ground, involving integration of the principles of sustainable development into a multitude of different learning situations. The vision of education for sustainable development is a world where everyone has the opportunity to benefit from quality education and learn the values, behaviour and lifestyles required for a sustainable future and for positive societal transformation.

Education occupies an important position in standardization. Our April issue,

which is devoted to standards, learning and education, offers a variety of articles looking at new e-learning ventures and other approaches being taken, as well as at the elements that do or might make up a course in the subject. Koïchiro Matsuura, Director General of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which is sponsoring the DESD, gives his viewpoint on where and how International Standards can provide added value in education.

If one single message emerges from this issue, it is: education and training programmes that highlight the value and significance of standards to the global economy must become a high priority within the private, public and academic sectors. A greater awareness of standardization can benefit executives in industry and government, standards developers and participants, faculty staff and students, consumers and other stakeholders.



Developments and Initiatives

Electronic Health Record

Over the past few years, there has been increasing recognition of the fundamental importance of the Electronic Health Record (EHR) as a lever of change to reform and improve the quality and safety of health care while containing burgeoning health-care costs.

The article looks at the development of ISO/TR 20514, *Electronic Health Record – Definition, scope, and context*, within ISO/TC 215, *Health informatics*. It reviews the history, formulation and the ultimate aim of ISO/TR 20514, which according to the author provides an effective, comprehensive and pragmatic classification and description of the EHR.

Application of ISO 9001:2000 to local governments

At its meeting on 10 and 11 February 2005 the Technical Management Board approved a proposal from the ISO member for Mexico (DGN) to organize a workshop intended to produce an International Workshop Agreement (IWA) on the application of ISO 9001:2000 to local governments.

ISO offers International Workshop Agreements as one of several new alternatives to developing International Standards, especially in cases where swift development and publication takes priority. Compared to the traditional ISO process of developing International Standards through the technical committee structure, IWA development takes place in open workshops organized by an ISO member body.