Changes on the horizon for ISO 9001 standard



The International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) has recently announced that its universally applied 9001 management standard is to undergo a process of revision.

All International Standards are subject to review at least once every five years by the world's ISO member bodies, which include the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the British Standards Institution (BSI), the German Institute for Standardisation (DIN) and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC).

This necessary and mandatory review process helps to ensure that every standard continues to be relevant and responsive to the ever-changing demands and challenging faced by today's businesses and organisations.

The timing of this review process comes as a surprise to us, here at Turner & Coates, as, following a review in May 2021, ISO announced that their worldwide member bodies had voted to confirm that the 2015 version of ISO 9001 was still applicable, with no changes being required.

"With this in mind," says our MD Neil Coulborn, "I would have expected the next review period to begin in 2026, with a view to a possible publication of revisions by 2030. However, there now appears to be a push from ISO to release a revisited version of ISO 9001 by 2026."

So, what is the revision process?

There are a number of different stages to this; the key ones being:

- development of a working draft.
- a draft International Standard published for review.
- final changes and publication of the revised standard.

Currently, ISO have the working draft in progress and, following a Technical Committee review, a Draft International Standard should

Did you know?

Iso derives from the ancient Greek word 'isos', meaning equal.

Given the fact that "International Organisation for Standardisation" would have different acronyms in different languages - IOS in English, and OIN in French - Organisation Internationale de Normalisation - its founders opted for the short form ISO.

become publicly available in late 2024/early 2025. The ISO members will then balot on this, and this entire process will likely take a minimum of 6 months to run. Depending on how hard ISO are pushing to release the new standard, we would expect it to be complete and published late 2025/early 2026.

What will you need to do once it has changed?

If you are an ISO 9001 certified organisation, you will have a three-year transition period from the date of publications, after which your certification will no longer be valid.

To transition, you'll need to familiarise yourself with the new version. While some things may need to change, many will no doubt remain the same. A correlation matrix will help you identify if parts of the standard have been moved to other sections.

Equally, it will be vital for you to identify any gaps in your operational (scroll down to next page!)

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Here to guide you through the transition process!

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(continued from previous page) responsibilities and performance that would need to be addressed, in order to meet the revised standard. Likewise, you would be required to develop a formal implementation plan, as well as providing the appropriate level of training and awareness for all parties that have an impact upon your business or organisation. Additionally, it will become necessary for you to update your existing Management System(s), in order to be fully compliant with the newly revised standard and its requirements.

Lastly, internal and external audits will be required to confirm the ongoing effectiveness of the changes made, in order to remain fully ISO 9001 compliant.

The potential impact of climate change on your business.

Changes aimed at helping address climate change have been made to around 30 internationally applied management standards, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & ISO 45001.

Act now to help you determine whether climate change is a relevant issue to your organisation, and to consider whether the parties appropriate to your business have any requirements related to climate change. These should form part of your determination of matters relating to Section 4 Context of your organisation.

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Climate change considerations

The intent of these changes is to ensure that issues surrounding climate changes are considered by your organisation, within the specific context of your management system and its effectiveness.

These minor amendments have been instigated in response to the London Declaration on Climate Action, and require certification bodies to include the new text - and its context - into their auditing reports. Updates to certificates have been deemed unnecessary by the IAF (International Accreditation Forum) on the basis that significant change has not been made to scope of application, effectiveness or current required activities.

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