



GUIDE 2

Second edition — 1978-02-15

General terms and their definitions concerning standardization and certification

UDC 006 : 001.4

Ref. No. ISO GUIDE 2-1978 (E)

Descriptors : standardization, certification, standards, standards bodies, reference to standards, vocabulary



Documents

Document Sharing Hub

Price based on 5 pages

FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been set up has the right to be represented on that Committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

ISO Guides are intended essentially for internal use in ISO committees or in some cases for the guidance of member bodies when dealing with matters which would not normally be the subject of an International Standard.

ISO Guide 2 was drawn up by ISO/STACO. The first edition, containing a "first series" of terms and definitions (marked with an asterisk in this edition), was circulated to the member bodies for comment in June 1975. The document secured the necessary support of the member bodies, and was subsequently accepted by the ISO Council.

A "second series" of terms and definitions was circulated to the member bodies for comment in January 1977 and, in a revised form, in April 1977. The document secured the necessary support of the member bodies and was subsequently accepted by the ISO Council for publication together with the "first series", in the form of this second edition of ISO Guide 2.



General terms and their definitions concerning standardization and certification

0 INTRODUCTION

This guide is the second edition of a guide published in 1976. The present edition combines two series of terms and definitions. The first series was prepared in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in close co-operation with ISO, primarily to facilitate the work of the Economic Commission for Europe aimed at the removal of barriers to international trade arising from lack of harmonization of standards or inadequate international application of standards. ECE recognized that it was of considerable importance that harmonization of definitions be achieved at the international level and therefore expressed the hope that the relevant international organizations — in their activities regarding definitions — would take the definitions into account.

After approval in both ECE and ISO, this first series was published as ISO Guide 2-1976. ISO considered that publication of the definitions would assist in the creation of a common language between ISO and intergovernmental organizations as well as between ISO members and government officials, even though some of the definitions might not completely meet the requirements of standardization technology. The terms and definitions from this first series, adopted by ECE and ISO, are marked with an asterisk in the present edition.

The additional terms and definitions (second series) included in the present edition have been prepared in ISO/STACO in close collaboration with ECE. They have a general character and are also intended, *inter alia*, to contribute towards mutual understanding between standards bodies and governmental authorities.

1 SCOPE

The present Guide contains 41 general terms and their definitions concerning standardization and certification.

Further basic terms and definitions will be issued in future editions of this Guide.

2 TERMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS

2.1 technical specification* : A document which lays down characteristics of a product or a service such as levels of quality, performance, safety, dimensions. It may include terminology, symbols, testing and test methods, packaging, marking or labelling requirements. A technical specification may also take the form of a code of practice.

2.2 consensus : General acceptance implying the absence of strong opposition by an important part of the interests concerned to substantial issues.

2.3 standard* : A technical specification or other document available to the public, drawn up with the co-operation and consensus or general approval of all interests affected by it based on the consolidated results of science, technology and experience, aimed at the promotion of optimum community benefits and approved by a body recognized on the national, regional or international level.

NOTES

1 A technical specification which does satisfy all the conditions given in the definition may sometimes be called by other names, for example : "recommendation".

2 In some languages the word "standard" is often used with another meaning than in this definition, and in such cases, it may refer to a technical specification which does not satisfy all the conditions given in the definition, for example : "company standard".

* Terms marked with an asterisk appeared in the first edition.