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If you have any comments or suggestions related to the updates below, please contact us at [intsect@standards.org.au](mailto:intsect@standards.org.au).

# ISO/IEC Governance and Leadership Update for May 2026

Australia holds positions on several key international governance groups, including **ISO's Technical Management Board (TMB)** and **IEC's Standardization Management Board (SMB), Conformity Assessment Board (CAB), Business Advisory Committee (BAC)** and **IEC Board (IB)**. These positions give Australia a voice on the policy, operational and strategic direction of ISO and IEC.

## 1. ISO/IEC JTC 1 Plenary, Sao Paulo Brazil 2026

The ISO/IEC JTC 1 Plenary held in São Paulo, Brazil from 4–8 May 2026 brought together international experts to shape the future direction of global ICT standardisation. As JTC 1's key decision-making forum, the meeting focused on reviewing progress across its broad portfolio of subcommittees and setting priorities in fast-moving areas such as artificial intelligence, digital services, cybersecurity and emerging technologies. Discussions also reinforced the importance of collaboration across international bodies and industry stakeholders to keep standards aligned with real-world innovation. Overall, the São Paulo plenary highlighted continued momentum in developing globally relevant standards that support interoperability, trust and sustainability in the digital economy, while ensuring JTC 1 remains responsive to evolving technology trends.

If you have any questions related to the update above, please contact us at [intsect@standards.org.au](mailto:intsect@standards.org.au)

## 2. Online Standards Development (OSD) training offerings from IEC and ISO

**IEC** is hosting monthly onboarding sessions for OSD users. These sessions are designed for anyone working in a TC, SC, SyC, WG/PT/MT, whether you are new to OSD or looking to clarify specific aspects of the process.

Format (60 minutes):

- 10-minute walkthrough

- How to get started with OSD
- Key authoring and commenting features
- Roles and permissions (Leaders vs Authors)
- Further help
- 50-minute open Q&A with IEC staff concerning:
  - Processes for managing projects in OSD (ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1)
  - Authoring using OSD (ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2)
  - Bring your questions, whether practical, procedural, or technical.

To register your interest, explore here [OSD TCs sessions](#)

**ISO** has a collection of bite sized recordings available for specific roles and stages of publication. Explorer here for learning resources offered by ISO [Training & sandbox - ISO Helpdesk Knowledge Base](#)

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### 3. Upcoming Publication of a single aligned edition of the ISO/IEC Directives Part 1

ISO and IEC are finalizing the alignment of their rules and procedures. A single, aligned edition of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 will be published on 1 July 2026 and will enter into force on 5 October 2026.

This edition will replace the current ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, along with the ISO, IEC and JTC 1 supplements, and will serve as the single reference for the development of International Standards and related documents. It establishes one common set of rules across ISO and IEC, simplifying the system, removing inconsistencies, and providing a clearer and more coherent framework for committees.

A preview of the most significant changes is attached. It highlights the key updates and explains their practical implications in a simplified manner ahead of publication.

#### **Information webinars**

Introductory webinars will be held shortly after publication to present the main changes and answer questions:

- Session 1 (ISO community): 7 July, 15:00 UTC
- Session 2 (ISO community): 9 July, 7:00 UTC

Registration details are available:

Session 1: <https://iso.zoom.us/meeting/register/9GGgUAurS-ehvraY-RbJMA>

Session 2: <https://iso.zoom.us/meeting/register/RYWEEVKxRDmQbkyu5kwwqg>

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## ISO Technical Update for May 2026

### 1. New proposal to establish an ISO Technical Committee on Wound dressings and compresses (TS/P 322)

A proposal to establish a new ISO technical committee on "Wound dressings and compresses" has been submitted by SASO (Saudi Arabia).

The scope of the proposal is the following:

Standardization of particular aspects related to wound dressings and wound compresses, including but not limited to, design, safety and performance requirements and associated test methods for adhesiveness, absorption, waterproofness and skin-fitting. In addition to standardization of safety controls and terminologies for these products.

Excluded:

- aspects related to biological and clinical evaluation, covered by ISO/TC 194;
- quality management and corresponding general aspects, covered by ISO/TC 210.

Voting on this proposal closes on 12 June 2026. If you have any questions related to the update above, please contact us at [intsect@standards.org.au](mailto:intsect@standards.org.au)

### 2. New proposal to establish an ISO Technical Committee on Artificial ice and snow landscape (TS/P 333)

A proposal to establish a new ISO technical committee on "Artificial ice and snow landscape" has been submitted by SAC (China).

The scope of the proposal is the following:

Responsible for the standardization of safety, design, construction, operation, maintenance and sustainable development of artificial ice and snow landscape constructions (both indoor and outdoor), excluding the standardization in permanent buildings with residential functions (ISO/TC 59), ice and snow sports and recreational facilities (ISO/TC 83), bases for design of structures (ISO/TC 98) and tourism and related services (ISO/TC 228).

Voting on this proposal closes on 16 June 2026. If you have any questions related to the update above, please contact us at [intsect@standards.org.au](mailto:intsect@standards.org.au)

## IEC Technical Update for May 2026

### 1. IEC Young Professional Program 2026 – Applications close 15 June 2026

The **[IEC Young Professionals \(YP\) Programme](#)** supports early career professionals who want to get involved in international standards work. Each year, Standards Australia selects two Australian representatives to join this global initiative, giving emerging leaders the chance to collaborate with experts, build professional skills and contribute to the future of international standardisation.

The selected participants will attend the IEC Young Professionals workshop, held alongside the IEC General Meeting from 16–20 November 2026 in Hamburg, Germany. Following the workshop, they'll also take part in ongoing activities aimed at deepening their engagement, expanding industry networks and encouraging continued knowledge sharing.

This programme offers a unique opportunity to gain real-world experience in the international standards community, work with peers from around the world and develop the capabilities needed to become influential contributors to global standards development.

For further details about how to apply, visit the Standards Australia website here [IEC Young Professionals Programme](#)

If you have any questions related to the update above, please contact us at [intsect@standards.org.au](mailto:intsect@standards.org.au)

## 2. Proposal for a new field of Technical Activity: Systems Committee (SyC) on Metaverse

IEC Standardization Management Board is currently balloting a proposal to establish a new Systems Committee (SyC) on the Metaverse, following a recommendation from Joint Standardization Evaluation Group 15. The proposed committee would take a top-down, systems-based approach to Metaverse standardization, focusing on end-to-end user experience, reference architectures, system requirements and interoperability, while coordinating existing work across IEC, ISO, ISO/IEC JTC 1 and other international standards and industry organisations. Rather than developing individual technology standards, the SyC would provide oversight of the broader standards landscape, addressing technical, user and socio-regulatory dimensions to support an open, inclusive and interoperable Metaverse.

The vote closes on 26 June 2026

If you would like to review the proposal and provide feedback. Please contact us at [intsect@standards.org.au](mailto:intsect@standards.org.au)