ISOT Guidance Note 010 – ISO's Online Browsing Platform

ISO's Online Browsing Platform (OBP) allows users to access up-to-date content in ISO standards, including graphical symbols, country, language and currency codes as well as terms and definitions across all of ISO publications.

Access for all users

All users, including customers looking to purchase ISO standards, are able to preview the entire catalog of ISO standards for free. In addition to the document's terms and definitions, this preview allows them to see each document's table of contents, the forward, introduction and scope, as well as the bibliography. Many standards even have a "redline" view, which allows a quick comparison between new editions of ISO standards and the versions they have replaced.

The OBP allows users to easily subscribe to collections of related standards or follow particular publications in order to receive email alerts when those documents are updated, amended or withdrawn.

Through the OBP, individuals can view all ISO graphical symbols or search for particular terms and definitions to see how they are used by the various industry sectors or in certain contexts. By using the platform's built-in filtering and sorting tools, users can efficiently expand or narrow any search to find the information relevant to their needs.

Additional access for ISO Committee leadership

In order to better support the standards development process, ISO Committee leadership, such as the Committee Manager, Chairperson and their support teams, are able to view all of the content of the standards developed by their committee.

ISO Committee leadership can also access any of the standards that are developed by committees in liaison with their committee and the full content of any ISO publications that are normatively referenced in their own committee's documents.

What this means to you as an ISO Committee Manager:

As an ISO Committee Manager, remember that you and your Chairperson are able to access the full content of all of your committee's standards as well as those of any committees in liaison and all documents that your standards normatively reference. You can quickly and easily access necessary information when fielding questions from your committee members, from other ISO committees or from the general public. You can also encourage your members to utilize this resource while developing standards – whether to research terms and definitions, view graphical symbols or investigate potential references within other ISO documents.

What this means to you as a U.S. TAG Secretary:

As a U.S. TAG Secretary, your TAG members may request copies of ISO standards to evaluate as possible references in documents they are helping to develop, or so they can look up terms and definitions or graphical symbols as used in other ISO committees. You can encourage them to use the OBP as a first stop, where they can preview ISO standards and see if the full document is needed. They can also elect to follow certain documents to be alerted as soon as their status changes.

About the ANSI ISO Team (ISOT)

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is the U.S. member body to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). To ensure a strong and effective U.S. voice in international standardization, the ANSI ISO Team (ISOT) acts as the primary interface for U.S. Stakeholders—between ANSI-accredited U.S. Technical Advisory Groups (U.S. TAGs) and their related ISO Committees, and as the main contact for ANSI-delegated U.S. held ISO secretariats.

ISOT daily operations include monitoring and recording of ISO documents, processing votes on behalf of U.S. TAGs, accrediting delegates to attend international meetings, nominating experts to participate on working groups, coordination with key group such as the ANSI ISO Forum (AIF), ANSI ISO Council (AIC), and the ISO Technical Management Board (TMB), administering ANSI Virtual Technical Advisory Groups (VTAGs), facilitating training programs, among many other functions. In addition to daily responsibilities, ISOT is available to assist with any committee specific issues U.S. TAGs or U.S. held secretariats may be facing. ISOT staff is well versed in the ISO procedures, ANSI International Procedures, and has experience in all aspects of the ISO process.

For organizations that are new to ISO or want additional support with ISO related activities, ANSI's ISOT staff provides hands-on, practical guidance on all aspects of administration of U.S. TAGs or ISO Secretariats through its fee-based Enhanced Services program. For more information, contact isot@ansi.org.

ISOT FAQs | Additional resources can be found on ISOT's SharePoint site (https://share.ansi.org/isot).