

Supplemental Marketing and Technical Information for Standards

Introduction

JTC 1 has noted that the limitations on number and timing of Technical Corrigenda have caused problems for several standards. ISO and IEC have made it clear that they will not change the limitations. However, the process proposed here will relieve much of the pressure to produce corrigenda while still allowing them to occur. This makes the limitations manageable.

Process Proposed by ISO

Upon request, each SC will be given write access to its own subsection of an official web site. The purpose is to provide the SC with a forum for disseminating information such as, but not limited to, the following.

- Marketing information regarding the SC's activities
- Guides to interpreting the SC's standards
- Technical teasers that discuss new features being considered for upcoming editions of a standard, to generate interest in purchasing future editions

The SC can update the web site as often as desired. It would provide an additional outlet for communication with customers; the corrigenda process would remain as an option.

Advantages

- No change is required. SCs can continue to use the corrigenda process as they do now, and are not required to have a web site.
- The web site reduces the pressure to issue corrigenda that are frequent or late in the life cycle of a standard, causing the limitations to have less impact.
- ISO and IEC receive additional marketing information from the SCs.
- Communication with customers of a standard is instant.

Disadvantage

The web site will not have the full legal force of corrigenda. However, many legal systems do recognize "best practices." Best practices would dictate that the web site be consulted when a standard is being interpreted. To facilitate this, it is suggested that the URL of the web site be included in the front matter of standards, where applicable.

Next Steps

ISO and IEC TC/SC Chairs and Project Editors who would like to provide input are invited to a teleconference on November 15, 2017, at 16:00 UTC. A call for participation will be issued. For further information, please contact David Keaton <dmk@dmk.com>.