INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO
22263

First edition
2008-01-15

Organization of information about construction works — Framework for management of project information

Organisation de l'information des travaux de construction — Cadre général pour la gestion de l'information des projets

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ISO 22263:2008
https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/c1d2c867-b2bd-4dcb-be01-
9f22b3291c23/iso-22263-2008

Contents

Page

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established 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 collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 22263 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 59, *Building construction*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Organization of information about construction works*.

Introduction

The aim of *quality management* has expanded from the control of final products and services to the achievement of a number of managerial objectives. It has been widened from meeting customer requirements to fulfilling an array of requirements, including legal requirements with respect to health and safety, conservation of natural resources and other societal requirements. It covers all parts of the construction process, from inception to production or demolition, as well as the final product. Furthermore, it includes fulfilling of corporate requirements on continual improvement of effectiveness, efficiency, development of know-how, personnel satisfaction, etc. Consequently, the quality concept should be seen as an "umbrella" covering all stated requirements to an organization and the products/services it delivers. "Quality management" should thus be understood as the overall management of all these requirements.

The creation, alteration or demolition of a building or other component of the constructed environment is a one-off undertaking, a project which is carried out by a *project organization.* A *project organization* is a temporary constellation of agents, e.g. client, architects, engineers, contractors, suppliers, workers, etc., who are specialists in different fields.

The *project organization* is faced with a great number of requirements from various stakeholders as to function, quality, environment, health and safety, etc. Other important factors to consider are building regulations, time and cost restraints, etc. The key function of the *project organization* is *project management*, i.e. planning, organizing, monitoring and controlling the project work so that all project requirements are fulfilled.

The members of the temporary *project organization* are a number of permanent *agent organizations* that cooperate on the basis of contractual agreements, with the joint task of producing, altering, rebuilding or demolishing a construction entity. The *agent organizations* are normally simultaneously engaged in a number of parallel projects with varying requirements.

The project activities are carried out in a *construction process*, in which input (e.g. customer needs, drawings), information and resources are transformed into output (e.g. technical solutions) to meet the project requirements. Therefore, one key function in the management of *project organizations*, as well as *agent organizations*, is the management of the different parts of the construction process. Another important function of the *project organization* is to transfer relevant information about the construction entity to other processes in its life-cycle, e.g. facility management, maintenance, use and possible later construction projects. Easy access to such information is beneficial to the performance of all these processes.

Traditional paper-based filing systems do not allow comprehensive overviews and multidimensional interlinking of information. However, today, information management by interoperability and product models offers new possibilities for integrated handling of all types of information. Standardized data-based tools for the management of project information are beneficial to all agents engaged in the construction process, and in the building life-cycle as a whole, in fulfilling their aim to achieve the required quality of the construction entity.

Organization of information about construction works — Framework for management of project information

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a framework for the organization of project information (process-related as well as product-related) in construction projects. Its purpose is to facilitate control, exchange, retrieval and use of relevant information about the project and the construction entity. It is intended for all agents in the project organization in management of the construction process as a whole and in coordination of its sub-processes and activities.

This framework consists of a number of generic parameters that are applicable to projects of varying complexity, size and duration and is adaptable to national, local and project-specific variations of the construction process.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

2.1
acceptance criteria
evidence required for considering that requirements have been fulfilled

2.2
conformity
fulfilment of a requirement

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.6.1.

2.3
construction element
construction entity part which, in itself or in combination with other such parts, fulfils a predominant function of the construction entity

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 12006-2:2001, 2.7.

2.4
construction entity
independent material construction result of significant scale serving at least one user activity or function

EXAMPLE   Building, bridge, road, dam, tower, sewer, museum (if a single structure), sports field, sewage settlement tank, cycleway.

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 12006-2:2001, 2.4.

2.5
document
information and its supporting medium

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.7.2.

2.6
information
meaningful data

[ISO 9000:2005, 3.7.1]

2.7
organization
group of people and facilities with an arrangement of responsibilities, authorities and relationships

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.3.1.

2.8
procedure
specified way to carry out an activity or a process

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.4.5.

2.9
process
set of interrelated or interacting activities which transforms inputs and outputs

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.4.1.

2.10
project
unique process, consisting of a set of coordinated and controlled activities with start and finish dates, undertaken to achieve an objective conforming to specific requirements, including the constraints of time, cost and resources

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.4.3.

2.11
quality
degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils requirements

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.1.1.

2.12
record
document stating results achieved or providing evidence of activities performed

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.7.6.

2.13
requirement
need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory

NOTE 1   "Generally implied" means that it is custom or common practice for the organization, its customers and other interested parties, that the need or expectation under consideration is implied.

NOTE 2   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.1.2.

2.14
review
activity undertaken to determine the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the subject matter to achieve established objectives

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.8.7.

2.15
specification
document stating requirements

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.7.3.

2.16
task
set of activities normally under the responsibility of one agent

2.17
traceability
ability to trace the history, application or location of that which is under consideration

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.5.4.

2.18
validation
confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence, that the requirements for a specific intended use or application have been fulfilled

NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.8.5.

2.19
verification
confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence, that specified requirements have been fulfilled

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NOTE   Adapted from ISO 9000:2005, 3.8.4.

3   Generic requirements on management of project information

3.1   Identification of requirements

Management of the information in construction projects requires that all requirements and expectations regarding the process output be defined, reviewed and documented before project activities are started. This applies to the needs of the client, users, receivers of the process output, and other stakeholders, as well as legal requirements. Other requirements to be fulfilled are standards and trade agreements.

Management of the information requires that all requirements of the process input connected to the expectations regarding the process output be reviewed before the process activities are started to ensure that

— all applicable requirements have been identified and, when appropriate and possible, documented,

— all indistinct or contradictory requirements are identified and, when appropriate and possible, documented,

— the project has a documented ability to meet the requirements identified and documented.

Management of the information requires that acceptance criteria for the results of the control, verification and validation activities regarding the process output be established as process input to ensure that control, verifying and validation activities show that the process output conforms to the requirements.

3.2   Identification of interfaces

It is also important to determine the technical interfaces of the project and the borderlines between the agents' responsibilities.

3.3 Necessary information

When management systems are applied to the construction works and the necessary processes are identified, there are some general information issues that should be handled in all agents' commissions. They are given as follows.

a) **Orientation**: Information about prerequisites that are important to the realization of the commission, such as

— background, general objectives and user expectations, client organization,

— location, ground conditions, prerequisites of structural plans and decisions of the local authorities, environmental sensitiveness to disturbance, etc.,

— size of the project, complexity of the building/civil engineering work stating generic requirements of adjustment, generality, development potential.

b) **Contract**: Information about applicable client and suppliers' tenders and contracts, including protocols of contract reviews of requirements and expectations. These apply to customer and user needs as well as legal and trade requirements, and to the organizations' own requirements on acceptable processes and work results.

c) **Project objectives**: Information about project objectives giving all agents involved a direction for their actions in all decisions that may have an impact on the quality of the completed work.

d) **Management of activities**: Information about process control, such as

— resource plans, responsibility descriptions,

— master timetable,

— sub-timetables/sub-processes,

— requirements on material and components,

— requirements on equipment,

— procedures, job descriptions,

— information interfaces, compatibility, and

— process monitoring, meeting agendas, protocol templates, distribution lists.

e) **Design**: Information about aesthetic, technical and functional design, such as

— technical interfaces,

— references,

— brief,

— content of documents,

— technical approvals,

— cost approvals, and

— design stage approvals.

f) **Risk analysis**: Information for preventive management of critical aspects, e.g. safety and health, sustainability, etc., in

— activities,

— occurrences,

— design,

— materials,

— organization, and

— prerequisites in the surroundings

that can result in defects or risks in design and construction, and in deficiencies in delivered results.

g) **Review**: Information about reviews, such as

— identification, reporting, handling and approval of nonconformities and design changes,

— measurement of customer satisfaction,

— independent audits and corrective actions,

— review of process performance, and

— management reviews.

h) **Handling of results**: Information about how documents and digital media should be developed to fit their purpose as a ground for cooperation between the agents, to ensure that their content is adequate and correct and to ensure safe storage and easy retrieval, such as

— classification, identification of information,

— exchange of information,

— traceability,

— archive procedures,

— access to information, and

— protection of confidential documents.

Such requirements shall be identified so that appropriate procedures can be established before activities are started. It is also necessary to ensure that the agents have a documented competence and ability to fulfil all requirements on the output.

i) **Verification, validation, inspection and testing**: At appropriate stages of the process, information about monitoring, control, verification and validation activities carried out to verify that requirements have been met shall be available in accordance with the planned arrangements. This information shall identify, for each relevant control, verification and validation activity,

— what shall be reviewed,

— when the reviews shall be carried out,

— who shall carry out the reviews,

— how the reviews shall be carried out,

— how the result of the reviews shall be presented.

It is critical to ensure that there is information showing that no process output is delivered until there is evidence of it fulfilling the acceptance criteria of the process output in order to verify that the process output meets all applicable requirements.

4 Framework for organization of project information

4.1 General

This framework should be applied in data-based tools for the management of project information to facilitate access to relevant information about the project and the construction entity, and to minimize the risk of losing quality-critical information in the phasing-in and -out of different agents as the project progresses.

There are some key concepts that are of basic importance in the management of information in construction projects. These concepts are parameters that vary and have different definitions, etc. in different cultures, but in principle they occur in all construction projects.

This framework specifies some parameters which are necessary in the organization of construction project information and its interrelations: construction process (including sub-processes and activities), input and output, agents and roles, resources, supporting information, records. See Figure 1.

More detailed information is given in Annex A.