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**Work breakdown structures for  
project and programme management**

*Organigramme des tâches en management de projet et de programme*

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ISO copyright office  
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva  
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11  
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47  
Email: [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Website: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

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## 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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

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## Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on work breakdown structure for those individuals working in project and programme management, and who are involved in developing and using a work breakdown structure. This document incorporates practices to provide benefits for project or programme planning and control, and provides guidance on work breakdown structure concepts, composition and relationships with other structures.

It complements ISO 21500 and ISO 21504.

The target audience of this document includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) managers and those individuals involved in sponsoring projects or programmes;
- b) individuals managing projects or programmes and work breakdown structure practises;
- c) individuals involved in the management of or performance of project management offices of project or programme control staff;
- d) developers of national or organizational standards.

The application of this document may be tailored to meet the needs of any organization or individual, so they may better apply the concepts, requirements and practice of developing and using work breakdown structures.

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