



International Standards Bulletin

Vision: Global standards used locally worldwide

List of contents:

- ISO/TC67 standards issued and planned page 2-3
- Economic benefits of standardisation 2
- International Regulators Forum 2
- Regulators use of ISO standards 2
- US API adoption of ISO standards 3
- European adoption of ISO standards 3
- NACE & European standards to become ISO 3
- OGP Position on standards 4
- Update on CEN work 4
- Catalogue of International standards 4



Executive summary

A new set of international standards for a wide selection of vital oil and gas industry materials, equipment and offshore structures is emerging from the international standards organisations, ISO and IEC. These standards are primarily the responsibility of ISO Technical Committee (TC) 67. These standards are developed using a consensus process that includes more than a thousand oil industry experts from around the globe and an international review and approval process.

50 ISO standards for the oil and gas industry are now issued after the publication of a record 22 standards in year 2000. A further 22 are planned for publication in 2001. Many of these standards are based on familiar API specifications and other relevant industry documents.

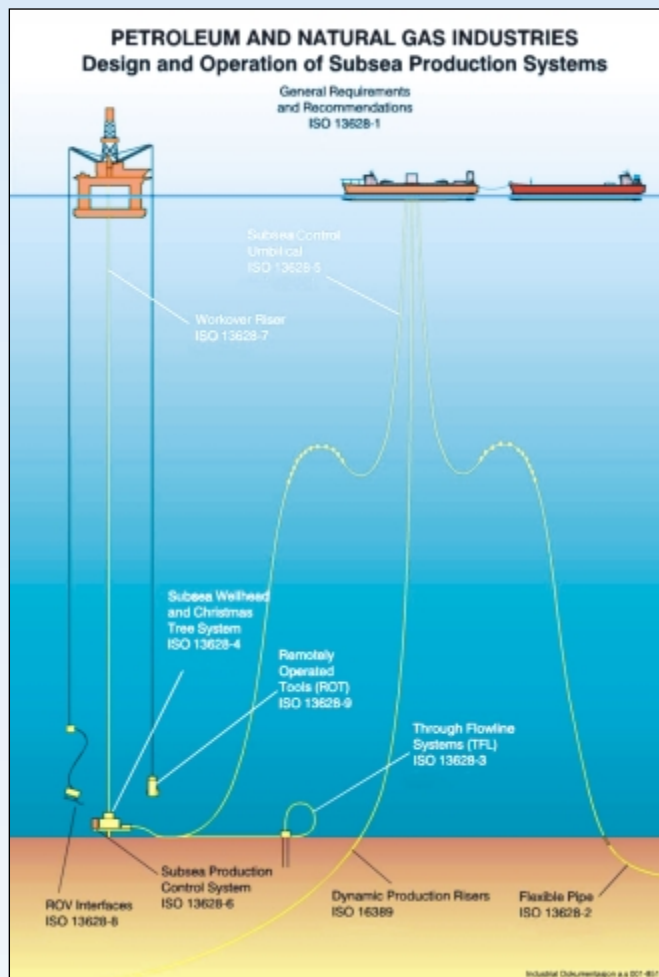
The international oil and gas industry and national standardisation organisations support these standards for world-wide applications. For industry, they will reduce costs and delivery time and facilitate trade across national borders. For regulatory authorities, the standards offer support for goal-setting and functional regulations, while achieving higher levels of safety through better design.

It is envisaged that the Standards will be implemented widely in oil and gas provinces around the world, replacing existing industry, national standards, and company specific detailed specifications

For details see inside.



Girassol Production Facility nears completion



New ISO Subsea standards overview

Most of the new ISO 13628 package of subsea standards are issued, with the remaining parts planned for publication as follow
Part 5 – Subsea Control Umbilicals (2001)
Part 7 – Workover / Completion Risers Systems (2002)
Part 8 – ROV Interfaces (2002)

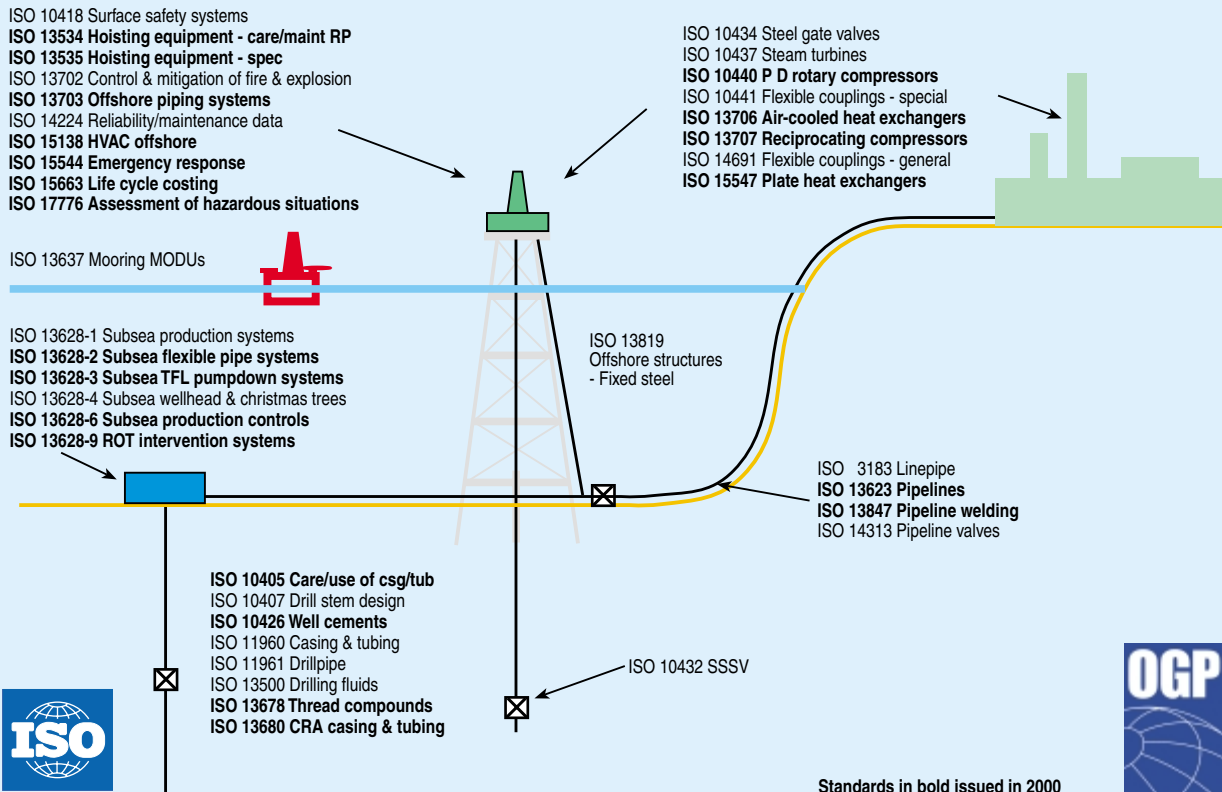
ISO pipeline standards in use

ExxonMobil has proposed ISO 13623, Pipeline transportation systems, as its model for its Project Specific Design Code (PSDC) for Pipelines in both Russian and Japanese projects. In Russia, the PSDC is at the Ministry level for review and endorsement. In Japan, a series of discussions with an expert panel of university professors is in progress regarding the acceptability of this standard versus national requirements.

A major Shell project in the Middle East has made use of ISO 3183-3 for its flowlines and pipelines.

Make use of 60 new ISO and IEC Standards for your own benefit!

ISO/TC67 standards issued



Economic benefits of standardisation - Results of a research project

DIN, the German Institute for Standardisation, carried out a research project on the economic efficiencies businesses perceive they receive from the use of technical standards. The results were derived from a survey of over 4,000 companies in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Although the importance of standards is well known to company technical experts, decision-makers are less aware of it.

Large incentives are seen to be obtainable in terms of the insider knowledge and the time and competitive advantage gained by influencing the content of standards. But quantified costs and savings are difficult to determine; only 9 % of the companies surveyed were prepared to give actual figures.

Companies do recognise opportunities to influence international standards and realise that there are benefits and cost savings to be gained by incorporating such standards in regulations and legislation that would apply to their world-wide operations. By using widely accepted standards, companies are able to exert market pressure on their suppliers by having a wider choice of suppliers with the same degree of quality.

Industry-wide standards affect co-operation between companies positively because the “coding” of common knowledge in standards facilitates the creation of strategic alliances. Companies potentially benefit from standardisation work related to developing new technology, because they gain access to the research results of other companies.

Regarding macroeconomic benefits, standards contribute substantially to the efficient dissemination of innovation and are at least as important for economic growth as patents. Above all, national standards are an indicator of the technical potential of a country. Results of the macroeconomic analysis show the economic benefits of standardisation to be approximately 1 % of the gross national product.

The full report, “Economic benefits of standardisation,” is available from DIN Berlin.

International Regulators Forum (IRF)

The purpose of the IRF, as described in the 1995 Terms of Reference, is to promote a common understanding of issues among those who regulate health and safety in the offshore sector. The IRF began with an informal meeting in Houston in 1994.

The original members were the Australian, Canadian, Norwegian, UK and US regulatory bodies with responsibility for the oil and gas industry. Subsequent meetings were held in Stavanger (1995 and 1999), St. John’s (1996), Aberdeen (1997), and Houston (1998). The Netherlands began participating in 1998 and the most recent meeting was in Amsterdam in 2000.

Recently, a number of other nations have expressed interest in IRF membership.

The IRF provides an opportunity for members to discuss regulatory issues informally, to ensure that effective means of communication exist between members, to promote the views of group members on regulatory matters, and to exchange technical information with regulatory staff. The member hosting the next meeting has typically served as the Forum’s secretariat.

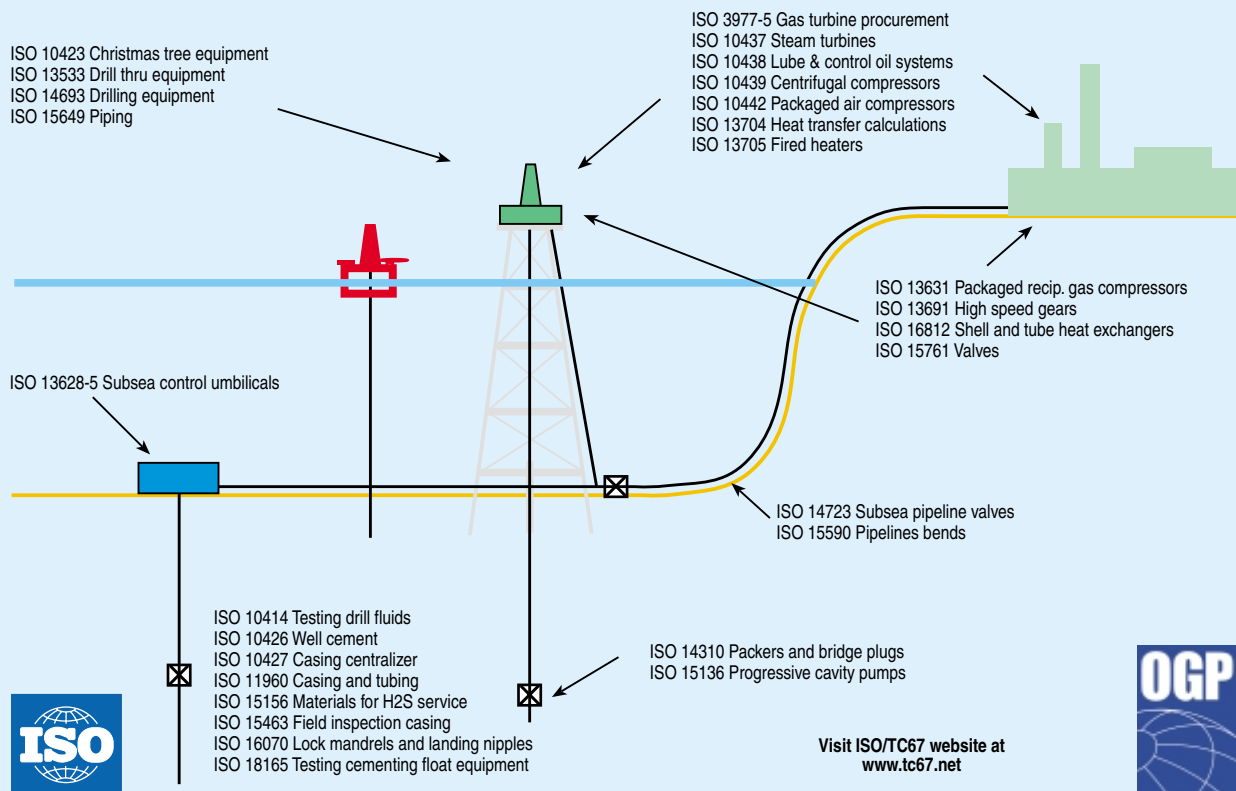
The OGP Standards Committee is the industry’s interface with the IRF, and has taken up a dialogue with IRF to share its interests in developing international standards that may be used as references in the national regulations.

Regulators use of ISO standards

US Minerals Management Service references ISO 10432 for Subsurface Safety Valves in its Outer Continental Shelf regulations.

Norwegian Petroleum Directorate references the ISO 13628 series on Subsea production systems, ISO 15544 on Emergency response, and several more ISO/TC67 standards in their new, revised regulations.

ISO/TC67 publication challenges 2001



US API adoption of ISO standards

As ISO Standards reach the last stage before publication, Final Draft International Standard (FDIS), they are ready for consideration by the relevant API Subcommittee for “adopt-back” as an ISO/API standard. Such a standard eliminates duplication by replacing an API Recommended Practice or Specification, or it may address an area that is not covered by an existing API document, thus avoiding duplication. In general, those ISO documents that will replace API standards have been jointly developed and reviewed by the API Subcommittee and the ISO Subcommittee or Work Group developing the ISO standard, such that there is close alignment between the documents. Such co-operation is encouraged in API.

The process of deciding which ISO FDIS's to consider, when they should be considered, and how long the voting period should be is currently at the discretion of the API Subcommittees, which are the balloting authority within API. Also, API standards related to an ISO FDIS may be under consideration for revision on a different schedule from the ISO document. Again, careful co-ordination and close interface between ISO and API standards developers is required to reconcile the different versions of the related documents, which could otherwise progress without producing a common ISO/API standard.

With recognition of these issues, the API Executive Committee on Standardisation is developing a revision to its Organisation and Procedures document to provide additional structure to the API review of ISO FDIS's, including the timeframe for adopt-back and the management of comments raised during that period.

Two standards - API Spec 14A/ISO 10432 Subsurface safety valves and API Std 600/ISO 10434 Steel gate valves – have been adopted back. Two others - API Spec 5CT/ISO 11960 Casing and tubing and API Spec 6A/ISO 10423 Wellhead and christmas tree equipment - will be ready for publication when the FDIS voting process is complete. There are twenty-one other ISO standards under consideration for adopt-back by their API Subcommittees.

European adoption of ISO standards

Most of the ISO/TC67 standards are being adopted as national standards in Europe. This is done using CEN, the European organisation for standardisation, whose members are the national standards bodies in Europe. CEN/TC12 has primary responsibility for administering the adoption of the ISO/TC67 standards as European standards, designated EN ISO. This results in automatic adoption as national standards, for example BS EN ISO in the UK. The technical provisions of the standards remain unchanged, but national forewords may be added. To date, twenty such EN ISO standards have been issued.

NACE and European standards for materials in H₂S environments become an ISO standard

Workgroup WG7 of ISO/TC67 has undertaken the task to combine guidelines and standards on materials for use in H₂S containing environments in oil and gas production. The base documents are NACE MR0175-99 and European Federation of Corrosion (EFC) nos. 16/1995 and 17/1996.

This work is in close cooperation with the EFC, CEN/TC262 and NACE International with experts from all over the world and many industries working together and finding consensus on a broad basis. The results will be condensed in ISO 15156 in three parts (expected publication):

- Part 1 on general principles (10/2001)
- Part 2 on carbon and low alloy steels (2002)
- Part 3 on corrosion resistant alloys (2003)

The finalization of ISO 15156 will mark a major milestone in international standardization. Currently WG7 is preparing a first draft proposal for establishing a maintenance procedure for ISO 15156. CEN/TC12 has decided to adopt these three parts of ISO 15156 as identical European standards EN ISO 15156 Parts 1 to 3.

Next ISO/TC67 Plenary Meeting
2001-09-11 to 13, Samara, Russian Federation

Access the ISO/TC67 website at www.tc67.net
and IEC at www.iec.ch



International Association of Oil & Gas Producers

About OGP

OGP is an international association of oil companies and petroleum organizations formed in 1974. It was established to represent its members' interests at the International Maritime Organization and other specialist agencies of the United Nations, and to governmental and other international bodies concerned with regulating exploration and production of oil and gas. While maintaining this activity, the OGP now concerns itself with all aspects of exploration and production operations, with particular emphasis on safety of personnel and protection of the environment, and seeks to establish industry positions with regard to such matters. OGP has 52 full members made up of 41 oil companies, 11 national and international oil industry associations operating in more than 60 different countries. Additionally, the OGP membership has recently been expanded by the addition of 2 oil service company associate members.

The OGP Standards Committee monitors, co-ordinates and influences the development of international standards to meet the needs of the OGP members. There is close communication between the national associations, particularly the API. The Committee also monitors and influences European standards under CEN.

OGP position on standards

The OGP has been a catalyst for change in industry's approach to standards and strongly supports the internationalisation of key standards used by the petroleum and natural gas industries:

- Development and use of ISO and IEC international standards should be promoted
- Standards should be simple and fit for purpose
- International standards should be used without modification wherever possible
- Development of standards should be based on a consensus of need
- Duplication of effort should be avoided
- Company specifications should be minimised and written, where possible, as functional requirements.
- "Users" should be represented on standards work groups

The adoption of this approach is expected to minimise non technical barriers to trade, enable more efficient worldwide operations, and improve the technical integrity of equipment, materials, and offshore structures used by the petroleum and natural gas industries.

Update on CEN work

CEN TC12 is promoting the continued use of the ASME B31.3 code for piping systems by preparing a common industry normative document demonstrating compliance with the European Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) requirements.

Standards can be obtained from your national standards body - check their website for electronic copies!

Catalogue of International standards

Have you ever wondered if there were an international standard that pertained to some design problem you were trying to solve? Well, with several hundred technical committees in the ISO and the IEC addressing areas as diverse as space vehicles, explosion proof equipment and zinc alloys, the most likely answer is "yes!"

With this in mind in 1999 the OGP Standards Committee asked its members to provide a list of the international standards published either by ISO or the IEC which were actually in use or had been used in their company's business. The result, the "OGP Catalogue of International Standards Used in the Petroleum and Natural Gas Industries," is available as Report No: 1.24/299 for downloading without charge at the OGP website at <http://www.ogp.org.uk/standards/publications.html>. It may also be ordered as a hard copy document for a small charge from the OGP.

The catalogue lists over 800 standards. These cover petroleum and natural gas industry activities – those standards prepared by ISO/Technical Committee (TC) 67 – and standards prepared by other technical committees in relevant areas. You can find ISO standards for welding, plastics, internal combustion engines, fire safety, cranes, steel wire ropes, non destructive testing, air and water quality, and a host of others.

The catalogue contains information on ordering standards from ISO or IEC, and it provides a form for user feedback to identify additional information, which should be included in later versions of the catalogue.



From the Mabruk Field, Libya

The International Association of Oil and Gas Producers - OGP

25/28 Old Burlington Street, London, W1X 1LB, UK
 Telephone: +44 (0) 207 292 0600 · Fax: +44 (0) 207 434 3721
www.ogp.org.uk e mail: don.smith@ogp.org.uk

This bulletin is developed by the OGP Standards Committee including members from:
 API, BP, DONG, ENI/Agip, ExxonMobil, Institute of Petroleum, ISO, Maersk,
 Norsk Hydro, OLF, Petrobras, Shell, TotalFinaElf, WEG.
www.ogp.org.uk/standards