Guidance on the Changes to the Security Standards

The security standard ISO/IEC 27001:2005, *Information technology – Security techniques – information security management systems – Requirements* describes what is required to establish, operate and review an Information Security Management System ISMS was released last year – it was the old BS7799-2 standard. Organisations certified to BS 7799-2:2002 must bring their information security management system up to date to reflect ISO/IEC 27001:2005. There is a transition period for organisations of 18 months from 23 January, 2006.

Up until 22 July 2006 organisations can chose whether to be registered to BS 7799-2:2002 or to ISO/IEC 27001:2005. After 23 July 2006, organisations will have to be assessed to ISO/IEC 27001:2005. The end of the transition period is 23 July 2007.
For further information visit www.bsi-global.com

Quality Standards for Welding

BS EN ISO 3834:2005 Parts 1-5 Quality requirements for fusion welding of metallic materials has recently been released. It provides all the quality requirements for process control of welding processes. The series covers a range of different situations from workshop to on-site and would be helpful to contractors, manufacturers, certification bodies and customers.

BS EN ISO 2560:2005 Welding consumables, covered electrodes for manual metal arc welding of non alloy and fine grain steels - Classification. This standard provides requirements for the classification of non alloy and fine grain steel covered electrodes for manual metal arc welding. It replaces BS EN 499:1995 which is withdrawn.

Business Records Management

ISO have recently published a new standard that aims to assist businesses maintain reliable records over time. ISO 23081-1:2006, Information and documentation – Records management processes – metadata for records – Part 1 : Principles will be followed over the next couple of years with Part 2 – Implementation issues and Part 3 – Evaluation instrument for existing metadata sets or schemas to assess them in relation to the principles in Part 1 of ISO 23081. Robert McLean, a member of the ISO sub-committee responsible for these guidelines has said, "ISO 23081 -1 clearly shows how an organisation can systematically and effectively improve its record keeping – and do so in such a way that the business objectives are supported. Senior management will be able to identify tangible benefits such as reduced costs and better managed risks, thereby contributing to better corporate governance".

The benefits identified by ISO that are expected to come from improved records management metadata include:
- Ability to protect records as evidence and ensure their accessibility and usability through time
- Easier understanding of records and easier support of records to ensure the evidential value of records
- Help to ensure the authenticity, reliability and integrity of records
- Better management of access and privacy rights
- Better retrieval of records.

For further information visit www.iso.ch

Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Emissions Trading

In 2002, ISO started the development of a standard that would help in the assessment and support of greenhouse gas reduction and emissions trading. At the beginning of March this year ISO 14064 was launched. It is the culmination of work from 175 international experts from 45 countries and eight international meetings. It is a set of three standards that can be used independently or as an integrated set.

ISO 14064 -1: 2006, Greenhouse gases – part 1: Specification with guidance at the organisation level for the quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals

ISO 14064 – 2: 2006 Greenhouse gases – part 2: Specification with guidance at the project level for the quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions and removal enhancements

ISO 14064 – 3 : 2006 Greenhouse gases – part 3 : Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions.

According to ISO, implementing the standard should provide the following benefits:

- Promote consistency, transparency and credibility in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification:
- Enable organisations to identify and manage GHG-related liabilities, assets and risks;
- Facilitate the trade of GHG allowances or credits, and
- Support the design, development and implementation of comparable and consistent GHG schemes or programmes

Dr Chan Kook Weng, convenor of the relevant ISO working group said "ISO's goal is to provide a set of unambiguous and verifiable requirements or specifications to support organisations and proponents of GHG emission reduction projects. ISO 14064 will provide clarity and consistency between those reporting GHG emissions and stakeholders"

For further information please visit www.iso.ch.

Standards for the Digital Home?

A two day workshop reviewing the status of digital technology in the home from a standards perspective was held recently. It was organised by the World Standards Cooperation, which this aims to encourage voluntary consensus based on the International Standards of ISO, IEC and ITU. It was attended by electronic manufacturers, service providers, academics and standards bodies. They looked at the need for standards in relation to:

The methods of delivering digital services to the home

- Networking within the home
- Managing content
- Managing equipment
- Best Practice

For a more detailed account of the "Digital Technologies in the Home" workshop visit www.iso.ch.

Best Practice Guidelines for the digital imaging industry

The Institute of Quality Assurance (IQA) digital group have released 'best practice' guidelines for handling digital images. These guidelines were developed in collaboration with major industry specialists, such as Kodak, Fujifilm, Epsom and Adobe.

Michael Upstone, chair of the digital group said, "In the decade or so since digital imaging became widespread, there has been no attempt to get the many industries working with digital images to adopt the same best practice. A serious lack of communication between sectors with vastly different business practices has led to lost business on a massive scale. The IQA digital guidelines correct this imbalance with simple, multi-sector best practices that will help ensure everyone communicates effectively."

The guidelines are available as a free-to-download PDF document from www.iqa.org/digital

Food labelling

The Food Standards Agency is recommending a traffic system of food labelling to indicate whether a food has high, medium or low levels of fat, sugar and salt. This is a voluntary scheme and differs from the one recently adopted by some of the major firms in the food industry. Kraft, Danone, Kelloggs, Nestle and PepsiCo have their own scheme based on guideline daily amounts and this has also been copied by several supermarkets for their own brand goods.

The Public Health Minister, Caroline Flint, said that the FSA recommendations were a step in the right direction. She said, "We now need to work with the food manufacturers and retailers to ensure we have a consistent approach to food labelling to avoid confusion. The test will be which system works best for shoppers and for health"

BBC News

Chip and Pin cuts Fraud

The Association of Payment Services (Apacs) recently announces a reduction in card fraud of 13% in 2005. This was believed to have been due to the introduction of chip and pin cards. Fraudulent usage where the card is not present e.g. over the phone, on the internet or by post did not decrease.   Sandra Quinn of Apacs said "Seeing card fraud losses come down is cast iron proof that Chip and Pin is doing it's job. Back in 2002, we forecast that fraud would have risen to £800 million in 2005 if we didn't make the move to chip-and-pin so it's heartening to see total losses well beneath this figure". The actual figure for 2005 was £439 million.

There are other ideas being looked at by the banking industry to cut down fraud when the card is not present. For example, small handheld card readers that will allow people to verify their Pin number when carrying out phone or internet transactions.

BBC News