ISO 7195 update (UF6 cylinders)

Last TRANSSC meeting Pierre Malesys, who was the previous ISO representative in the TRANSSC, provided an update on the work done to revise the ISO 7195 standard on UF6 cylinders.

At the date of the last TRANSSC, the ISO 7195 draft revision project was considered to be ready for the final vote (FDIS) and had already been submitted to ISO to launch the vote.

In the ISO process, the FDIS vote is the last step before publication. Only editorial comments are acceptable at this stage. In case of technical comments, the normal procedure is to come back to a DIS vote, which is the previous step in the process of validation of a new standard or a revised standard. However this can be done only when sufficient time is remaining in the time schedule to meet the publication date assigned by ISO at the beginning of the revision project.

As announced in last TRANSSC, on 17 July 2017, ASN (the French Competent Authority) on behalf of competent authorities from Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden and the UK, sent a letter to the Chairman of ISO-TC85/SC5 in which they expressed their dissatisfaction arguing that some of the clauses content in the latest draft of the ISO 7195 Standard will contradict requirements contained in the ADR and RID dangerous goods regulations, without giving the details of these discrepancies.

As a consequence, the Chair of the ISO TC85/SC5 decided to stop the preparation of the FDIS vote, considering that the draft was not sufficiently prepared to avoid potential technical comments during the vote, and finally the rejection of the vote.

As there was not enough time remaining in the project schedule to come back to a DIS vote, the recommendation made by the ISO was that the working group should take a resolution to cancel the current draft revision of the existing ISO 7195 standard, and reinitiate a new project by submitting a NWIP (new work item proposal), as soon as a new draft will be prepared and has obtained a full consensus between the WG members, to allow the assignment of the “fast-track procedure” by the SC5.

A 3 day meeting was organized from 7 to 9 November in Paris to solve the issues raised by those competent authorities, and to prepare a new working draft based on the draft prepared for the FDIS vote. There were 15 participants from 6 national standardization organizations (USA, CANADA, France, Netherlands, Germany and UK), including ASN representatives.

The draft has been modified as necessary to take into account these comments and a full project review has been carried out to improve as much as possible the consistency and understanding of the other specifications contained in the standard.
However, there is still some work to be done to obtain the most consensual text before resubmitting it as a new draft for revision of this standard.

As prepared, the draft standard will be circulated for comments to WG4 members to ensure that any technical comments will be collected and resolved before the project is submitted to ISO in order to avoid compromising the fast-track procedure.

The result of this meeting (the minutes of the meeting and the draft of the standard as it was at the end of the meeting) will be made available to all ISO TC85/SC5/WG4 P-Members through the ISO Livelink e-committees platform.

A new work item proposal (NWIP) will be reinitiated as soon as the new draft of the revised standard will be sufficiently improved and will obtain at least the full consensus of the participants involved in its drafting, in order to pass a DIS vote with success.

The next step is clearly to agree within the WG4 on the text of the draft as soon as possible, to be in the best situation to re-initiate the revision process.

The “fast-track procedure” is maximum 24 months including 9 months which are incompressible (time allocated to ISO and to ISO Members bodies). It contains only the DIS stage and the publication stage. In the case where a FDIS vote is needed, an additive incompressible period of five months shall be considered (14 months incompressible in the 24 months maximum duration of the fast-track procedure.

**ISO 12807 update**

The draft standard is at its FDIS stage. The FDIS vote should be initiated soon (the preparation by ISO is ongoing).

**ISO 10276 update**

The draft standard is at the WD stage. The preparation of the first draft is ongoing. A CD or DIS vote should be initiated as soon as the draft is sufficiently prepared.