



IEC-ISO SMART FAQ – April 2022

1. What does 'SMART' stand for?

- a. SMART stands for 'Standards Machine Applicable Readable and Transferable'

2. What are levels of SMART?

- a. Level 0,1 and 2 refers respectively to Paper, PDF and XML. Those level are not considered "SMART". However, Level 3 is where the machine (computer) can better understand the structure of the content, for instance, identify requirements and recommendations. Level 4 is where the machine can understand the meaning and relate to the content.

3. Why do we need SMART Standards?

- a. Because today it's becoming difficult for industries to keep up with the ever-evolving regulation, and to adapt their processes to the changes in a manual way. Standards users are seeking innovative means to use ISO content in a manner that leverages technological innovations within and across economic sectors.

4. What is the objective of ISO SMART?

- a. Move standards content from being human consumption only to being also machine readable. A programme taking us to the next level in standardization and advancing the digitalization of our portfolio.

5. What is the vision for ISO SMART?

- a. Transform the current way of creating, managing, delivering and consuming standard thus increasing efficiencies and facilitating social and economic interactions worldwide.

6. What is the timeline for ISO SMART?

- a. The plan is to have an implementable roadmap with several tested/proven and recommended solutions within 2024

7. What is the programme governance and who are the main stakeholders?

- a. The programme is co-chaired by IEC and ISO. Each organization has a steering group (IEC Task Force and ISO SMART Steering Group). Coordination on both group is assured by a Joint Coordination Group (JCG) where IEC and ISO are equally represented. The programme is then divided into 3 projects, each hosting experts from the IEC and ISO community.

8. What is the difference and/or link to the OSD project?

- a. ISO SMART is a new way to deliver standards content that is machine-readable. While OSD covers one piece of the process (as a means for standards developers to author traditional standards content using a modernized collaborative authoring tool), SMART looks at end-to-end production chain.



9. Will SMART make standards cheaper?

- a. The ISO SMART business model and technical solutions projects will work to define a commercial model that reflects the value-added of ISO SMART deliverables.

10. How will this impact my business? (How much it will cost me?)

- a. ISO SMART has the potential to change the way your business uses standards. In addition to trusted paper and PDF formats, ISO SMART will offer trusted machine-readable content from existing standards that can make the application of standards more efficient.

11. Is ISO changing its business model?

- a. It will have to. We don't know yet how, but this is the reason why we have a dedicated team working on it

12. How is IEC Involved?

- a. IEC is part of our programme board and project teams, with the intention to collaborate on every area of commonalities. Please see the IEC ISO Collaboration Framework for more information

13. Will all standards be “transformed” into SMART?

- a. ISO SMART will transform the way standards content is consumed. In addition to traditional human-readable content, ISO SMART will facilitate direct machine-readable access to specific content. Note that for the foreseeable future, paper, pdf and xml format will still be available

14. There are so many projects at ISO. Where does this fit in?

- a. It is a catalyser for change, evolution and transformation (both processes and end product)