

The preparation process includes numerous activities as inputs to the design specification.

most frequently and the number of requests for new content as inputs into the ISO 9001 revision.

+ **Future concepts:** TC 176 established task force (TF) 4 in September 2017 to develop future concepts for consideration in all works of ISO/TC 176. TF 4 is creating a formal document on future concepts, covering descriptions of the concepts, current literature and applications of the concepts from a multi-industry or sector view, and potential effects on ISO/TC 176 standards and documents with recommendations. These future concepts are included in the user survey to get stakeholder feedback for consideration to be included in a revised ISO 9001.

+ **User survey:** It was decided that a global survey on the future of ISO 9001 would be conducted. The objectives of the survey are to:

1. Provide data on the value to organizations of implementing a QMS based on the current ISO 9001 standard.
2. Provide data on the advantages and disadvantages of the current ISO 9001 standard.
3. Capture user opinions on how to ensure this standard remains relevant in the future, including receiving input on future concepts.
4. Receive user input on the future of ISO 9001. Should it be left as is for the next five years, revised or supplemented by standards with an enhanced or reduced set of requirements?

It was decided that the user survey will not include questions about certification, Annex SL or other standards (such as ISO 9004). This was done to focus user feedback on ISO 9001.

TC 176 TG 5 invites all ISO 9001 users to participate in a global survey about the future of ISO 9001.³ For convenience, the survey was developed in 13 languages, so at the beginning of the survey, the user can choose the most convenient language and even toggle between languages. The survey will be available until the end of 2020. User input is important to ensure continued relevance, usefulness and recognition of ISO 9001.

After ISO/TC 176 members vote whether to revise ISO 9001, these inputs will culminate in the development of a design specification that will be developed by midyear 2021. The design specification provides the purpose and direction regarding the strategic intent of the ISO 9001 revision, and clear boundaries for the revised standard and scope of the revision. The design specification will be balloted to national standards bodies for approval.

How to engage with ISO 9001

If standard writing sounds interesting, experts often are brought into writing committees for additional technical guidance. TC 176 is always looking for experts to work on these standards.

You must be nominated by your national standards body, or an ISO-recognized liaison organization, to participate internationally.

+ **National standards bodies:** ISO membership includes national standards bodies that represent ISO in their countries. In the United States, ASQ is the administrator for the American

National Standards Institute and has established the U.S. technical advisory group to TC 176.⁴

+ **Liaisons:** TC 176 has numerous liaisons with international organizations that are stakeholders to TC 176 work products.

Numerous activities occur prior to revising a standard to get stakeholder input. During the last revision to ISO 9001, more than 12,000 responses were received to the user survey. It is an important tool to ensure ISO 9001 remains relevant in the future. [QD](#)

EDITOR'S NOTE

This article was written by the deputy convenor of the ISO/TC 176/SC 2/TG 5 team, and article content includes collaboration materials from the team.

REFERENCES AND NOTES

1. "ISO Survey 2018," International Organization for Standardization (ISO), www.iso.org/the-iso-survey.html.
2. "ISO 9001 Auditing Practices Group," ISO, <https://committee.iso.org/home/tc176/iso-9001-auditing-practices-group.html>.
3. The survey is available at <https://tinyurl.com/2020-iso-survey>, and also on the ISO/TC 176/SC 2 website at <https://committee.iso.org/home/tc176sc2>.
4. For more information about the U.S. technical advisory group to technical committee 176, contact standards@asq.org.



L.L. "Buddy" Cressionnie is the president of ASD Expertise LLC, with industry leadership positions of Americas Aerospace Quality System Committee (AAQSC) chair and AAQSC leader of requirements, projects and

AS9100. He is active in standards development as a liaison member to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Technical Committee (TC) 176, including developing future concepts, planning the next ISO 9001 revision, writing ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 9004:2018, and participating in the ISO 9001 Interpretations Committee.