

Standards – why are they relevant in a surveyor’s world?

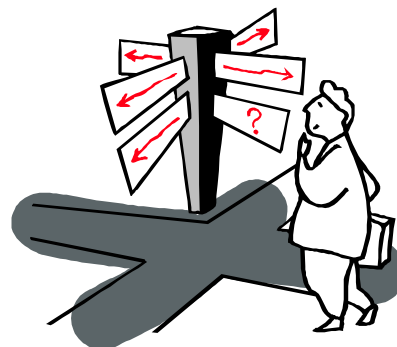
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Chair, FIG Standards Network

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The growing importance of standards

- Globalisation
- Competition laws
- Consumer requirements
- Technological developments
- Intertwining of industries



Some figures



- Breadth of coverage
 - 430,608 pages in 13,544 ISO standards
 - ISO 9000 is one of many!
- Economic benefits
 - \$15 billion per annum in Germany
 - More than patents and licences

Recent studies

- Delphi
 - Create liquidity
 - Leverage investments
 - Foundation for long-term advances
- UK DTI
 - Encourage innovation
 - Increases competition
 - Imbalanced towards producers?



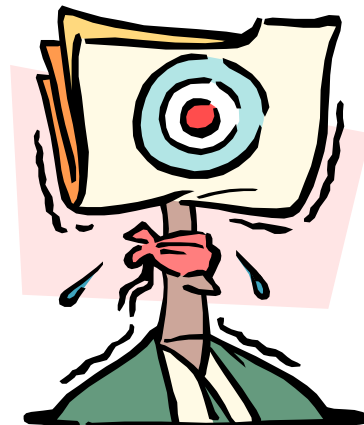
Standardisation bodies



- ISO
- National bodies
- IVSC
- Governments
- Companies
- Other bodies
- WTO

Shortcomings

- Politics
- Time
- Ignorance



The relevance to surveyors



- TC172
 - survey instruments including GPS
- TC211 (TC287)
 - > 30 standards
 - all aspects of GI
 - coming our way now
- IVS'2000-03
 - the white book
 - here now

Why should professional bodies be involved?

- Ensuring standards developers know members' needs
- Improved standards
- Improved survey practice
- Improved bottom line

