

Main achievements under Alan Bryden's tenure as ISO Secretary-General from 2003 to 2008

Alan Bryden took up his position as ISO Secretary-General on 1 March 2003. During his tenure, ISO significantly increased its outreach, scope, production and membership, leading to its greatly increased international prominence, as illustrated by the following examples:

- ISO's involvement in new areas such as nanotechnologies, response to climate and energy efficiency, tourism, confidence in food, water services, social responsibility, societal security, security in the supply chain, etc.
- The national membership of ISO has grown from 143 to 157 member countries, now equivalent to 98 % of the world economy, and including large emerging economies such as Brazil, China and India
- The current production of ISO standards is on the average 100 new or revised standards per month – an increase of more than 25 % over the period, while production delays decreased by more than 20 %
- Major policy decisions such as for the global relevance of ISO standards; a common patent policy with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU); the outreach to regional economic communities; the protection of copyright, and the development of partnerships and liaisons
- The development and implementation of action plans to promote the involvement of developing countries and of consumer interests in ISO
- The increased communication and networking with international inter-governmental organizations, such as the United Nations system, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), as well as with private and nongovernmental organizations, e.g. ISO is now an institutional member of the World Economic Forum (WEF)
- The recognition of the ISO Committee on conformity assessment (ISO/CASCO) "tool box" of International Standards and guides as the benchmark for good practice and international recognition of tests and certificates
- The move to new and modern premises at the heart of the Geneva international district.

Mr. Bryden is also active at the local level and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Geneva Diplomatic Club.