ISO/DIN essay contest for young professionals in developing countries

Sustainable energy future
How can standards help meet the challenge?
Young? Concerned by a sustainable energy future?
Passionate about standards? Want to win a week in Berlin?

The purpose

ISO, the International Organization for Standardization, is the world’s leading provider of International Standards. This contest aims to encourage young professionals in developing countries and transition economies to engage in international standardization and raise awareness of the importance of standards in promoting sustainable development.
The theme

Young professionals in developing countries are invited to answer the question: “Sustainable energy future – How can standards help meet the challenge?”

The essay should take the form of a case study and reflect how standards can be instrumental in halving global energy-related CO₂ emissions by 2050 following a target set by the international community to double the generation of renewable energy by 2020. It should demonstrate how standards contribute to the sustainable development in their country. Candidates are not only expected to research the topic, they should also provide a personal analysis of the role of standards in promoting a sustainable energy future as well as formulate original ideas in relation with their country’s situation.
The prize

The winner will be awarded a certificate signed by ISO’s Secretary-General and the Director of DIN (Deutsches Institut für Normung), the German national standards organization that is sponsoring the award. The successful candidate will be invited to undertake an attachment at the DIN head office in Berlin, Germany. During the week-long visit, he/she will be exposed to a wide range of standards management activities carried out at DIN. The attachment will allow the winner to develop his/her skills and understanding of the various functions that exist in an advanced and highly successful national standards body. All expenses related to the attachment are covered by the prize. The winner will also be invited to spend a few days at the ISO Central Secretariat in Geneva.
Open to all

**Who can participate?**

The contest is open to young professionals below the age of 35 (born after 15 May 1979) who are passionate about standards. Candidates need not belong to a national standards body or hold a position within the ISO technical community. However, only applicants from developing countries, as per the ISO definition, will be considered. Please consult the list of developing countries in ISO before applying.
One essay, one video!

Entry requirements

• Submissions will be accepted in electronic format only
• Your essay should not exceed 3000 words including illustrations, tables and charts
• Essays must be written in English. If English is not your first language, we recommend you have it edited to do justice to your work and ideas
• Format your essay in font size 11, with double-line spacing and a 30 mm margin on all four sides
• In addition to the written essay, include a two-minute video in which you put forward the key messages of your essay. We don't expect award-winning short films, but we believe the video will help bring your ideas to life
• Upload your video on YouTube and send us the link
• Applicants grant ISO the publication rights. The winning essay may be published on ISO’s Website with a summary in ISOfocus, the magazine of the International Organization for Standardization
• All applicants, not just the winner, authorize publication of their video on ISO’s Website if the quality is good enough
• The submitted essay should include the candidate's contact details:
  - Name
  - First name
  - Date of birth
  - Address
  - Country
  - E-mail
  - Job title
  - Organization

• Send your essay to dev@iso.org
• Please note that each participant may only submit one essay
• Co-authored essays will not be accepted

Timeline

Submissions will be accepted until 27 June 2014
The winner will be announced on 10 September 2014 at the ISO General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The jury

ISO will nominate a panel of independent judges to review the essays and select the winning entry. In the event that no essay is deemed of sufficient merit, the jury may decide to withhold the prize.

Contact

For further information, please contact the ISO Academy at dev@iso.org.