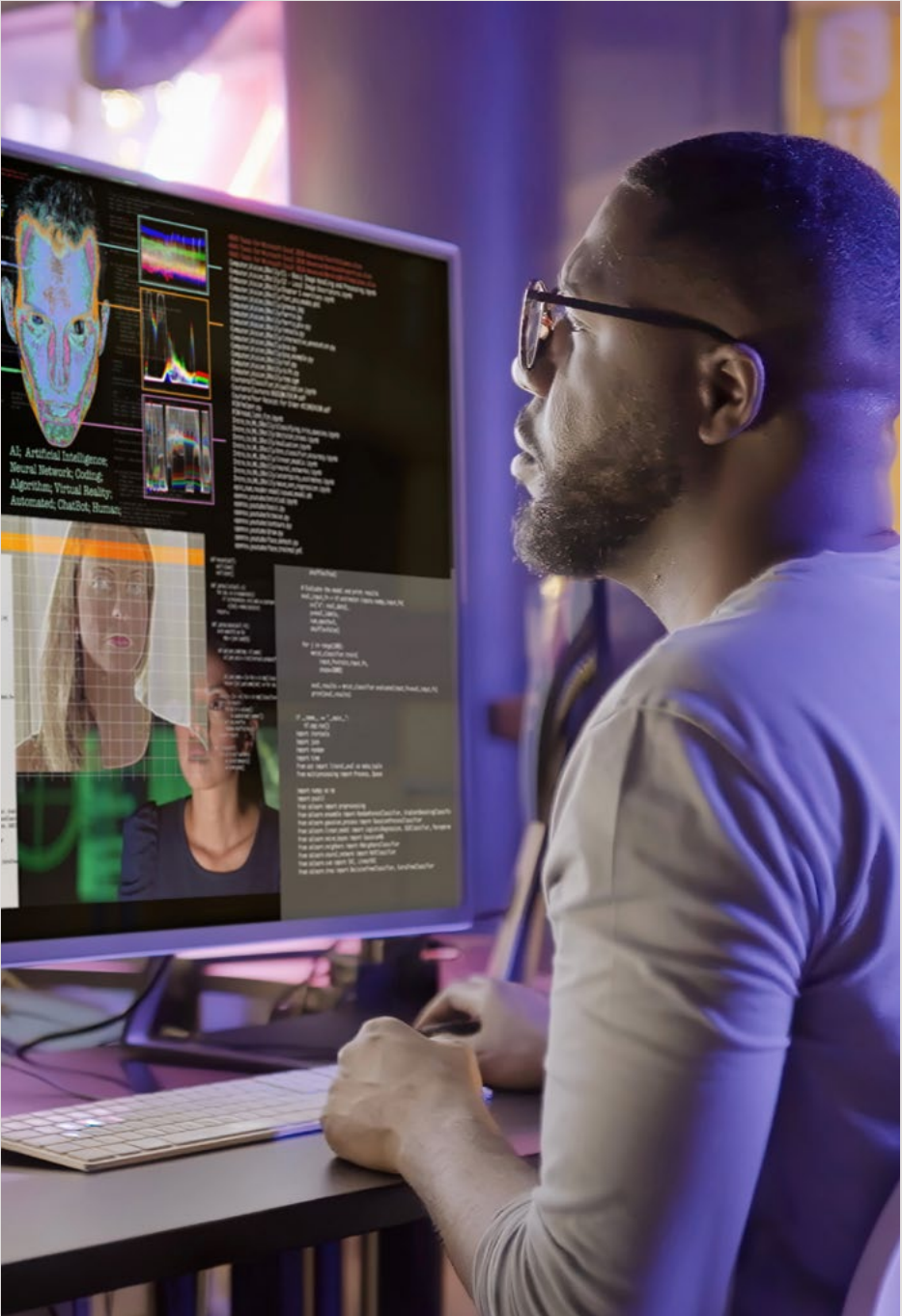




Guidance on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for IEC and ISO technical committees



The purpose of the Guidance on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is to *raise awareness of, and provide broad guidance on, responsible usage of AI tools as a participant in the IEC and ISO standards development process.*

Artificial intelligence can be defined as the capability of a functional unit to perform tasks that are generally associated with human intelligence, such as reasoning and learning. Generative AI, in particular, which is a subset of AI that creates new content by learning patterns from massive datasets, can bring both strategic benefits and risks as well as potential harm to IEC and ISO and their stakeholders.

If used responsibly, lawfully, and ethically, AI can be a powerful tool for IEC, ISO, and their technical committees (“Committees”), in the development of International Standards and other documents, and other future derived products.

To ensure that the design, development, deployment and use of AI technologies within Committees is ethical, lawful and in line with the IEC and ISO values in the development and maintenance of International Standards and other documents, this Guidance will be a living document.

This Guidance document, underpinned by the principles of accountability¹, respect for privacy², avoidance of bias³, safety⁴ by design and transparency⁵ outlines the rules, procedures, and best practices for all IEC and ISO committees. It applies to all Officers and experts participating in technical work and will continue to evolve.

Annex A provides a selection of use cases or various ways that AI can be used to assist with the standards development process. Acceptable usage (Yes/No/Maybe) is considered under three categories of tools.

This document does not address the content of IEC, ISO, and joint International Standards (“International Standards”) and other publications on matters of AI, which may be subject to separate guidance, including for specific technology domains.

1 Accountability ensures that decisions made throughout the organization, including those that are made through the use of AI, are founded in adequate governance and controls. This will also help to ensure that AI technologies will be implemented with minimal bias, see ISO/IEC 38507, 4.3 and ISO/IEC 22989, 3.5.2, and ISO/IEC 42001.

2 ISO/IEC TR 26927:2011, 3.34

3 Bias is the “systematic difference in treatment of certain objects, people or groups in comparison to others”, see ISO/IEC 22989, 3.5.4

4 Safety ensures that “where necessary, the organization should put in place appropriate systems for the ongoing management of safety as well as considering how the use of AI can reduce the exposure of humans to dangerous activities”, see ISO/IEC 38507, 6.7.3

5 Transparency is the “open, comprehensive, accessible, clear and understandable presentation of information”; “transparency and explainability of AI systems (including insight into the objectives, assumptions and rules included in them)” give rise to important implications when AI systems are used for “addressing tasks and problems that were previously performed by humans [...] together with adequate processes to modify and update those algorithms”. Transparency “can involve communicating appropriate information about the system to stakeholders (e.g., goals, known limitations, definitions, design choices, assumptions, features, models, algorithms, training methods and quality assurance processes). Additionally, transparency of an AI system can involve informing stakeholders about the details of data used (e.g., what, where, when, why data is collected and how it is used) to produce the system and the protection of personal data along with the purpose of the system and how it was built and deployed. Transparency can also include informing stakeholders about the processing and level of automation used to make related decisions”, see ISO 16759:2013, 3.8.4, modified, ISO/IEC TS 5723:2022, 3.2.20, and ISO/IEC 38507, 4.2. See also ISO/IEC 22989.

General use of AI tools

- a. Do** use AI tools, including generative AI, to inspire creativity and guide research for the writing and development of standards and other publications but, as always, check the sources and underlying materials.
- b. Do** use AI tools, if you are a Committee Manager, Secretary or other Officer, to record a meeting for the purposes of writing meeting minutes as specified in the ISO/IEC Directives Part 1, 2024⁶.
- c. Do** be careful with any individual or non-licensed versions of AI tools by reading the applicable conditions for your use.
- d. Do** familiarize yourself with AI tools before using them to ensure they work as intended.
- e. Do** share your experience with AI tools in terms of what works and what does not work with your Technical Programme Manager or Technical Officer and Committee Manager/Secretary.
- f. Do** ensure that data storage, transfer and processing follow regulations, best practices and, where applicable, IEC, ISO, and joint International Standards and other publications, such as ISO/IEC 42001 on management systems for AI.

6 The recording of ISO/IEC meetings by the Secretary/Committee Manager is acceptable provided that at the outset of the meeting, all participants are made aware that the meeting will be recorded and there are no objections. Individual participants shall have the right to require that the means of recording are switched off during a particular intervention if she/he so desires.

Such recordings are intended to aid the meeting Secretary/Committee Manager in preparing the minutes/report of the meeting. They may also be used to resolve disputes concerning what occurred at a meeting, which, in some instances, may require the preparation of transcripts of the recording. The recordings and any transcripts are the property of the meeting Secretary/Committee Manager, who is expected to respect the confidentiality of ISO meetings. The recordings and transcripts shall accordingly not be divulged to third parties and should preferably be destroyed once the minutes have been approved.

Code of conduct for technical work– spotlight on AI

For IEC, abiding by the *IEC Code of conduct for technical work* (or “**IEC Code of conduct**”) is an obligation for participation in IEC Committees and their subgroups. For ISO, abiding by the “**ISO Code of Ethics and Conduct**” (or “**ISO Code of conduct**”) is an obligation for participation in ISO committees and their subgroups.

The below is written to highlight principles from the IEC and ISO Codes of conduct in light of the use of AI tools by Committees. In the case of any conflict between this document and the Codes of conduct, the respective Code of conduct at IEC or ISO shall prevail.

- a. Respect and protect the brand and reputation of IEC and ISO
Do use AI ethically, in a way that continues to respect cultural, social, and individual sensitivities, avoiding the potential for harm or misinformation.
- b. Work for the net benefit of the international community and uphold the consensus process
Do use AI in a way that benefits the writing and development of International Standards and other publications while achieving consensus.
- c. Participate actively
Do not use AI to substitute for your attendance, participation, or any other decision-making activity you undertake in support of writing and developing an International Standard or other publication.
- d. Respect standards development policies
Do ensure you are familiar with, and abide by, the IEC's Copyright Policy and Implementation Guidelines, ISO's Declaration for participants in ISO activities, ISO/IEC Directives and respective Supplements, and respective Privacy notices for ISO and IEC, which are mandatorily applicable to technical work.
Do not use images or text created by generative AI in any IEC and ISO content, either internally or externally, unless you are using an AI tool provided by either the IEC Secretariat, ISO Central Secretariat, or an IEC or ISO Member as permitted.
- e. Respect copyright and protected data
Do not feed any IEC and/or copyrighted work, personal data, confidential information or other sensitive material into non-licensed AI tools and systems (whether public or individual, paid or free)

Do use AI tools provided by the IEC Secretariat and ISO Central Secretariat while respecting privacy rights and process personal data in accordance with applicable regulations, the respective IEC and ISO privacy notices, any applicable personal data breach notification guidelines and/or data classification framework.

Deployment and monitoring in technical committees

- a. **Do** work together in your Committee to ensure experts and Officers understand the use of AI, applications available, and the guidance from IEC and/or ISO.
2. **Do** request support from the IEC Secretariat or ISO Central Secretariat on the use of AI and to understand the strengths and limitations of AI tools.
3. With the help of the Secretariats, **do** ensure that data, if any, used to train AI tools and systems, as provided by the IEC Secretariat and ISO Central Secretariat will be screened for biases and corrected.
- d. **Do** verify results or outputs of generative AI, as provided by the IEC Secretariat, ISO Central Secretariat, or IEC or ISO Member, including for any unexpected or inappropriate outputs. This may include integrating adequate feedback loops to support continuous refinement of generative models, if any.
- e. **Do** ensure that AI tools used in IEC, ISO, and joint technical work comply with applicable cybersecurity standards and best practices and shall respect national data sovereignty requirements.

Training, support, and compliance

- a. **Do** promote and seek continuous learning to stay updated on AI advancements, ethical concerns, and best practices with particular emphasis on IEC and ISO International Standards, IEC Conformity Assessment Systems, and other publications.
- b. **Do** raise concerns or possible misuses of AI to your Technical Officer or Technical Programme Manager and Committee Manager/Secretary.

Further reading

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 42 is the international standards committee responsible for standardization in the area of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and has published a number of helpful standards including:

- **ISO/IEC 22989:2022**, *Information technology – Artificial intelligence – Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology*
- **ISO/IEC TR 24030:2024**, *Information technology – Artificial intelligence (AI) – Use cases*
- **ISO/IEC 42001:2023**, *AI management systems*



For ISO questions, please consult your National Standards Body or the ISO IT Helpdesk for help using ISO IT tools, including AI tools. For any personal data protection, intellectual property, or licensing concerns, please contact the ISO Data Protection Officer at dataprotection@iso.org or ISO legal team through your Technical Programme Manager.

For IEC questions, please consult your National Committee or the IEC IT Helpdesk for help using IEC IT tools, including AI tools. For any personal data protection, intellectual property, or licensing concerns, please contact the IEC Data Protection Officer at dataprotection@iec.ch or IEC legal team through your Technical Officer.

This document will be continually updated.
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Annex A

This Annex presents a classification of use cases or various ways that AI can be used to assist with the standards development process. Acceptable usage (Yes/No) is considered under three categories of tools:

- **Individual tools:** This category includes all AI tools acquired independently, including free or publicly accessible tools, open source solutions, and tools accessed through individual paid subscriptions. For these tools, users bear complete responsibility for evaluating and managing associated risks. Use cases for this category of tools are primarily restricted to research and content inspiration. No use or creation of ISO and IEC content is permitted.
- **National member licensed tools:** This category covers tools that have been provided by an IEC or ISO Member under a secure enterprise license. Members must conduct their own due diligence when licensing AI tools. This includes verifying that their use complies with copyright law, that sensitive or confidential information is handled securely, and that any content users input into the tool will not be repurposed or used to train AI models. Many of these are under pilot and are naturally subject to future governance decisions.
- **ISO/IEC licensed tools:** This category covers tools provided directly by the ISO Central Secretariat or IEC Secretariat under a secure enterprise license. Examples could include Zoom for Committee meetings, or tools embedded within the Online Standards Development (OSD) platform.

Use case for AI tools	Individual tools	National member licensed tools	ISO/IEC licensed tools
Recording, translation, transcription (including notes) during Committee meetings in line with ISO/IEC Directives Part 1	No	Yes	Yes
Brainstorming and research	Yes	Yes	Yes
Drafting emails (improving language or translation) while respecting data protection and confidentiality	Yes	Yes	Yes
Refine, correct, edit, or format the draft text of a standard or other deliverable to improve clarity of language	No	Maybe*	Yes
Generation, refinement, correction, editing or formatting of visualizations of research data or results within a draft standard or other deliverable	No	Maybe*	Yes
Translation of the draft text of a standard or other deliverable to aid understanding	No	Maybe*	Yes

This list is illustrative and not exhaustive.

* Such use may be subject to IEC and ISO Member pilot and governance outcomes.





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