

The ISO 55000 Suite of Standards for Asset Management Systems

EEMUA Position

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The Engineering Equipment and Materials' Users Association, EEMUA, has been instrumental in developing and promoting leadership in industrial asset management across a broad range of fields since it was founded in 1949. We welcome the more recent recognition and rigour that has been brought to the standardisation of management systems for this long established and vital activity. EEMUA has been involved in drafting the new ISO 55000 suite of standards for Asset Management Systems which offer one means of providing a consistency of approach for a high level management framework for effective asset management. EEMUA welcomes the new international standards as a useful starting point for those wanting to develop an overview of the subject, and a means of defining terms so that all involved can use a common language for discussing systems for asset management as a topic.

Summary of points

- EEMUA is an active contributor to the development, maintenance and promotion of formal standards, industry standards, specifications, and guides in engineering, process safety, asset integrity and related areas of asset management.
- The demonstration of and pursuit of leadership in the management of industrial assets, and the equipment and materials they are built from, has been a core purpose of EEMUA and its precursors for well over half a century.
- EEMUA was represented on the committee which drafted the new ISO 55000 suite of standards, and also on the UK mirror committee, ensuring that the views of the user community were heard. Its members have had opportunities to comment on the drafts during all stages of the development process of the standards, and have contributed to shaping the outcome of that process.
- The usefulness of a series of standards for management systems that focusses particularly on the management of physical assets depends on the organisation concerned. Many EEMUA members will already have sophisticated systems for managing safety critical industrial assets. For other organisations, seeking to develop or implement a management systems framework for asset management, the standards should provide helpful information.
- ISO 55000 may be used in the future as a standard for certification. An organisation being certified to ISO 55000 should not be taken as a measure of the effectiveness of its asset management; only that the high level system in place to do so satisfies the requirements given in the standard. Safe and effective industrial asset management can only be achieved by a combination of effective management, and management systems, with high quality engineering and technical knowledge, skills and competencies which are the areas where EEMUA will continue to focus its attention.

Background

In 2004 a number of organisations worked together to produce Publicly Available Specification (PAS) 55 – Optimal Management of Physical Assets, which was updated in 2008. The popularity of PAS 55 within some parts of the asset management community encouraged the development of the ISO 55000 suite of standards. These comprise:

- ISO 55000 – An overview, including terms and definitions
- ISO 55001 – The requirements for an integrated, effective management system for assets
- ISO 55002 – Guidance for the implementation of such a system

These standards were published in January 2014, with PAS 55 due to be withdrawn in January 2015.

References

1. PAS 55-1:2008 Asset management. Specification for the optimized management of physical assets
2. PAS 55-2:2008 Asset management. Guidelines for the application of PAS 55-1
3. BS ISO 55000 Asset management – Overview, principles and terminology
4. BS ISO 55001 Asset management – Management systems – Requirements
5. BS ISO 55002 Asset management – Management systems – Guidelines for the application of ISO 55001

About EEMUA

EEMUA - The Engineering Equipment & Materials Users' Association - is a non-profit membership organisation helping companies that own or operate industrial facilities - the users of engineering equipment and materials. By demonstrating and pursuing leadership in asset management, EEMUA helps improve the safety, environmental and operating performance of industrial facilities in the most cost-effective way. Member companies manage process plants, power stations offshore platforms, storage terminals and other industrial facilities around the world - engineering assets worth billions of Euros.

EEMUA has been representing users' interests for more than half a century and yet the Association's work has probably never been as relevant as now. Maintaining the right balance of in-house engineering expertise, keeping abreast of the regulatory environment and operating capital assets efficiently, effectively and in compliance - these are critical issues for owners of capital plants. The Association's members appreciate the value of the shared user community and the other benefits provided by membership of EEMUA.