

## ISO 31000 – Moving forward into 2018 continued



This article is one of a series published on this website providing details of the changes from 'ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management - Principles and Guidelines' in the new edition has been published today, on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

In September 2013 ISO Technical Committee 262 started the revision process so that the content remained relevant in a changing world. Following several months of hard work by committee members a Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) was sent out to the National Standard bodies for ballot and it was approved by an outstanding majority of 96 %. This final article will provide the reader with an update into the thinking behind changes in Clause 6 of the standard which describes how an organization systematically applies policies, procedures and practices to the activities associated with understanding, managing and communicating about risk and the management of risk.

### Process

It was decided by the task group working on this clause that the wording should be significantly reduced, simplified and kept to the basics. The focus was on making the clause user friendly and readable. Comments received to earlier drafts of this approach were favorable, so development continued along these lines with no significant structure or content changes made to this clause when compared to the 2009 edition.

Most comments were received about the diagram that represented the process itself. These lead to tough discussions in the task group as diagrams are often a question of personal preference. The group was conflicted in how to present the process but in the end, it was decided to go back to a version that was closer to a traditional way of presenting a process.

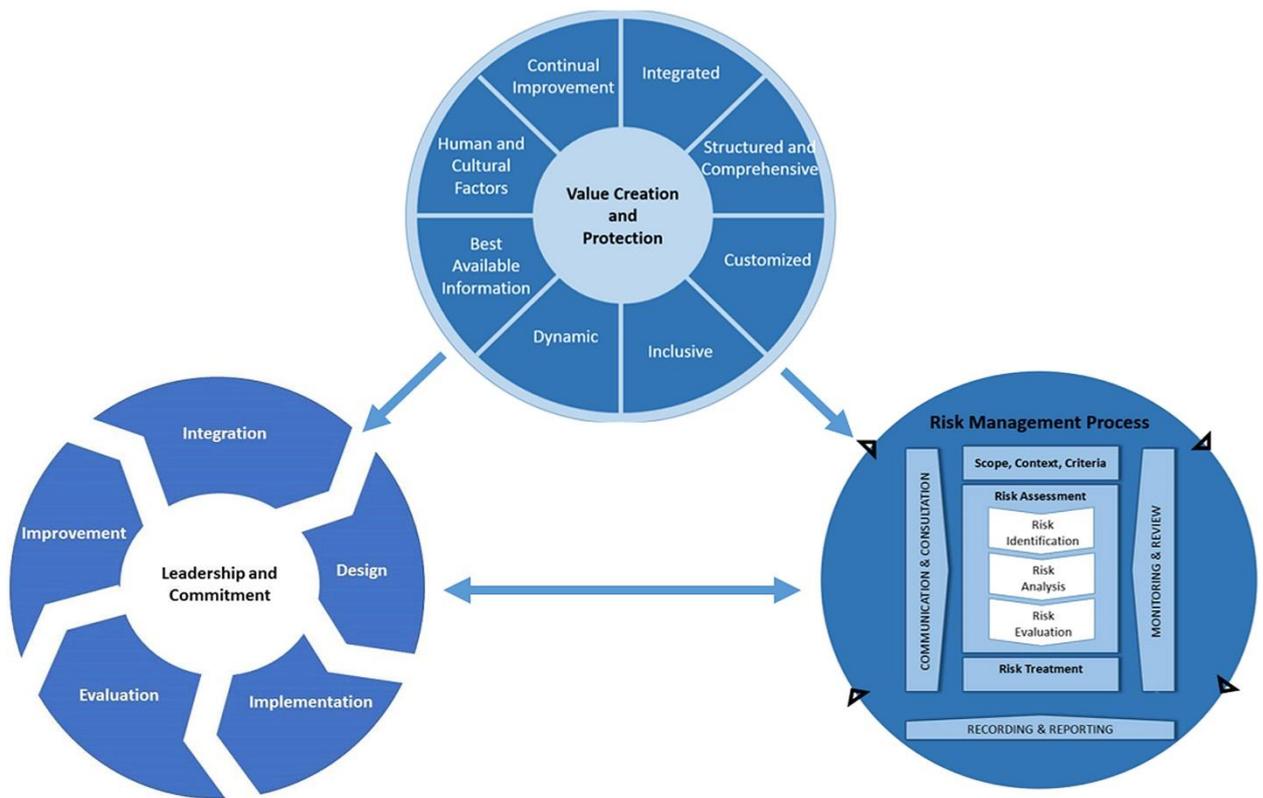
Besides wordsmithing details in the text some of the more important discussions included:

- Ensuring that clauses 5 (Framework) and 6 (Process) were aligned on common topics such as consultation and communication;
- The purpose of each sub-clause was debated and clarified e.g. the heading of clause 6.3 was changed to better reflect the contents and is now called: 'Scope, context and criteria';

- Some wordings that people were uncomfortable with were deleted: e.g. ‘Level of risk’, ‘Risk appetite’ and ‘Time frames’;
- The link between ‘Risk evaluation’ and ‘Risk treatment’ was improved and it is now clearer what each step includes.

**In conclusion**

This is the final article in a series which has introduced the key changes that are to be found in the 2018 edition of ISO 31000 ‘Risk Management – Guidelines’.



The new ISO 31000 places **value creation**, in all interpretations of those words, as the driver and purpose of risk management. The need for strong leadership, commitment and an integrated approach is highlighted in wording that is clear and unambiguous.

However, the overall content and structure of the standard has been maintained and the document continues to provide excellent generic guidance for risk management in any type of organization.