

Meetings of OIML TC 8/SC 5 and the Joint ISO/CEN/OIML Working Group at National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA on 8-10 November 2011.



Background

The reasons for the harmonisation of the CEN/ ISO 4064 /OIML R 49 and revision of OIML R 49 are as follows:

- 1 It is inconvenient to have minor differences between different water meter standards/regulations: the differences arose because each document was revised separately; so an improvement in one was not necessarily included in them all.
- 2 From an EU point of view it is particularly inconvenient to have differences between CEN and OIML when meeting the MID.
- 3 Harmonisation between CEN and ISO is essential: BSI votes on the ISO document, but cannot implement it. If CEN and ISO are to harmonise it seemed an opportunity for OIML participate.

OIML TC 8/SC 5 had voted in favour of harmonisation by 10-0 (with 1 abstention).

Joint ISO/TC 30/SC 7, OIML/TC 8/SC 5 and CEN/TC 92 water meters meeting

Meetings of the Joint Working Group (JWG) comprising members of the water meters technical committees of ISO/TC 30/SC 7, OIML/TC 8/SC 5 and CEN/TC 92 were held at the Advanced Measurement Institute building at the NIST campus in Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA on 8-10 November, 2011, courtesy of the USA OIML contact Ralph Richter, who welcomed the delegation to the NIST campus. The JWG meeting was chaired by the Convenor of the Joint Working Group, Dr. Michael Reader-Harris of the National Engineering Laboratory (NEL).

Separate meetings of the ISO/TC 30/SC 7 and OIML/TC 8/SC 5 committees were held on Thursday 10, the former led by the ISO/TC 30 Chairman Michael Reader-Harris and Secretary Dr David Michael, and the latter meeting led by the UK TC 8/SC 5 Chairman Michael Reader-Harris and Secretary Morayo Awosola.

In attendance were 22 ISO and OIML member states, 4 water meter manufacturers and 3 liaisons.

The meetings were convened to discuss the revision and harmonisation of Parts 1 to 5* of the harmonised ISO 4064 and OIML R 49 water meter standards

The JWG discussed and accepted a majority of the comments received from the last ISO and OIML second committee drafts (2 CD) consultation exercise. The concerns of OIML members France, Denmark and Japan who had rejected the 2 CD were partially accepted. However, agreement was not reached on one of the French comments as it proved difficult to find the right text to implement the measuring instruments directive requirement "*The meter shall not exploit the MPE or systematically favour any party*". It was decided that a further consultation of the wider ISO/OIML committee members was necessary to move forward on this requirement.

Although the harmonised 2 CD drafts had achieved majority technical committee approval at ISO/TC 30/SC 7, OIML/TC 8/SC 5 and CEN/TC 92 to proceed to the ISO Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) and OIML International Committee of Legal Metrology (CML) stage, it became clear that many of the changes agreed at the meeting were technical in nature. The JWG decided that in view of the substantial technical changes made to the harmonised 2 CD drafts since the last ISO/CEN/OIML technical votes it would be more appropriate to return the harmonised drafts back to technical committee voting stage as a 3 CD to give

* Water meters intended for the metering of cold potable water and hot water — Part 1: Metrological and technical requirements

Water meters intended for the metering of cold potable water and hot water — Part 2: Test methods

Water meters intended for the metering of cold potable water and hot water — Part 3: Test Report Format

Water meters intended for the metering of cold potable water and hot water -- Part 4: Non-metrological requirements not covered in ISO 4064-1

Water meters intended for the metering of cold potable water and hot water -- Part 5: Installation requirements

committee members an opportunity to review the JWG decisions and review the 3 CD drafts before submission for ISO FDIS and CIML votes.

The meeting resolutions and the JWG detailed responses to the 2 CD comments will be circulated when the JWG Secretariat issues the meeting report.

TC 8/SC 5 meeting

A separate meeting of OIML TC 8/SC 5 chaired by the Secretariat Morayo Awosola was held on the 10th November to discuss the OIML contribution to the JWG meeting.

There was unanimous agreement that most of the OIML 2 CD comments had been discussed satisfactorily in the JWG meeting and that it was necessary to reissue the 2 CD as 3 CD so that OIML members can review the technical changes made to the 2CD since the last TC 8/SC 5 votes.

The meeting also agreed that the TC 8/SC 5 Secretariat will approach the committee members that had voted against the 2 CD to assess their response to the JWG decisions.

The current timetable is to issue the 3 CD drafts early in 2012 and for the drafts to be processed and ready for the 2012 CIML.

OIML/TC 8/SC 5 supported the JWG decisions including the following:

- a) Change document title to 'Water meters for cold potable water and hot water.
- b) Scope of document in Clause 1.2 amended to sit in both OIML and ISO standards.
- c) Agreement to change the number of meters submitted for test from 5/3/2 to test to 3/2/1. (Denmark and Sweden comments)
- d) The text 'Endurance' to be replaced with 'durability' throughout the drafts
- e) Drafts to be edited to remove the potential for inconsistency between type approval and initial verification.
- f) TC 8/SC 5 Secretariat to review the drafts for consistency with the VIML and OIML D11.

The BIML Director Steven Patoray gave an update of BIML activities that might impact on the work of the JWG.

He mentioned that the revision of the OIML Basic Document B 6 *Directives for Technical Work* had been finalised and was now being prepared for publication in early 2012.

Changes in the OIML *Directives for Technical Work* included the amendment of the technical committee voting system which now requires a majority of the votes cast rather than a majority of the total committee members as previously required. This means that non-voters and abstains will be excluded from the final vote count.

Steven Patoray supported the JWG decision to submit the drafts as 3 CD for technical committee voting because of the technical changes and inconsistencies identified in the 2 CD.

TC 8/SC 5 meeting resolutions:

- 1) OIML/TC 8/SC 5 agreed to reissue the 2 CD Parts 1, 2 and 3 to TC 8/SC 5 as a 3 CD in view of the technical changes made to the 2 CD at the JWG meeting.
- 2) The BIML and ISO editors to be approached to liaise regarding the final structure and format of the harmonised drafts.

OIML/TC 8/SC 5 expresses its thanks to NIST, Ralph Richter and the US water meter manufacturers for their support in making the meeting a successful event.

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