



# **IECRE OPERATIONAL DOCUMENT**

**IEC System for Certification to Standards relating to Equipment for use in  
Renewable Energy applications (IECRE System)**

**Update of standards in scope of wind energy RETLs in between assessments**





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## CONTENTS

CONTENTS .....	2
1 Introduction .....	3
2 Purpose .....	3
3 Validity .....	3
4 Procedure .....	3
4.1 Preparation by SG 551 .....	3
4.2 Detailed Procedure .....	3
4.3 Publication .....	4

## 1 Introduction

This OD shall facilitate the update of the standards in scope in competence areas of RETLs under the WE-OMC in the case that standards change or are being updated in the time between assessments. It has been identified that delays might occur in the IECRE certification scheme when technical standards in competence areas are updated by TC 88, but RETLs are not yet capable of issuing reports because of lack of assessments. In order to close this gap for the time between the issuing of a new technical standard and the next re-assessment for an individual RETL, the procedure on hand has been defined. Updating a standard to a new version does not replace the old version of the standard in the scope of the RETL.

## 2 Purpose

This OD defines a procedure for updating the standards in scope for individual RETLs when technical standards in competence areas are updated and published by TC 88.

## 3 Validity

This procedure applies to all competence areas defined for RETLs under the WE-OMC.

It applies only to accepted RETL in the respective competence area. It does not apply to new entrants. It does not replace the assessment.

## 4 Procedure

### 4.1 Preparation by SG 551

SG 551 shall monitor the activity of PTs and MTs of TC 88 in the respective competence areas very closely. In case standards in competence areas will be updated or revised, SG 551 shall produce an OD addressing the technical changes and defining the requirements for updating the standards in scope of the RETLs in that competence area. This OD needs to be produced in addition to an updated assessment OD for the competence area.

A revised technical standard may be, for example, a new edition of a standard or new documents, if the standard is split up into various parts. It may also apply to standards in a series, if the methodology defined in the standards are similar.

The OD prepared by SG 551 shall consist of the following content:

- a. Perform a gap analysis of the technical changes between the two standards to a level of detail which allows to compare technical methodologies
- b. An assessment of new technologies with respect to previous methodologies and staff qualification in that competence area
- c. In case the standard consists of new methodologies, which are not covered by the competence of the RETLs so far the assessment OD shall define how to handle these new methodologies and how RETLs shall prove competence.
- d. A list of activities which have to be carried out by SG 551
- e. A list of activities which have to be carried out in the course of updating the standard in scope by each individual RETL

### 4.2 Detailed Procedure

Technical standards may change in multiple ways. They may be updated, amended, corrected or revised completely. They may be separated into a number of standards in case they become too large and there may also be sections (e.g. for new methodologies), which are added to an existing standard. Depending on the complexity of the changes of a standard, SG 551 shall define the activities to be performed in the mentioned OD as follows:

1. Standards with minor changes (e.g. a standard with mainly clarifications, corrections, amendments, deletions or change of ranking (e.g. TS to IS with little changes):

- a. Validation requirements, which shall be carried out by the RETLs.
  - b. Technical documents to be handed in by RETLs
2. Standards with major changes and standards with new sections (e.g. with new methodologies, significant changes in methodologies, split up into parts, changes in scope, etc.):
- a. General validation procedure including its documentation, which shall be carried out and documented by the RETLs. It is recommended that SG 551 sets up a proficiency test with special focus on the major changes for all applying RETLs. If SG 551 does so, all RETLs are encouraged to participate at the same time. In order to speed up the process, it is recommended to set up the proficiency test as soon as a document of the standard in question is on hand, which is not likely to be changed further, e.g. in a CDV or FDIS stage of the document.
  - b. Technical documents to be handed in by RETLs.

Depending on the activities SG 551 defines the following actions shall take place:

1. The RETL shall present a validation plan to the lead assessor, detailing up which items of a new standard shall be validated and how to fulfil the requirements of the OD prepared by SG 551 (see section 4.1.e).
2. The lead assessor shall approve the validation plan.
3. The RETL informs the lead assessor upon implementation of the validation plan.
4. The RETL shall cover the fees for the assessor.
5. The next re-assessment undertaken at the facilities of the RETL shall put special focus on the validation of the procedure.

#### **4.3 Publication**

After acknowledging the implementation of the validation plan by the lead assessor, the lead assessor informs the IECRE secretariat about the successful update of the standards in scope.

The new standard in scope shall ~~be~~ then be published in “standards in scope” in the RETL’s section in the IECRE webpage. Any applicable restrictions, e.g. if only parts of a new standard have been assessed, shall be mentioned there as well.

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