

Handover of ISO Acoustics & Noise Chairs

After 9 years, Douglas Manvell hands over responsibility to new chairpersons

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Having served the permitted maximum period of 9 years as chair of the International Organization for Standardization's (ISO) Acoustics & Noise Technical Committees, Douglas Manvell, Founder and Director of DMdB, hands over to new chairpersons as of 1st January 2025. Thomas Fedtke, PTB, is the new chair of ISO/TC 43 Acoustics and Volker Wittstock, also PTB, takes over as chair of ISO/TC 43 SC 1 Noise. Douglas' focus was on ensuring professional management of the committee's standards with timely involvement of relevant stakeholders, both internal and external, and the efficient running of plenary meetings, the last one as chair being the ISO/TC 43/SC 1 plenary meeting, held in Berlin 2024.

His involvement in standardization does not end there, however. He has been reappointed as convenor of the ISO working group on environmental noise, which deals primarily with the ISO 1996-series of standards, and will continue in the ISO Acoustics Advisory Panel supporting the management of acoustics standards. In addition, he has been appointed as convenor of 2 new ad hoc groups, one working on guidance for instrumentation requirements, the other to determine the need, interest and scope for a common tonal methodology for use in all ISO TC 43 SC1 Noise standards.

In his closing remarks at the 2024 ISO TC 43 plenary, in addition to thanking the many who made this possible, and for guidance and inspiration on managing standards and running Plenary Meetings, Douglas summarized his philosophy: *"The when and how to, incl the involvement of stakeholders, is just as important as the what and why. Pragmatic solutions, formed by consensus built on respect for global diversity, and ensuring that all voices are heard, no matter their mother tongue, ensure they are strong and durable."* He concluded *"In closing I will miss being chair, it has been a pleasurable challenge."*

For more information about standardization within acoustics and noise, contact your national standardization organization, or get in touch with DMdB:

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