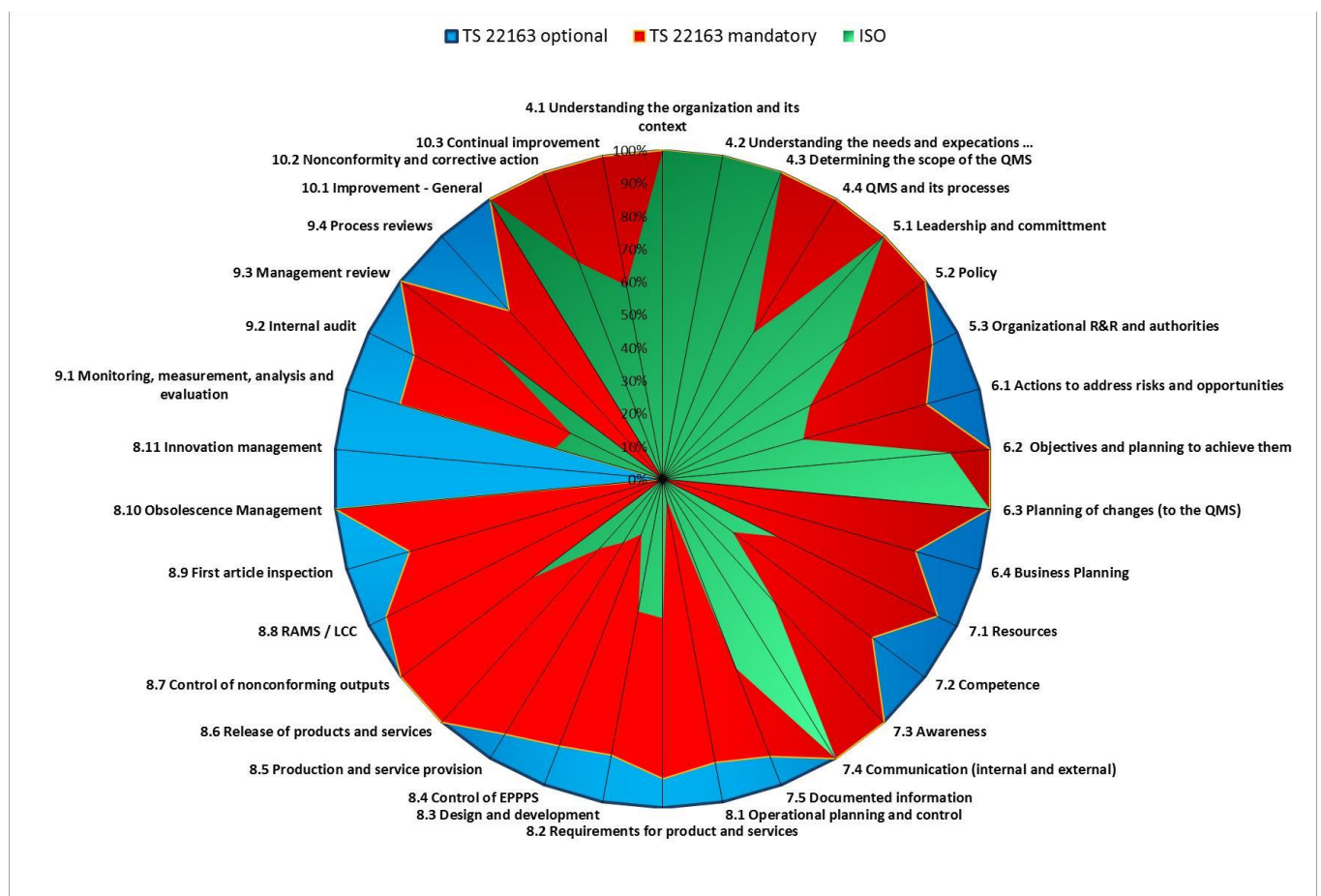# Railway standard IRIS becomes international recognizes ISO/TS 22163 standard

Published on December, 2016 by
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From now on and forever, ISO 22163 is the official identification of the Rail Quality Management System, going to be published as an ISO/TS 22163 standard by mid of 2017.

But how to remember this number? It's easy for one, who was born on January, 22nd 1963. And for us, all others? Here is my proposal: remember a nice girl, called IRIS. She was born in a chilly Nordic winter, short after a new year started. It was January. She was quite fit and had 2 tautly legs and 2 small arms. So, now we have 22th January (221). And now the year: maybe you find also somebody in your family who was born in 63 or is in the age of 63.

Here are just a few highlights to understand that there are significant new challenges ahead. To be able to pass future IRIS audits, I advise to care for the new subject matters as soon as possible, otherwise the risk is very high that the IRIS certificate cannot be maintained. You shouldn't lose your "entrance tickets" to the rail business.

The new ISO/TS 22163: 2017 standard:

- will be published in May 2017 and will replace the existing IRIS Rev.2.01, till September 2018,
- covers all requirements of ISO 9001:2015 and has been built according to the High-Level Structure, supplemented by existing and new additional mandatory and optional requirements of the rail industry, especially also new KPIs,
- continues to be supported by the "IRIS Audit Tool" that is based on the new IRIS Assessment Sheet, composed by around 870 mandatory requirements, which are grouped into about 300 questions, as well as new KO-requirements (plus additional optional requirements),
- requires the appraisal of the customer focus performance level,
- requires introduction of turtle diagrams and applies the methodology of Process Effectiveness Assessment Reviews (PEAR) for some mandatory processes,
- utilizes a maturity model for business management systems concluding your companies BRONZE-SILVER-GOLD rating.

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