

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Risk management — Risk
assessment techniques**



AS/NZS IEC 31010:2020

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard™ was prepared by Joint Technical Committee QR-005, Dependability. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 25 March 2020 and by the New Zealand Standards Approval Board on 5 February 2020.

This Standard was published on 9 April 2020.

The following are represented on Committee QR-005:

Asset Management Council
Australian Industry Group
Department of Defence (Australian Government)
Engineering New Zealand
Engineers Australia
Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of New Zealand
Institution of Occupational Safety and Health
National Rail Safety Regulator (Australia)
National Road Carriers Association (New Zealand)
New Zealand Institute of Safety Management
Professionals Australia
Risk Engineering Society (Australia)
Risk Management Institute of Australasia
RiskNZ
University of New South Wales
University of Western Australia
University of Wollongong

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS IEC 31010:2019.

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Ensure you have the latest versions of our publications and keep up-to-date about Amendments, Rulings, Withdrawals, and new projects by visiting:

www.standards.org.au

www.standards.govt.nz

ISBN 978 1 76072 806 9

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Risk management — Risk assessment
techniques**

First published as AS/NZS IEC 31010:2020.

COPYRIGHT

© IEC 2020 — All rights reserved

© Standards Australia Limited/the Crown in right of New Zealand, administered by the New Zealand Standards Executive 2020

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) or the Copyright Act 1994 (New Zealand).

Preface

This was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee OR-005, Dependability.

The objective of this Standard is to provide guidance on the selection and application of techniques for assessing risk in a wide range of situations. The techniques are used to assist in making decisions where there is uncertainty, to provide information about particular risks and as part of a process for managing risk. The document provides summaries of a range of techniques, with references to other documents where the techniques are described in more detail.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from, IEC 31010:2019, *Risk management — Risk assessment techniques*.

As this document has been reproduced from an International Standard, a full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards that are identical adoptions of international normative references may be used interchangeably. Refer to the online catalogue for information on specific Standards.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendices or annexes to which they apply. A “normative” appendix or annex is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix or annex is only for information and guidance.

NOTES

Currently in preview, click buy full version

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	6
INTRODUCTION.....	8
1 Scope.....	9
2 Normative references	9
3 Terms and definitions	9
4 Core concepts	10
4.1 Uncertainty	10
4.2 Risk.....	11
5 Uses of risk assessment techniques	11
6 Implementing risk assessment.....	12
6.1 Plan the assessment.....	12
6.1.1 Define purpose and scope of the assessment	12
6.1.2 Understand the context.....	13
6.1.3 Engage with stakeholders.....	13
6.1.4 Define objectives	13
6.1.5 Consider human, organizational and social factors	13
6.1.6 Review criteria for decisions	14
6.2 Manage information and develop models	16
6.2.1 General	16
6.2.2 Collecting information	16
6.2.3 Analysing data.....	16
6.2.4 Developing and applying models	17
6.3 Apply risk assessment techniques	18
6.3.1 Overview	18
6.3.2 Identifying risk.....	19
6.3.3 Determining sources, values and drivers of risk	19
6.3.4 Investigating the effectiveness of existing controls.....	20
6.3.5 Understanding consequences, and likelihood	20
6.3.6 Analysing interactions and dependencies	22
6.3.7 Understanding measures of risk.....	22
6.4 Review the analysis	25
6.4.1 Verify, test and validating results	25
6.4.2 Uncertainty and sensitivity analysis	25
6.4.3 Monitoring and review.....	26
6.5 Apply results to support decisions.....	26
6.5.1 Overview	26
6.5.2 Decisions about the significance of risk	27
6.5.3 Decisions that involve selecting between options.....	27
6.6 Record and report risk assessment process and outcomes	28
7 Selecting risk assessment techniques.....	28
7.1 General.....	28
7.2 Selecting techniques.....	29
Annex A (informative) Categorization of techniques	31
A.1 Introduction to categorization of techniques	31
A.2 Application of categorization of techniques	31
A.3 Use of techniques during the ISO 31000 process.....	37

Annex B (informative) Description of techniques	40
B.1 Techniques for eliciting views from stakeholders and experts.....	40
B.1.1 General	40
B.1.2 Brainstorming	40
B.1.3 Delphi technique.....	42
B.1.4 Nominal group technique	43
B.1.5 Structured or semi-structured interviews	44
B.1.6 Surveys	45
B.2 Techniques for identifying risk.....	46
B.2.1 General	46
B.2.2 Checklists, classifications and taxonomies.....	47
B.2.3 Failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA) and failure modes, effects and criticality analysis (FMECA)	49
B.2.4 Hazard and operability (HAZOP) studies.....	50
B.2.5 Scenario analysis	52
B.2.6 Structured what if technique (SWIFT)	54
B.3 Techniques for determining sources, causes and drivers of risk	55
B.3.1 General	55
B.3.2 Cindynic approach	56
B.3.3 Ishikawa analysis (fishbone) method	58
B.4 Techniques for analysing controls	60
B.4.1 General	60
B.4.2 Bow tie analysis.....	60
B.4.3 Hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP).....	62
B.4.4 Layers of protection analysis (LOPA).....	64
B.5 Techniques for understanding consequences and likelihood	66
B.5.1 General	66
B.5.2 Bayesian analysis.....	66
B.5.3 Bayesian networks and influence diagrams.....	68
B.5.4 Business impact analysis (BIA).....	70
B.5.5 Cause-consequence analysis (CCA).....	72
B.5.6 Event tree analysis (ETA).....	74
B.5.7 Fault tree analysis (FTA)	76
B.5.8 Human reliability analysis (HRA).....	78
B.5.9 Markov analysis.....	79
B.5.10 Monte Carlo simulation	81
B.5.11 Privacy impact analysis (PIA) / data protection impact analysis (DPIA).....	83
B.6 Techniques for analysing dependencies and interactions	85
B.6.1 Causal mapping.....	85
B.6.2 Cross impact analysis.....	87
B.7 Techniques that provide a measure of risk	89
B.7.1 Toxicological risk assessment.....	89
B.7.2 Value at risk (VaR)	91
B.7.3 Conditional value at risk (CVaR) or expected shortfall (ES)	93
B.8 Techniques for evaluating the significance of risk	94
B.8.1 General	94
B.8.2 As low as reasonably practicable (ALARP) and so far as is reasonably practicable (SFAIRP).....	94

B.8.3	Frequency-number (F-N) diagrams	96
B.8.4	Pareto charts	98
B.8.5	Reliability centred maintenance (RCM)	100
B.8.6	Risk indices	102
B.9	Techniques for selecting between options	103
B.9.1	General	103
B.9.2	Cost/benefit analysis (CBA)	104
B.9.3	Decision tree analysis	106
B.9.4	Game theory	107
B.9.5	Multi-criteria analysis (MCA)	109
B.10	Techniques for recording and reporting	111
B.10.1	General	111
B.10.2	Risk registers	112
B.10.3	Consequence/likelihood matrix (risk matrix or heat map)	113
B.10.4	S-curves	117
Bibliography	119
Figure A.1	– Application of techniques in the ISO 31000 risk management process [3]	37
Figure B.1	– Example Ishikawa (fishbone) diagram	59
Figure B.2	– Example of Bowtie	61
Figure B.3	– A Bayesian network showing a simplified version of a real ecological problem: modelling native fish populations in Victoria, Australia	69
Figure B.4	– Example of cause-consequence diagram	73
Figure B.5	– Example of event tree analysis	75
Figure B.6	– Example of fault tree	77
Figure B.7	– Example of Markov diagram	80
Figure B.8	– Example of dose response curve	89
Figure B.9	– Distribution of value	91
Figure B.10	– Detail of loss ratio, VaR values	91
Figure B.11	– VaR and CVAR for possible loss portfolio	93
Figure B.12	– ALARP diagram	95
Figure B.13	– Sample F-N diagram	97
Figure B.14	– Example of a Pareto chart	98
Figure B.15	– Part example of table defining consequence scales	114
Figure B.16	– Part example of a likelihood scale	114
Figure B.17	– Example of consequence/likelihood matrix	115
Figure B.18	– Probability distribution function and cumulative distribution function	117
Table A.1	– Characteristics of techniques	31
Table A.2	– Techniques and indicative characteristics	32
Table A.3	– Applicability of techniques to the ISO 31000 process	38
Table B.1	– Examples of basic guidewords and their generic meanings	51

Table B.2 – Table of deficits for each stakeholder	57
Table B.3 – Table of dissonances between stakeholders	57
Table B.4 – Example of Markov matrix	80
Table B.5 – Examples of systems to which Markov analysis can be applied	81
Table B.6 – An example of RCM task selection	101
Table B.7 – Example of a game matrix	108

Currently in preview, click buy full version

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**RISK MANAGEMENT –
RISK ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 31010 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 56: Dependability, in collaboration with ISO technical committee 262: Risk management.

It is published as a double logo standard.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- more detail is given on the process of planning, implementing, verifying and validating the use of the techniques;
- the number and range of application of the techniques has been increased;
- the concepts covered in ISO 31000 are no longer repeated in this standard.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents of IEC:

FDIS	Report on voting
56/1837/FDIS	56/1845/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table. In ISO, the standard has been approved by 44 P members out of 46 having cast a vote.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

This document provides guidance on the selection and application of various techniques that can be used to help improve the way uncertainty is taken into account and to help understand risk.

The techniques are used:

- where further understanding is required about what risk exists or about a particular risk;
- within a decision where a range of options each involving risk need to be compared or optimized;
- within a risk management process leading to actions to treat risk.

The techniques are used within the risk assessment steps of identifying, analysing and evaluating risk as described in ISO 31000, and more generally whenever there is a need to understand uncertainty and its effects.

The techniques described in this document can be used in a wide range of settings, however the majority originated in the technical domain. Some techniques are similar in concept but have different names and methodologies that reflect the history of their development in different sectors. Techniques have evolved over time and continue to evolve, and many can be used in a broad range of situations outside their original application. Techniques can be adapted, combined and applied in new ways or extended to satisfy current and future needs.

This document is an introduction to selected techniques and compares their possible applications, benefits and limitations. It also provides references to sources of more detailed information.

The potential audience for this document is:

- anyone involved in assessing or managing risk;
- people who are involved in developing guidance that sets out how risk is to be assessed in specific contexts;
- people who need to make decisions where there is uncertainty including:
 - those who commission or evaluate risk assessments,
 - those who need to understand the outcomes of assessments, and
 - those who have to choose assessment techniques to meet particular needs.

Organizations that are required to conduct risk assessments for compliance or conformance purposes would benefit from using appropriate formal and standardized risk assessment techniques.

RISK MANAGEMENT – RISK ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES

1 Scope

This International Standard provides guidance on the selection and application of techniques for assessing risk in a wide range of situations. The techniques are used to assist in making decisions where there is uncertainty, to provide information about particular risks and as part of a process for managing risk. The document provides summaries of a range of techniques, with references to other documents where the techniques are described in more detail.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO Guide 73:2009, *Risk management – Vocabulary*

ISO 31000:2018, *Risk management – Guidelines*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 31000:2018, ISO Guide 73:2009 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1

likelihood

chance of something happening

Note 1 to entry: In risk management terminology, the word "likelihood" is used to refer to the chance of something happening, whether defined, measured or determined objectively or subjectively, qualitatively or quantitatively, and described using general terms or mathematically (such as a probability or a frequency over a given time period).

Note 2 to entry: The English term "likelihood" does not have a direct equivalent in some languages; instead, the equivalent of the term "probability" is often used. However, in English, "probability" is often narrowly interpreted as a mathematical term. Therefore, in risk management terminology, "likelihood" is used with the intent that it should have the same broad interpretation as the term "probability" has in many languages other than English.

[SOURCE: ISO 31000:2018, 3.7]

3.2

opportunity

combination of circumstances expected to be favourable to objectives

Note 1 to entry: An opportunity is a positive situation in which gain is likely and over which one has a fair level of control.