AS IEC 61882:2017
IEC 61882, Ed. 2.0 (2016)

AS IEC 61882:2017

Australian STANDARD

Hazard and operability studies (HAZOP studies)—Application guide

STANDARDS Australia

This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee QR-005, Dependability. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 20 March 2017.
This Standard was published on 8 May 2017.

The following are represented on Committee QR-005:

- Asset Management Council
- Department of Defence (Australian Government)
- Engineers Australia
- Independent Transport Safety and Reliability Regulator
- Professionals Australia
- Risk Management Institution of Australasia
- The University of New South Wales
- University of Wollongong

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS/NZS IEC 61882:2017.

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Australian Standards® are living documents that reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued.

Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments that may have been published since the Standard was published.

Detailed information about Australian Standards, drafts, amendments and new projects can be found by visiting **www.standards.org.au**

Standards Australia welcomes suggestions for improvements, and encourages readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Contact us via email at **mail@standards.org.au**, or write to Standards Australia, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001.

Australian Standard®

Hazard and operability studies (HAZOP studies)—Application guide

Originated as AS IEC 61882—2003.
Second edition AS IEC 61882:2017.

Published by SAI Global Limited under licence from Standards Australia Limited, GPO Box 476, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 978 1 76035 753 5

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee QR-005, Dependability, to supersede AS IEC 61882—2003 (R2013), *Hazard and operability studies (HAZOP studies)—Application guide*.

The objective of this Standard is to provide guidance for use of a guide-word-driven risk identification method historically known as HAZOP. It gives guidance on the principles of HAZOP, applications of the technique and the HAZOP study procedure. Traditional applications for safety and operability in the process industries are covered, along with general processes and procedures.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from IEC 61882:2016, *Hazard and operability studies (HAZOP studies)—Application guide*.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

(a) In the source text 'this International Standard' should read 'this Australian Standard'.

(b) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

None of the normative references in the source document have been adopted as Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex to which it applies. An 'informative' annex is only for information and guidance.

CONTENTS

Page

INTRODUCTION

This standard describes the principles for and approach to guide word-driven risk identification. Historically this approach to risk identification has been called a hazard and operability study or HAZOP study for short. This is a structured and systematic technique for examining a defined system, with the objectives of:

- identifying risks associated with the operation and maintenance of the system. The hazards or other risk sources involved can include both those essentially relevant only to the immediate area of the system and those with a much wider sphere of influence, for example some environmental hazards;
- identifying potential operability problems with the system and in particular identifying causes of operational disturbances and production deviations likely to lead to non-conforming products.

An important benefit of HAZOP studies is that the resulting knowledge, obtained by identifying risks and operability problems in a structured and systematic manner, is of great assistance in determining appropriate remedial measures.

A characteristic feature of a HAZOP study is the examination session during which a multi-disciplinary team under the guidance of a study leader systematically examines all relevant parts of a design or system. It identifies deviations from the system design intent utilizing a set of guide words. The technique aims to stimulate the imagination of participants in a systematic way to identify risks and operability problems. A HAZOP study should be seen as an enhancement to sound design using experience-based approaches such as codes of practice rather than a substitute for such approaches.

Historically, HAZOP and similar studies were described as hazard identification as their primary purpose is to test in a systematic way whether hazards are present and, if so, understand both how they could result in adverse consequences and how such consequences could be avoided through process redesign. ISO 31000:2009 defines risk as the effect of uncertainty on objectives, with a note that an effect is a deviation from the expected. Therefore HAZOP studies, which consider deviations from the expected, their causes and their effect on objectives in the context of process design, are now correctly characterized as powerful risk identification tools.

There are many different tools and techniques available for the identification of risks, ranging from checklists, failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA) to HAZOP. Some techniques, such as checklists and what-if/analysis, can be used early in the system life cycle when little information is available, or in later phases if a less detailed analysis is needed. HAZOP studies require more detail regarding the systems under consideration, but produce more comprehensive information on risks and weaknesses in the system design.

The term HAZOP is sometimes associated, in a generic sense, with some other hazard identification techniques (e.g. checklist HAZOP, HAZOP 1 or 2, knowledge-based HAZOP). The use of the term with such techniques is considered to be inappropriate and is specifically excluded from this document.

Before commencing a HAZOP study, it should be confirmed that it is the most appropriate technique (either individually or in combination with other techniques) for the task in hand. In making this judgment, consideration should be given to the purpose of the study, the possible severity of any consequences, the appropriate level of detail, the availability of relevant data and resources and the needs of decision-makers.

This standard has been developed to provide guidance across many industries and types of system. There are more specific standards and guides within some industries, notably the process industries where the technique originated, which establish preferred methods of application for these industries. For details see the bibliography at the end of this standard.

NOTES