



Intellectual Property Rights Document

**For documents, publications, products and services of the GCC
Standardization Organization**

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1st: Introduction:

This document is an integral part of the internal regulation of the Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (Document No.: PC-19010-01), which was approved by the Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs at its first meeting (Muscat, November 14, 2019), and it identifies the powers and policies to be followed by the partners of the standardization Organization and the beneficiaries or by the member states of the standardization Organization to benefit from the documents, publications, products and services of the standardization Organization to protect its intellectual property rights, while clarifying the rights and duties of the member states of the Organization towards those publications; with the aim of ensuring that the content of these publications is correct and free from potential errors and at the same time protecting the material returns of the Standardization Organization and its members, which will have an effective impact in encouraging communication between the two parties to exchange accurate knowledge regarding providing content for the documents, publications, products and services of the Standardization Organization.

This document also demonstrates to the members and partners of the Standardization Organization, the beneficiaries of its services, and the entities that wish to work with the Standardization Organization their rights and duties upon requesting documents, publications, products and services of the Standardization Organization, which require a set of procedures and legislation that this policy identifies.

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2nd: Definitions and Terms:

The following terms, wherever used in this document, refer to the following, unless the context requires otherwise:

1. The General Secretariat: The General Secretariat of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf.
2. The Standardization Organization: The Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, and its logo is as follows:



3. The Ministerial Committee: The Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs of the GCC States.
4. The Technical Council: A council composed of heads of national standardization bodies in the GCC countries.
5. Member States: The member states of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, which are represented by the national standardization bodies, with one body for each country.
6. Gulf Standard Specification: A document approved by the Ministerial Committee that establishes, for regular and repeated use, the rules, instructions or characteristics of products, processes and related production methods, with which adherence is not mandatory, and may include or deals in particular with terms, definitions, packaging, and marking requirements. or markings that apply to products, processes, or production methods.

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7. Gulf Technical Regulation: A document approved by the Ministerial Committee that lays down the characteristics of products and related processes and methods of production, including the applicable (valid) administrative provisions that must be adhered to. They may include or specifically deals with terms, definitions, packaging, labeling or labeling requirements that apply to products, processes or production methods.
8. Technical Publications: Documents that include creative and intellectual work issued by the Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf in electronic or paper media format in Arabic or in both Arabic and English, and include: Gulf standards, Gulf technical regulations, Gulf guidelines, in addition to draft works which are issued at the different stages of preparing those documents.
9. Gulf Guideline: A document approved by the Ministerial Committee that includes information or a set of procedures on a specific topic with the aim of assisting users and implementers of Gulf standards and technical regulations in complying with the technical conditions and requirements at the Gulf level.

3rd: Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to regulate the process of printing, selling and distributing other publications of the Standardization Organization in various media formats, or delegating any of these rights to a third party without prejudice to the devolution of its ownership to the Organization, in addition to the procedures that must be taken when printing, selling or distributing the technical publications of the

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Standardization Organization and other publications for the purpose of preserving the returns of their property rights, and working to define the relationship between the parties to this document, and creating a clear vision about who owns the intellectual output, and the concerned parties are fully aware of their rights and duties towards the intellectual property rights of the Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf.

4th: Principles:

1. It does not conflict with the rules and regulations applied in the Standardization Organization, and the system of the General Secretariat.
2. It does not conflict with international treaties and agreements of which the Standardization Organization is a member.
3. Observing and respecting the intellectual property rights of other entities.
4. Seeking to take the necessary measures to protect the intellectual property rights of the Standardization Organization that are concluded.

5th: Objectives:

1. Supporting and enabling innovation and creativity based on intellectual property.
2. Promoting legislation and regulations related to the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights.
3. Protecting the intellectual property rights of the entity, its employees and customers.

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4. Avoiding unintentional infringement of the intellectual property rights of others.

6th: Scope:

1. This document encompass all areas of intellectual property, and any other related topics that fall within the intellectual property issues.
2. All parties governed by the document, such as its employees, consultants, contractors, and any related party specified by the entity.

7th: Terms and Conditions:

1. In accordance with the Berne Treaty for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works and the World Trade Organization Agreement on Intellectual Property Rights, the owner of each creative work has the right to exclusive intellectual property without the need to take certain legal measures. This applies to the artistic publications of the Standardization Organization, owing to the intellectual work they contain that emanates from the work of the technical committees, sub-committees and specialized working groups in the Standardization Organization.
2. The documents, publications, products and services of the Standardization Organization, particularly the Gulf standards/technical regulations, are one of the Standardization Organization's publications and all rights are reserved for it. They are available for copying, distribution and use free of charge by standardization bodies and government agencies in the Member States only.

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3. The Standardization Organization reserves the full right to own the documents, publications, products and services of the Standardization Organization, particularly the Gulf standards / technical regulations, and to publish or re-issue them. No individual or any other party has the right to reissue them or modify their composition or any part of their contents in any form and for any reason, and it is not permitted to copy, reproduce, publish, broadcast, or linguistically translate the material contained therein in any way, whatever the purpose of its use, without written permission from the Standardization Organization or the national standardization bodies in the Member States.
4. The Standardization Organization has the absolute right to negotiate and sign agreements or contracts for sale, distribution, marketing and translation of documents, publications, products and services of the Standardization Organization, particularly Gulf standards/technical regulations in accordance with the systems and procedures approved by the Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs.
5. The parties authorized to sell and distribute Gulf standards / technical regulations of the Standardization Organization or translated copies thereof are limited to:
 - The Standardization Organization.
 - National standardization bodies in the member states of the Standardization Organization.

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- Any third party that concludes a contract or agreement with the Standardization Organization, or Standardization Bodies in the Member States is authorized to do so.
6. The national standardization bodies of the member states are the main partner in the activities and efforts that result in the documents, publications, products and services of the Standardization Organization, particularly the Gulf standards / technical regulations of the Standardization Organization, and therefore they also share with it the responsibility of preserving and protecting the intellectual property rights of these publications, which represent one of the important sources of income for the Standardization Organization and the national standardization bodies in the member states.
 7. The national standardization bodies have the right to adopt the Gulf standard specifications / technical regulations of the Standardization Organization as national versions, and they are also entitled to retain the financial return from their sale based on the decision of the Board of Directors of the Standardization Organization in its eighth meeting (Doha, May 27, 2008), while adhering to the approved pricing and sales mechanism, it is not allowed to amend this pricing or mechanism except through the Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs.
 8. It is allowed only to the parties to participate in the process of preparing and commenting on the files of Gulf standard specifications / technical regulations or technical publications of the Standardization Organization, and it must be ensured that none of them is made available to the public free of charge

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except in exceptional cases approved by the Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs.

8th: Dispute Settlement Policy:

1. In the event of any dispute between the owner of the intellectual property right and the entity in accordance with the provisions of this document, these disputes shall be resolved amicably between the two parties, and in the event that this dispute is not settled, either party may resort to mediation or refer it to the competent judicial authority in the country of the headquarter of the Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council of the Arab States of the Gulf.
2. It is permissible to resort to arbitration if the party is permitted by law to do so, and the dispute can be settled by arbitration within the headquarter country, or through the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Arbitration Center, or as agreed upon by the parties to the dispute.

9th: Procedures:

When selling Gulf standards / technical regulations, or distributing them to government agencies, the following must be taken into account:

1. Include the phrase intellectual property rights in the footer of the cover page in both Arabic and English, or at least in the language of the document as follows:

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2. Inserting a separate page immediately after the cover page, so that it includes a text explaining the intellectual property rights and contact information of the responsible party and its procedures, and it should be in Arabic and English, or at least in the language of the document.
3. Include a footer in the file of the internal pages of the Gulf standard / technical regulation in both Arabic and English or at least in the language of the document that includes a reference to the ownership of the rights and the year of approval according to the following:
 - All rights reserved –© GSO YYYY
 - ©GSO YYYY– All rights reserved
4. Include the name of the final beneficiary, whether an individual or an establishment, in the footer of all pages, along with the reference number and date of the application.
5. The beneficiary must be reminded and alerted to the following points:
 - 5.1 He has no right to sell the file of the Gulf Standard/Technical Regulation.
 - 5.2 The Gulf standard/technical regulation in all its forms, whether paper or electronic, is the property of the Standardization Organization.
 - 5.3 No copyright removal or obliteration is allowed.
 - 5.4 The beneficiary has the right to download an electronic file of the Gulf Standard/Technical Regulation and store it on one computer for display purposes.

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- 5.5 The beneficiary has the right to print only one copy of it for personal use.
- 5.6 The beneficiary has no right to reproduce or copy the Gulf Standard/Technical Regulation document, whether electronic or paper.
- 5.7 The Beneficiary is not allowed to distribute, rent, lend or license the use of Gulf standards / technical regulations to others in any way, for example:
- Email them.
 - place them on computer networks.
 - Download them to a hard disk or CD-ROM.
 - Make them shared in any other way.
- 5.8 The beneficiary is not allowed to distribute the printed Gulf standard/technical regulation file except within the enterprise to which it is licensed.
- 5.9 Uploading the Gulf standard / technical regulation file from the electronic systems provided by the Standardization Organization or the national standardization bodies is possible after verifying the identity of the beneficiary by means of a username and password, or any other means, provided that the file is deleted from all systems and devices from which the file was downloaded except the personal device of the beneficiary.

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6. The Standardization Organization and the national standardization bodies in the Member States may organize whatever awareness campaigns or issue educational publications they deem appropriate that result in increasing the awareness of individuals and entities of the intellectual property rights related to the technical publications of the Standardization Organization to emphasize what was mentioned earlier.

10th: Final Provisions:

1. This document is regarded as a guideline document and the Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf may adopt or amend it as it deems appropriate.
2. The GCC Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf is the reference for this document.
3. In the event that the outputs of intellectual property rights result from partnerships with external parties, the limits and powers of each party must be clarified, taking into account the applicable regulations and relevant international agreements.

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