Gen2 Eurocodes: IStructE manuals in development
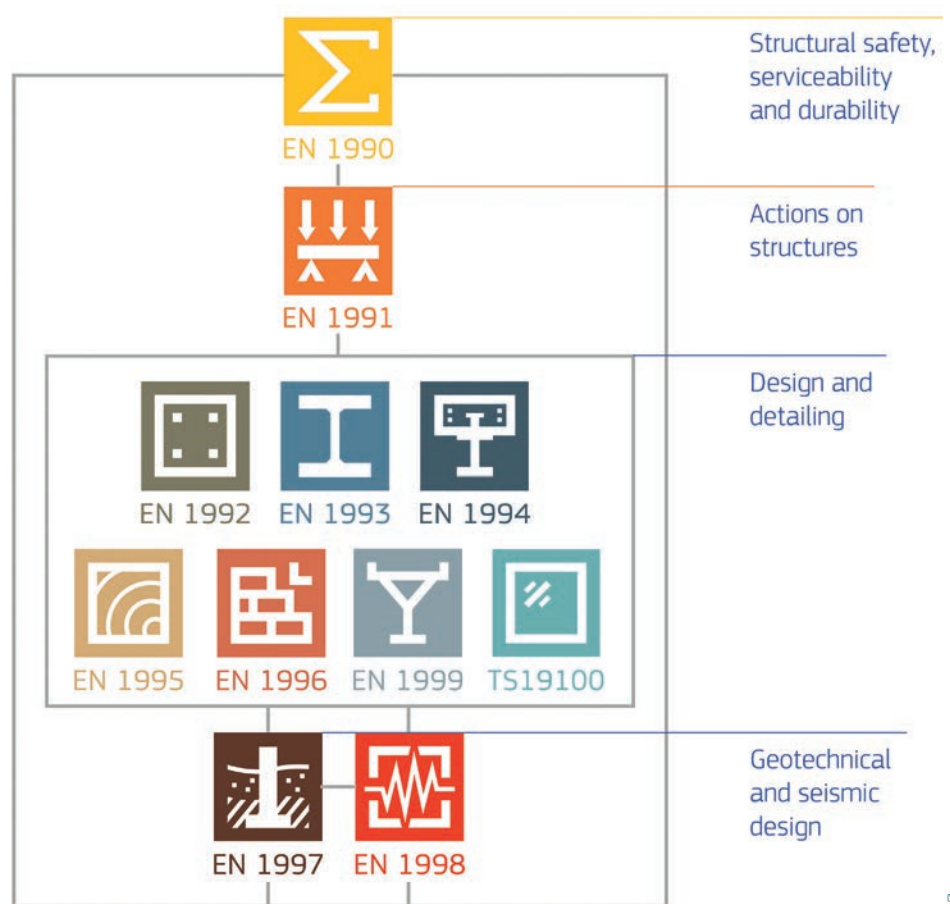
Owen Brooker, Chair of the Technical Products Panel, outlines the Institution's approach to updating its highly valued Eurocode guidance.

The IStructE has already started to prepare for the next generation of the Eurocodes (Gen2), which will become design standards to use from March 2028. The current focus of work is on updating the popular *Manuals*, which aim to provide practical implementation of the Eurocodes. The manuals were first written when limit state design principles were introduced into the British Standards. As with the current (Gen1) manuals, the next generation of manuals will make applying the most up-to-date technical standards as simple as possible for practising engineers.

The Gen2 IStructE manuals will cover all the current Eurocodes and the intention is to make them consistent so that they are as easy to use as possible. The IStructE's Technical Products Panel has set one brief for all the task groups producing the manuals to work to. This is summarised in Table 1 and is focused on aligning the requirements with IStructE objectives. Task groups are now in place for all manuals.

The new manuals will be written primarily for an audience of chartered or incorporated engineers, to act as quick reference resources. They should provide guidance on initial design and hand calculations so that computer analysis can be verified. Guidance is expected to be given on how to accurately analyse and design using computer software. It is also expected that the guidance will assist the engineer to produce sustainable designs and be accessible for international use. The latter means that while UK National Annex values will be included, they should not be embedded into equations so that values for other countries can replace them when appropriate.

At the time of writing, the intention is to dovetail the publication of the manuals with the official Gen1/Gen2 transition date (March 2028).

↗ IStructE plans to issue updated manuals covering all current Eurocodes

The manuals should cover a wide range of design situations. For unusual situations, engineers will need to refer to the Eurocodes themselves – and the IStructE is pleased to confirm that it has been able to provide all members with read-only access to a large selection of BSI standards, via the BSI Knowledge platform (www.istructe.org/bsi-knowledge), so they can easily access the latest versions of the Eurocodes and UK National Annexes.

As the transition date approaches, there will be more information and guidance published in *The Structural Engineer* and new courses will be developed for training.

Owen Brooker BEng, CEng, MICE, MIStructE, MCS is Technical Director of Structronix Ltd and Chair of the IStructE Technical Products Panel.

Table 1: Summary of drafting brief for IStructE Eurocode manuals

Requirement	Notes	Relevant IStructE objective
Easy to use	Should be presented with the user in mind. If information is contained somewhere else in the manual it should be clearly referenced.	Inclusivity, safety
Target audience	For use by chartered/incorporated engineers as a quick reference resource.	Competence
Scope	Buildings and all their structural components, but not bridges and civil engineering structures.	Safety
Applications	1) Initial design or verification of computer analysis/design – i.e. hand calculations. 2) Principles and best practice for applying to computer analysis/design.	Safety
Approach	The guidance will be on an elemental and building level.	Safety, competence
International use	Able to be used in low-income countries, where design guidance is not produced.	Inclusivity
Sustainability	Guidance to assist with sustainable design should be embedded in the document.	Sustainability
Competence	Where there are known problem areas, these should be highlighted in the manual. Any useful tips and tricks are encouraged.	Competence

HAVE YOUR SAY

@ tse@istructe.org

𝕏 @IStructE
#TheStructuralEngineer

in #TheStructuralEngineer

The Institution of StructuralEngineers

bsi Knowledge

You now have access to BSI standards through your IStructE membership

IStructE Members now have read-only access to BSI Knowledge's GBM48 (Construction in general) module – a collection of over 3,000 BSI Standards, including Eurocodes (with 2nd generation Eurocodes to be added as they are being published).

This resource can help you stay informed, enhance your work, and ensure compliance with industry standards.

How to access:

Sign into your **MyAccount** and follow this link: **istructe.org/bsi-knowledge** to access.