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The Standards Forum and Standards Actions



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Technical Standards Program Manager's Note

Hello, everyone! I am pleased to present the June 2006 Standards Actions and Standards Forum. Before I introduce the articles we have chosen for this edition, let me say a few things about the program. In the past I mentioned that Norm Schwartz is working very hard to update TSL-4, *Directory of DOE and Contractor Personnel Involved in Non-Government Standards Activities*. It's been a tedious process but one that is beginning to pay off. We are well on our way to having a revision to the existing TSL-4.

RevCom 5.1 was implemented on March 29, 2006. We didn't receive any "show-stopping" negative feedback on 5.1 during the trial period, so we decided that it was time to make the change a permanent one. I can tell you that so far we have not had any major problems with this new version. I do apologize for the intermittent trouble we continue to experience with the notifications feature. As many of you are all too aware, there are times when a notification is sent multiple times to the same recipient. We continue to work toward resolving this problem. The latest modification to RevCom is the "Concurrence Review" feature. This Technical Standards Manager (TSM)/Subject Matter Expert (SME) requested tool appears to be doing a satisfactory job of providing a final, "pre-approved", redline/strikeout version of a standard. In this manner TSMs and SMEs can see first-hand how their comments were resolved before a standard is posted as an approved document on the TSP website.



Jeff Feit

The Articles

In this edition of the publication you will find some interesting articles. Jeffrey Adkins, ASTM International Staff Manager, Committee F18, has written an article entitled, "Safety for Electrical Workers". This paper appeared recently in ASTM Standardization News. The standards developed by F18 are largely responsible for ensuring the safety of electrical workers. F18 standards are written for fire resistant clothing, rubber insulating matting, rubber gloves, climbing equipment, etc. By using F18 standards, utility workers, for example, are able to perform their jobs safely and in a timely manner to meet the needs of the public. It's a win-win situation for all!

Examples of how OMB Circular A-119 and the National Technology Transfer Act (P.L. 104-113) have been implemented to date are reprinted in an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) article entitled, "Significant Federal Laws and Policies." Organizations such as the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Food and Drug Administration have generated policy mandating the use of private sector standards in lieu of generating their own standards. It appears that the Government is taking this initiative seriously.

The American Nuclear Society (ANS) has allowed us to reprint an article entitled, "Clearance of Solid Materials from Nuclear Facilities". The article is actually a position statement. It addresses the lack of available standards dealing with the release of solid materials containing residual radioactivity. ANSI/HPS N13.12, "Surface and Volume Radioactivity Standards for Clearance", is currently the only standard available that speaks to this problem. ANS discusses the scope limitations and the restrictive nature of this standard.

This month's Technical Standards Manager Spotlight shines on Pam Butler of BWXT Pantex. Please take the time to read about a real team player from the Texas Panhandle.

I hope that you enjoy reading this edition of the Standards Forum and Standards Action. That's it until September. Have a great summer!

Safety for Electrical Workers

By Jeffrey Adkins, ASTM International Staff Manager, Committee F18

Reprinted, with permission, from ASTM Standardization News, Volume 34, Number 3, March 2006, copyright ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428.



Jeffrey Adkins is the ASTM International staff manager for Committee F18 on Electrical Protective Equipment for Workers.

Everyone from utility companies to their employees to consumers benefit when ASTM International standards from Committee F18 on Electrical Protective Equipment for Workers are used.

When you wake up in the morning, what is one of the first things you do? Turn on the lights? Or when you come home from work, do you turn on the television, listen to your phone messages, or throw something in the microwave for dinner?

These are everyday events that most people take for granted. But how are they possible? They are possible because of the hard work of public utility and electrical workers. And how are these people able to perform their jobs safely and efficiently? Most of their work is done with the application of ASTM International standards from **Committee F18** on Electrical Protective Equipment for Workers.



Electrical Workers

Committee F18 was formed in 1974 when a need was identified for standards to help protect electrical workers; it was understood that this need would best be served within the framework of the ASTM voluntary consensus standards development process. F18 standards are written by utility workers, product manufacturers, safety officers, and the laboratory technicians who test the products. The interaction of this diverse group has resulted in the development of 39 standards, with several others in various stages of development.

Committee F18's standards cover a wide variety of needs for the protection of workers in the electrical industry. There are standards for personnel protective equipment, which cover such things as rubber insulating gloves and sleeves, leather protectors, personal climbing equipment and dielectric footwear. Additionally, workers are protected by fire resistant clothing that has been manufactured to meet or exceed F18 standards. Equipment made and tested to these standards is used every day in the field by more than 100,000 utility workers and electricians.

Fire Resistant Clothing

These employees perform required maintenance on a number of types of electrical equipment. For example, workers routinely climb utility poles or towers to replace insulators or repair conductors, where they are exposed to energized wires that can carry up to 500,000 volts of electricity. During these maintenance procedures, incidents can occur that may expose workers to electric arcs, commonly referred to as flashovers. Members of F18 have seen these events happen in the field a number of times. There have been incidents where the outcome has resulted in a fatality or serious injury and, in the vast majority of these incidents, equipment and clothing governed by F18 standards were not being used.

Conversely, F18 members can also cite an accident that resulted in improved protection. In one case, an organization did not require their workers to wear FR clothing. Unfortunately, a flashover event occurred that resulted in the worker being severely burned, although he did recover.

As a result of this incident, the company reviewed its policies and revised them to include an FR clothing program requiring all of its employees to wear FR clothing. A few years after the worker was injured, one of his co-workers was performing the same type of maintenance and another flashover occurred. However, the result of this incident was dramatically different. The worker was wearing FR clothing and was spared from burns. His clothing performed as the ASTM standards indicated it would, absorbing the heat and saving the worker from serious injury.

The standards that spared this worker from injury were F 1506, Performance Specification for Flame Resistant Textile Materials for Wearing Apparel for Use by Electrical Workers Exposed to Momentary Electric Arc and Related Thermal Hazards; **F 1958/F 1958M**,

Test Method for Determining the Ignitability of Non-Flame-Resistance Materials for Clothing by Electric Arc Exposure Method Using Mannequins; and F 1959/F 1959M, Test Method for Determining the Arc Thermal Performance Value of Materials for Clothing. The standard for rubber gloves, D 120, Specification for Rubber Insulating Gloves, a worker's first line of defense from exposure, was also instrumental in preventing harm to the worker in this example.

Equipment

Committee F18 also develops standards for the equipment that electrical workers use on a daily basis. These standards range from rubber insulating matting to test methods for the acoustic emission of aerial personnel devices.

Another real-world example where ASTM standards were used to prevent injury comes from a utility's work in installing power to a new apartment building. In this case, an electrical contractor had prepared the building for routine connection from the utility.

The day began as any other day. The overhead construction crew line was set to supply new electric service to the building. In doing so, they used a lift to get to the top of the utility pole where the connection was to be made. The crew needed to make three connections. The first two connections were made without incident. However, when the third connection was made, the transformer started to rumble and instantaneously a flash occurred at the top of the pole, engulfing the worker. Fortunately, the worker was wearing equipment manufactured to F18 standards and he escaped injury.

After a formal review of the incident it was discovered that wires had been crossed by the electrical contractor. Further review showed that the worker was spared injury because the crew prepared for and carried out the work in a process that was covered by 11 F18 standards. These included the FR clothing and rubber glove standards previously mentioned, as well as F 914, Test Method for Acoustic Emission for Insulated Aerial Personnel Devices; F 887, Specification for Personal Climbing Equipment; and F 2178, Test Method for Determining the Arc Rating of Face Protective Products.

Public Welfare

F18 standards not only protect utility workers from injury, but they also protect the needs and interests of the general public. When severe weather hits, consumers are often faced with a break in service, and this is unacceptable to the utilities providing the service. Therefore the utilities make every effort during these interruptions to restore power. This includes repairing damaged lines in hazardous conditions. One would think that working in these conditions would expose the worker to greater risk of injury, yet there are very few inclement weather incidents of injury.

While this seems counterintuitive, the primary reason for the utilities' excellent safety record in these working conditions is because they are aware of the risk and take the appropriate safety measures to ensure that the worker is protected. These measures include utilizing F18 standards, such as F 1891, Standard Specification for Arc and Flame Resistant Rainwear; F 2321, Specification for Flexible Insulated Temporary By-Pass Jumpers; F 1742, Specification for PVC Insulating Sheeting; F 1825, Specification for Fixed Length Clampstick Type Live Line Tools; F 887, Specification for Personal Climbing Equipment; and F 117, Specification for Dielectric Overshoe Footwear.

The general public and utility workers benefit from the standards developed in Committee F18 in a number of ways. If power is interrupted, the protected utility workers work in a safe environment in order to restore the service as expeditiously as possible. Consumers benefit from their efforts. Utility workers, utility companies, or electricians using the F18 standards are protecting themselves or their employees from injury. The main goal of all involved is safety, resulting in lives saved. //

Significant Federal Laws and Policies

Reprinted with permission from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). This information appears in its original format on ANSI's Government Affairs webpage under Significant Laws and Policies (<http://www.ansi.org/government>) <<http://www.ansi.org/government>> .

In recent years, Congress has responded to a growing need to strengthen **OMB Circular A-119** and has passed several laws making it clear that federal agencies rely upon private voluntary standards whenever feasible.

Foremost among these laws is the **National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (Public Law 104-113)**. Signed into law in early 1996, this landmark legislation contains the following key provisions pertaining to standards and conformity Assessment:

All Federal agencies and departments shall use technical standards that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies, using such technical standards as a means to carry out policy objectives or activities determined by the agencies and departments;

Federal agencies and departments shall consult with voluntary, private sector, consensus standards bodies and shall, when such participation is in the public interest and is compatible with agency and departmental missions, authorities, priorities, and budget resources, participate with such bodies in the development of technical standards;

Exception - If compliance is inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical, a Federal agency or department may elect to use technical standards that are not developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies if the head of each such agency or department transmits to the Office of Management and Budget an explanation of the reasons for using such standards. Each year, beginning with fiscal year 1997, the Office of Management and Budget shall transmit to Congress and its committees a report summarizing all explanations received in the preceding year under this paragraph.

This legislation is having a dramatic impact upon the way federal agencies do business in the standardization area. NIST has its **Implementation Plan** available on the NIST website.

Other laws and policies that reinforce the strong public-private partnership approach to standards and conformity assessment in specific sectors or areas of interest include the following:

Standards Development Organization Advancement Act of 2004 (H.R. 1086)

HR 1086 provides qualified standards developers with an opportunity to file for, and obtain, a limited exclusion from antitrust liability for treble damages. This protection is identical to the protection which has been available to joint venturers under the National Cooperative Research and Production Act since 1993, which also remains available to those utilizing a consortium, or other informal process to develop standards.

As a large number of ANSI-accredited SDOs were raising questions about the impact of H.R. 1086 on their standardization activities, a list of FAQs were developed by ANSI staff following conversations with House and Senate staff, and with some of those people working with the Department of Justice on implementation issues.

Download a pdf version of the FAQ document here.

The Consumer Product Safety Act.

Under the Consumer Product Safety Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission is specifically to rely upon voluntary consensus consumer product safety standards rather than promulgate its own standards. The relevant portion of the law is set forth below:

"...The Commission shall rely upon voluntary consumer product safety standards rather than promulgate a consumer product safety standard prescribing requirements described in Subsection (a) whenever compliance with such voluntary standards would eliminate or adequately reduce the risk of injury addressed and it is likely that there will be substantial compliance with such voluntary standards." (Source: Section 7(b)(1) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 USC 2056; PL 92-573; 86 Stat. 1207, Oct. 27, 1972, as amended in 1981.)

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1995.

This Act requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to adopt standards developed by ANSI-accredited standards developers whenever possible.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The first major overhaul of U.S. telecommunications law in almost 62 years, the act contains several provisions that propel the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) toward reliance upon private sector standards. In particular, the FCC is seeking to ensure that the standards development process in the telecommunications area is open and consensus-based - the very things provided for by ANSI accreditation requirements.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Modernization Act of 1997.

This act contains provisions which allow the FDA in some instances to accept manufacturers' declarations of compliance to certain standards during the evaluation of premarket submissions for electrical medical devices. This is expected to result in a substantial reduction of time-to-market for some medical devices, while still ensuring that fundamental regulatory health and safety responsibilities are met.

Milspec Reform.

In 1994, Secretary of Defense William Perry announced that one of the Department of Defense's (DoD's) top priorities would be to move away from military-unique specifications and standards (milspecs) and toward reliance upon private sector standards. "Moving to greater use of performance and commercial specifications and standards is one of the most important actions that DoD

must take to ensure we are able to meet our military, economic, and policy objectives in the future," Perry said. The so-called "Perry initiative" is transforming the way the Defense Department does business.

Federal, state and local governments and agencies have formally adopted thousands of voluntary standards produced by the ANSI Federation, and the process appears to be accelerating. As an example, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) works closely with ANSI and its accredited standards developers, referencing over 200 of the 800 existing American National Standards for safety and health.

In addition, there are several examples of federal laws that specifically cite the American National Standards Institute (ANSI):

The Higher Education Programs Authorization Extension Bill (P.L. 105-244)

This bill, signed in 1998, extended for an additional five years the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, which is the basic framework for federal policies in higher education including massive federal programs of student financial assistance. The bill also retained other current programs, providing some modest new initiatives, lowering borrowing costs to students and authorizing small improvements in program funding.

The Compactors and Balers Safety Standard Modernization Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-174)

This act amended section 13(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, modifying Hazardous Occupations Order (HO) No. 12. The amendment changes HO 12 to authorize minors 16 years of age and older, under the child labor provisions, to load materials into balers and compactors that meet appropriate American National Standards Institute design safety standards.

The Safe Water Drinking Act Amendment (P.L. 104-182)

This amendment, signed in 1996, revised title XIV of the Public Health Service Act of 1974, and focused on establishing a new groundwater protection program, abolishing unnecessary testing and monitoring requirements, and establishing a new procedure for identifying contaminants for regulation. The reauthorization process also provided Congress a vehicle to examine drinking water treatment and supply infrastructure needs

- [A Strong Private-Public Partnership;](#)
- [Significant Federal Laws and Policies;](#)
- [ANSI's Current and Ongoing Government Relations Initiatives.](#)

Clearance of Solid Materials from Nuclear Facilities

Position Statement, March 2003

Reprinted with permission from The American Nuclear Society, Outreach and Volunteer Development, 555 N. Kensington Avenue, La Grange Park, IL 60526. Outreach Program (708) 352-6611; Federal Affairs (202) 312-7482.

The issue of release of solid materials from nuclear sites has been around for several decades. "Clearance", the term currently used in the nuclear industry, is defined to be an unconditional release of such materials. While standards have existed at the Federal level for the release of liquids and gases, no such standards are in place for the release of solid materials that may have residual radioactivity associated with them. This regulatory void has meant substantial additional costs in terms of the management of such materials, especially for the decommissioning of nuclear facilities where large quantities are stored. Most naturally occurring or man-made solid materials and artifacts contain some amount of radioactivity. Therefore, the American Nuclear Society holds that absolutely prohibiting the release of all solid materials that manifest a small amount of radioactivity is not reasonable, and the unrestricted release of materials with slight levels of radioactivity can be accomplished with negligible or no risk to the public health and safety.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) initiated a rulemaking effort on this issue in August 1999 with the publication of an Issues Paper (Federal Register, June 30, 1999, Vol. 64, No. 125, 35090-35100) and has undertaken a series of activities and steps in that process. The recommendations from a study of the clearance issue by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) were published in March 2002. The latest developments in this area is the direction issued to the staff on October 25, 2002, to proceed with the rulemaking effort and the issuance of request for comments on February 28, 2003 (Federal Register, February 28, 2003, Vol. 68, No. 40, 9595-9602). The Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have also undertaken initiatives in this area during the past few years. In parallel, professional societies and other industry groups have worked on the issue for many years. The work done for many years under the Standards Committee of the Health Physics Society

(HPS) culminated in August 1999 with the publication of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard ANSI/HPS N13.12, "Surface and Volume Radioactivity Standards for Clearance." The American Nuclear Society (ANS) supports the adoption of the ANSI/HPS N13.12 standard by Federal agencies dealing with the issues of the release of solid materials potentially containing traces of radioactive materials.

The ANSI/HPS N13.12 is currently the only national consensus standard that addresses the safe release of solid materials with trace levels of radioactive materials. It should be noted that the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 requires Federal agencies to use technical standards that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus bodies, unless the use of such a standard is inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise is impractical.

The ANSI/HPS N13.12 dose criterion of 10 $\mu\text{Sv}/\text{year}$ (1 millirem/year) for the release of solid materials is a small fraction of the existing standards for safe exposure of the public from non-medical radiation sources. The current public dose limit for dose from all man-made radiation sources (except nuclear medicine) used by the NRC (10 CFR Part 20), the DOE (10 CFR Part 835 and DOE Order 5400.5), and proposed as Federal Guidance by the EPA (Federal Register, December 23, 1995, Vol.59, 66414) is 100 millirem/year. The dose limit for NRC license termination for a nuclear power reactor site is 25 millirem/year (10CFR Part 20.1402). And the threshold for additional efforts under the ALARA rule (10CFR Part 50, Appendix I) is an external dose of 5 millirem/year from gaseous effluents to an unrestricted individual.

It should be clear that the ANS support of ANSI/HPS N13.12 is specific to the criteria applied to control the release of solid materials. It is in no way meant to question the safe regulatory dose limit of 100 millirem/year for a member of the public or to contradict the Society's earlier stated position that the risk of health effects from exposures below 10 rem are either too small to be observed or are non-existent.

From an operational health physics perspective, the standard is workable and represents an improvement over the 1974 surface contamination guidelines that were published by the then Atomic Energy Commission (now NRC), as Regulatory Guide 1.86, and which continue to be in use. These guidelines are being used by NRC nuclear materials licensees; for the reactor licensees, the approach used by the NRC is that any releases must be non-detectable with NRC providing guidance on "how hard to look". The guidelines are also still being used by the DOE (in DOE Order 5400.5, Chapter IV, Figure 4.1, 1993).

The Society is aware of the limitations of the ANSI/HPS N13.12 standard as far as the scope of application is concerned and as far as the conservative or upper bound assumptions are concerned. The Society also recognizes that application of the standard leads to numerical release criteria for radioactive materials controlled under the Atomic Energy Act that are orders of magnitude more restrictive than the Naturally Occurring (and Technologically Enhanced) Radioactive Material (NORM/TENORM). However, the ANS believes that ANSI/HPS N13.12 provides a basis for achieving consensus among all stakeholders and defining a timely regulatory policy at the Federal level for the clearance of solid materials.

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The American Nuclear Society, founded in 1954, is a not-for-profit scientific and educational society of over 11,000 scientists, engineers, and educators from universities, government and private laboratories, and industry.

Position Statements are the considered opinions and judgments of the Society in matters related to nuclear science and Technology. They are intended to provide an objective basis for weighing the facts in reaching decisions on important national issues.



Technical Standards Manager Spotlight

Pam Butler, BWXT Pantex Technical Standards Manager/Amarillo, Texas

Pam Butler of BWXT Pantex is a native of the Texas Panhandle and currently lives in Amarillo, Texas. She has worked at the Pantex Site for over thirty-seven years. She attended Wayland Baptist University where she obtained a Bachelor's Science of

Business Occupational Education with a specialization in Quality Engineering. Pam holds a Master's of Science Degree in Engineering Technology from West Texas A&M University.

Pam has experience in quality performance, monitoring, and improvements; compliance/requirements management; six-sigma analysis, project management and engineering activities. She has held a number of positions at Pantex. She has worked in Quality Documents and Records, Quality Systems, Quality Engineering, and Compliance Management. Pam is currently the Quality Policy Department Manager. The department maintains the Quality Performance Assurance Description, Quality Assurance Improvement Plan, and the requirements management system. The department also establishes the quality policies for BWXT Pantex.

Since coming to Pantex, Pam has been directly involved in the establishment of several major initiatives. She worked on the implementation of Requirements Management System, Integrated Safety Management, Environmental Management System and developed the implementing program description documents for these activities. She worked directly in developing the Standards/Requirements Identification Documents (S/RIDs) and coordinates the maintenance of those documents. Contractual requirements are continually changing; therefore, Pam is working on a new project that will be an automated application to track contractual requirements into implementing documents to assure incorporation of new/revised requirements.

When Kathy Brack, BWXT Pantex' former Technical Standards Manager (TSM), decided to pursue other responsibilities in 2002, Pam was excited about the opportunity to assume the responsibilities of the position. She noted that she enjoys the opportunity to learn about the Technical Standards Program and recognizes the level of responsibility in actively participating in the standards development process by the TSM and subject matter experts. She coordinates continued senior management support for the Technical Standards Program. This is important in the era of reduced budgets, downsizing, outsourcing, and the changing roles of the contractors.

Pam has appreciated the efforts extended on improving the REVCOM software. This application has made the review and comment process more efficient and user-friendly.

On a personal note, Pam is involved with a number of civic and charitable activities. She works with fundraising activities that support the Texas Elks State Association Children's Services Center. In her spare time she enjoys traveling to civil war historical sites, taking cruises and playing with her grandchildren.

Pam is looking forward to continuing to work with the Technical Standards Program Staff and with other TSMs in accomplishing future goals and objectives of the program. One of Pam's strength is always learning new information. She has learned much over the last four years from the program and looks forward to learning more.



Pam Butler

Topical Committee Developments

Joint EFCOG/ DOE Chemical Management Workshop

by Bill McArthur, Office of Worker Protection Policy and Programs

Continuing its long tradition, the Chemical Safety Topical Committee (CSTC) held its Eighth Annual Joint Energy Federal Contractors Group (EFCOG)/Department of Energy (DOE) Chemical Management Workshop, March 14-16, 2006, in the DOE Forrestal Building's main auditorium. This year's theme, "Advancing Chemical Safety in the 21st Century" focused on current developments in the management of chemical-related hazards and technologies both in government and industrial facilities. The Workshop attracted over 220 participants, either in person or by telecast from sixteen sites throughout the DOE complex. Three special guests opened the workshop: Mr. Russell Shearer, DOE Acting Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health; Mr. David Amerine, Senior Vice President for Parsons Corporation and EFCOG Chairman; and Dr. Joseph Bader of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. Mr. Shearer provided the DOE Corporate welcome and emphasized the need to be vigilant in implementing Integrated Safety Management (ISM), applying the same considerations to both chemical and nuclear safety and to look at chemical management throughout the life cycle process of a facility. Mr. Amerine provided the EFCOG Sponsor's corporate welcome. He explained EFCOG's mission to promote cooperation between government and industry in achieving excellence in chemical management and to find and promote best practices to improve chemical safety. Dr. Bader spoke about the need to include chemical safety as well as nuclear safety in the implementation of ISM and noted that chemical safety often overlaps with nuclear safety and that many chemical incidents have radiological implications.



M. Norman Schwartz

Twenty-eight speakers from the Federal and private sectors offered insight into the management of toxic chemicals in both an industrial and research setting during the almost three days of presentations and training. Agencies with a role in managing chemical hazards and risks that participated in the Workshop included: the U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration; the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board; the U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

Highlights of the Workshop included; use of control banding, globally harmonized material safety data sheets for chemical hazards, the value of near misses in risk-based decision making, the latest practices for chemical reactivity management, current work on beryllium safety, and a presentation of the elements of recently promulgated statute 10 CFR 851 that codifies existing safety and health requirements within DOE. Speakers presented methodologies and tools for managing chemical hazards as well as program accomplishments, best practices, and lessons learned. Participants left the Workshop with a better understanding of how to address their own chemical hazards and risks. They were also kept current with the state of nanotechnology and the environmental, health, and safety implications of this emerging field.

In addition to presentations and new project identification, the workshop featured progress and summary reports on the following three CSTC projects that began in the previous year:

- Update and maintenance of Volume 1 of the DOE Chemical Management Handbook (under final review);
- Development of a new Volume 2 of the Handbook. The new Volume 2, *Chemical Safety and Life-cycle Management*, replaces the first edition, which described chemical management programs as practiced at various DOE sites, with a comprehensive overall guide for chemical management (document under edit review); and
- Management guide for reactive and incompatible chemicals (on-going).

Two new projects were identified during open discussion. Teams of DOE and EFCOG volunteers were formed to address the new projects. Teams selected chairpersons. The projects will be supported by DOE Headquarters representatives from EH-52's Chemical Safety Group.

Participation in any of these projects is encouraged, requiring only that volunteers have a role in some aspect of the management and oversight of chemical safety programs at a DOE facility. The new and carryover CSTC projects identified for 2006 and the contact persons are:

- Nanotechnology safety (new).
J.C. Laul – (505-665-9791), jclaul@lanl.gov
- Chemical safety oversight criteria (new).
Steven Jahn – (803-952-9650), steven.jahn@srs.org
- Management guide for reactive and incompatible chemicals.
Helena Whyte – (505-667-2854), helenaw@lanl.gov
- Update and maintenance of Volume 3 of the DOE Chemical Management Handbook and other chemical safety documents.
Dave Quigley – (865-576-6920), quigleydr@doe.gov

Additional information on the workshop is found on http://www.eh.doe.gov/chem_safety/workshop/ChemManWkshops.html. For general information about the chemical management initiative go to the EH web site at http://www.eh.doe.gov/chem_safety/. CD's of the workshop presentations and DVDs of the entire Workshop are available on request. Requests should be submitted to Donna.Jiggetts@eh.doe.gov. Participation on any of the above projects can be arranged by contacting Ron Eimer at ron.eimer@eh.doe.gov.

From the ANSI Web site

By Donald L. Williams Jr., Oak Ridge National Laboratory(ORNL), Oak Ridge, TN

1. ANSI and NIST Issue Preliminary Program for Options for Action Summit

The **American National Standards Institute (ANSI)** and the **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)** have issued a preliminary program for the "Options for Action Summit." The event, which will be held on July 18-19, 2006, at the NIST headquarters in Gaithersburg, Maryland, will bring together leaders from industry and the standards developing community, government agencies, and academia to identify key standards-related actions that can help to advance U.S. competitiveness in the global marketplace. The summit will:

- Identify common principles of the recently published United States Standards Strategy, the Secretary of Commerce's Standards and Competitiveness initiative, and the National Export Strategy,

- Highlight perspectives from the international community on how U.S. standards-setting and technical assistance activities are perceived globally,
- Compare and contrast the outreach and technical assistance efforts of other nations with those being undertaken by U.S. private sector interests, the Executive and Legislative Branches of government, and donor agencies, and
- Identify outreach efforts by U.S. interests in the Asia-Pacific and other regions of the world.

The event will also focus on defining actions to ensure effective representation of U.S. technology interests in international standardization. Breakout sessions will provide further exploration of issues specific to particular sectors. Outcomes of the two-day forum are expected to include recommended actions, strategies, and plans for implementation.

High-level representatives from government, a wide range of industry sectors, and the standards development community are invited to attend. Pricing and registration details will be announced soon. Anyone interested in this meeting can obtain additional information on the agenda at the Web link below:

http://www.ansi.org/meetings_events/events/summit_program.aspx?menuid=8

If you have any questions about this article, please contact Don Williams, ORNL, at (865) 574-8710, williamsdljr@ornl.gov.

2. Theme Announced for U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day 2006 Paper Competition

In the U.S., World Standards Day is a joint effort between the private and public sector. This year's World Standards Day is Wednesday, October 11, 2006. Events are coordinated and funded by the World Standards Day Committee, consisting of representatives from more than 50 major companies, professional and technical societies, trade associations, standards developing organizations and government agencies. The co-chairs of the World Standards Day Committee are the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

The U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day Planning Committee has issued a call for entries for its annual paper competition. Due by September 1, 2006, papers shall be original, unpublished works between 2,500 and 4,500 words in length and address this year's theme, "Standards Build Partnerships."

According to a press release issued by the Standards Engineering Society, administrator of the annual paper competition, "The subject of this year's competition is of interest to just about everyone in the standardization community."

The announcement continues by stating: "The standards system in the United States is complex, decentralized, and based on effective collaboration between the private and public sectors, between standards users and standards developers, and between consumers and industry. Specifically, standards build partnerships between buyers and sellers (facilitating communication and market expansion), the public and private sectors (bringing together industries and their regulators), consumers and industry (allowing consumers a say in health and safety issues), as well as among nations (by fostering trade)."

Papers will be reviewed by a panel of independent judges selected by SES and approved by the 2006 World Standards Day Planning Committee. Cash prizes will be awarded for the best three papers submitted. The first place winner will receive \$2,500 and a commemorative plaque. Second and third place winners will receive \$1,000 and \$500, respectively, along with a certificate. In addition, the winning papers will be published in SES's journal, Standards Engineering, with the first place winner also appearing as a special article in a publication of the American National Standards Institute.

The winners will receive their awards at a special ceremony during the World Standards Day exhibition, reception and dinner on October 11th at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

Open exclusively to U.S.-based organizations and individuals, the competition provides a means by which every entrant can help educate industry and government leaders to the importance of standards, and foster meaningful communication within the standards community.

All submissions must be received with an official entry form by midnight September 1, 2006 by the SES Executive Director, at the following address:

2006 WSD Paper Competition
13340 SW 96th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33176

For rules and other information, please visit the SES website (www.ses-standards.org/).

For rules and other information, please visit the SES website (www.ses-standards.org/). If you have any questions about this article, please contact Don Williams, ORNL, at (865) 574-8710, williamsdljr@ornl.gov.

Don't Get "Board" With Standards!

By Don Williams Jr., Oakridge National Laboratory(ORNL), Oak Ridge, TN

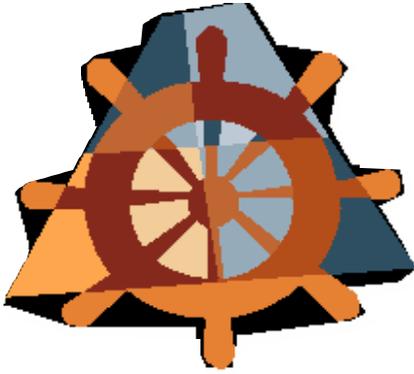
Many individuals find working with technical standards and standardization issues to be rather mundane and, overall, a not-so-glamorous job. True, the work is tedious and painstaking at times. However, I would recommend that you view any work you have in progress that involves preparing or maintaining technical standards not just by the work itself. Instead, consider it from the position of an influential group that is keenly interested in the ability of technical standards to contribute to safe DOE nuclear facility operations – the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB).

Those of you familiar with the purpose of the DNFSB and their work know that the use of technical standards in the DOE defense nuclear complex is one of the Board's specific areas of interest. It is not unusual to find a reference to the application of a standard or a commitment to use or update a standard in correspondence exchanged between DOE and DNFSB. For example, a casual review of such correspondence (posted on the Web site for the Departmental Representative to the DNFSB, <http://www.deprep.org/>) during the first quarter of CY 2006 (January 1 – March 31, 2006) identified the following subject matter related to DOE technical standards and, in general, the proper use of standards.

- January 6, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Tooper) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) committing to revise DOE technical standards for HEPA filter testing by December 2006.
- January 6, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Tooper) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) committing to revise several directives (including DOE-STD-3009 and DOE-STD-1104) to address software quality assurance issues.
- January 17, 2006 – Memorandum from DNFSB (Eggenberger) to DOE (Rispoli) commenting (from observations during a field review) on the use of DOE-STD-1027 and DOE-STD-1098.
- January 20, 2006 – Memorandum from DNFSB (Eggenberger) to DOE (Bodman) providing the following comments: "Identification of safety standards and requirements appears to be working at the institutional (site office and contractor) and facility levels. However, national engineering safety standards need to be applied more formally and effectively at the activity level. Use of standards can be especially valuable when planning and designing R&D processes involving hazardous operations."
- January 23, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Shaw) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) providing draft guidance on risk assessment methodologies.
- January 26, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Bodman) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) committing to revise DOE technical standard DOE-STD-3016 by May 2006.
- January 27, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Black) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) committing to the use of DOE technical standards DOE-STD-1186 and DOE-STD-3009 to address issues related to Recommendation 2002-3.
- January 30, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Stark) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) providing draft guidance on nuclear material repackaging prioritization methodologies.
- February 2, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Black) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) providing new guidance for evaluation of safety-related and non-safety-related ventilation systems.
- February 8, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Crandall) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) discussing (as part of the annual criticality safety report) a need to complete a major revision to DOE-STD-3007.
- February 28, 2006 – Memorandum from DNFSB (Eggenberger) to DOE/NNSA (Brooks) citing the use of DOE-STD-3009 and DOE-HDBK-3014 in the development of facility safety documentation.
- March 16, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (D'Agostino) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) committing to revise DOE-STD-1063 by April 30, 2006.
- March 27, 2006 – Memorandum from DNFSB (Eggenberger) to DOE/NNSA (Brooks) citing DOE-STD-1066 and DOE-STD-3009 as sources of information for facility safety analyses.
- March 29, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Black) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) providing a new change notice for DOE-STD-3009.
- March 30, 2006 – Memorandum from DOE (Shearer) to DNFSB (Eggenberger) providing approved guidance on nuclear material repackaging prioritization methodologies.

I think everyone in the TSP community should take from this cursory review the feeling that there are people in places of influence that are very interested in your work. As such, our best efforts are needed every day to keep pace with the priorities and expectations of those to whom we report.

If you have any questions about this article, please contact Don Williams, ORNL, at (865) 574-8710, williamsdljr@ornl.gov.



Welcome Aboard the TSMC!

(By M. Norman. Schwartz, Office of Nuclear & Facility Safety Policy)

The **T**echnical **S**tandards **M**anagers (TSMs) are the backbone of the DOE Technical Standards Program! These knowledgeable individuals serve as their organization's standards point of contact and contribute to the coordination of Department-wide TSP activities. A great deal of their work time is spent in assuring that standards activities take place in a manner that will promote safe, economical, and efficient operations locally and across the DOE complex.

With nearly 90 active and mobile people involved in TSM activities, it can be a daunting task just to keep up with the retirements and reassignments affecting the TSM roster. This "Welcome Aboard" feature is designed to introduce you to the new TSMs and help you keep abreast of the rapidly changing make-up of the Technical Standards Managers' Committee (TSMC).

The following is the recent change in the membership list:

Melvin L. Boyd (Replaces Robert (Bob) W. Everson as TSM)
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Performance Assurance
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Cecilia S. Brown (Replaces Frederic March as TSM)
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E-mail: csbrown@sandia.gov

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10280 Rock Springs Road
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Fax: 716-942-4703
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Roxanne E. Purucker (Replaces James A. Buchar as TSM)
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STANDARDS ACTIONS

1.0 DOE STANDARDS ACTIONS

The complete list of all DOE Technical Standards projects and their status is available on the Technical Standards Program (TSP) web page at <http://www.eh.doe.gov/techstds/>. To access these standards, go to our web page, click on "DOE Technical Standards," then choose Projects, Approved Standards, Recently Approved Standards, or Drafts for Review, as appropriate, on the left frame of the page.

1.1 New Projects and DOE Technical Standards in Revision

No entries were received in May 2006.

1.2 DOE Technical Standards Posted in RevCom for TSP

Your Technical Standards Manager (TSM) will initiate requests for specific reviewers to comment on these drafts. The list of TSMs can be found at:

<http://www.eh.doe.gov/techstds/contact/stdmgrs.html>. **The full text of these documents are available for comment at RevCom for TSP (<http://standards.doe.gov/login.jsp>) accessed from the TSP website.**

No entries were received in May 2006.

1.3 DOE Technical Standards in Reaffirmation

No entries were received in May 2006.

1.4 DOE Technical Standards Change Notices

The following entry was received in May 2006:

- *Radiological Control Programs for Special Tritium Compounds (Change Notice 1), May 11, 2006;* DOE-HDBK-1184-2004, OCSH-0002

1.5 DOE Technical Standards Published

The following entries were received in May 2006:

- *Accident Analysis for Aircraft Crash into Hazardous Facilities, May 02, 2006;* DOE-STD-3014-96, SAFT-0030
- *Chemical Management Handbook, Volume 1, May 31, 2006;* DOE-HDBK-1139-2006, SAFT-0104
- *Hazard Analysis Reports for Nuclear Explosive Operations, May 15, 2006;* DOE-NA-STD-3016, SAFT-0107

2.0 NON-GOVERNMENT STANDARDS ACTIONS

2.1 American National Standards Institute

American National Standards Institute (ANSI) publishes coordination activities of non-Government standards (NGS) weekly in ANSI Standards Action. Recent electronic copies are available on the ANSI Web Site at

http://www.ansi.org/news_publications/periodicals/standards_action/standards_action.aspx?menuid=7.

Refer to ANSI Standards Action for the complete list of

changes and new publications, standards developing organizations, and information about submitting comments.

Electronic delivery of selected documents is available through ANSI at:

<http://webstore.ansi.org/ansidocstore/default.asp>.

ANSI also lists standards actions on new and revised American National Standards and International Standards Organization (ISO) Standards.

2.2 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

ASME lists recently published standards on the ASME web site at: <http://catalog.asme.org/home.cfm?Category=CS>. Refer to the ASME web site for the complete list of changes and new publications, standards developing organizations, and information about submitting comments.

ASME maintains monthly updates of drafted new standards as well as revised drafts of current standards, to meet new requirements at: <http://cstools.asme.org/csconnect/PublicReviewpage.cfm>.

A respective "Comment Period End Date" follows each listed document.

2.3 ASTM International

The listing of approved ASTM standards actions during May 2006 is accessible at http://www.astm.org/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/SNEWS/MAY2006/acta_may06.html?E+mystore. Refer to the ASTM web site for the complete list of new publications.

2.4 American Nuclear Society (ANS)

The ANS "What's New" web page at <http://www.ans.org/standards/new/> lists recently initiated projects, as well as ANS standards approved in recent years.

2.5 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

The May 2006 NFPA News lists NFPA standards available for comment, newly proposed standards, newly issued standards, and the call for members on committees. View it at: <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/NFPA%20News/nfpanews0506.pdf>.



THE STANDARDS FORUM & STANDARDS ACTIONS

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Standards Actions and *The Standards Forum and Standards Actions* are electronic newsletters available on the TSP web site (<http://tis.eh.doe.gov/techstds/>). To update your mailing list and/or e-mail addresses, please email us at TechStdPgm@eh.doe.gov or call Norm Schwartz at 301-903-2996.

Questions or Comments: If you have any questions or comments, please contact Jeff Feit, EH-22, Manager, DOE Technical Standards Program Office (TSPO), Phone: 301-903-0471, Fax: 301-903-6172, e-mail: Jeffrey.feit@eh.doe.gov