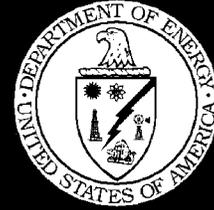


# The Standards

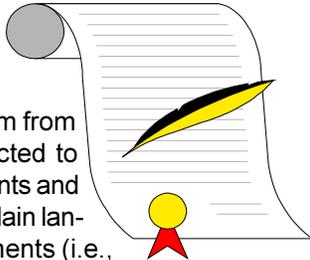


# Forum

Volume 6 - Number 4 - March 1999

News on the DOE Technical Standards Program

## Plain Language in Government Writing



On June 1, 1998, a memorandum from the White House that was directed to the heads of executive departments and agencies mandated the use of "plain language" in all government documents (i.e., this includes DOE technical standards). The plain language requirement was to be applied to all new documents, other than regulations, published after October 1, 1998. By January 1, 2002, all documents created prior to October 1, 1998 must also be in plain language.

Rick Serbu and Debra James, Office of Nuclear Safety Policy and Standards (EH-31), have put together a presentation that promotes the use of plain language within the Department of Energy. The presentation addresses five relevant questions on the subject:

- (1) What is "Plain Language"?
- (2) Why Are We Using Plain Language?
- (3) What Are You Expected to Do?
- (4) Is There Information with Examples?
- (5) What are the Principles of Clear Writing?

The expectations for implementing plain language are covered in some detail, and 22 different principles of clear writing are listed. Just a few of the many suggestions in the presentation include writing in the active voice, the use of action verbs, the use of "must" instead of "shall," the use of the present tense, the use of positive writing style, and the use of short sentences. Several recent examples of the application of plain language in government documents are cited. In addition, sources of further information are given, including some on the Internet:

- (1) Plain Language Tools - <http://www.nara.gov/fedreg/plainlan.html#top>
- (2) National Partnership for Reinventing Government - <http://plainlanguage.gov/>
- (3) The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) resources - <http://www.nara.gov/fedreg/index.html#top>.

For more information on this presentation, contact Rick Serbu, 301-903-2856, [Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov).

## INPUT SOLICITED FOR CY 1999 TSP ACTIVITIES

If you use technical standards (international, national, Federal, or DOE) or participate in the development or review of technical standards, we need your input!



The Technical Standards Project Office (TSPO) is in the process of preparing the 1999 editions of the *Department of Energy Standards Index*, DOE-TSL-1; the *Directory of DOE and Contractor Employees Involved in Non-Government Standards Activities*, DOE-TSL-4, and the Technical Standards Program Procedures (TSPPs). In addition, we are commencing efforts to organize another Federal Technical Standards Workshop in May 2000. In a January 20, 1999 memorandum, Rick Serbu identified CY 1999 Technical Standards Program (TSP) activities requiring support (described below) from the DOE and DOE contractor Technical Standards Managers (TSMs) needed to accomplish these activities. Your input (through your TSM) will greatly assist us in this effort.

### Technical Standards Program Procedures (TSPPs)

The TSPO is in the process of updating the TSPPs to reflect "lessons learned" from implementation by the DOE and contractor line organizations. A draft revision will be submitted to the TSMs for comment/concurrence in the near future. As such, any changes proposed for this revision cycle should be submitted by the TSMs to the Technical Standards Project Office (TSPO), c/o Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), P.O. Box 2009, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-8065. Proposed changes can be transmitted electronically to Marsha Poland, ORNL, 423-574-2506, [PolandMG@ornl.gov](mailto:PolandMG@ornl.gov).

### DOE-TSL-1

The *Department of Energy Standards Index* serves to identify technical standards (both Government and non-Government) and standardization documents used by DOE and its contractors in the conduct of work. The information on non-Government (i.e., voluntary consensus) standards adopted for use by DOE is reported annually to NIST in accordance with OMB Circular

(Continued on Page 2)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE



A Note From the Manager .....	2
TSM Spotlight .....	3

Upcoming Meetings .....	4
Standards Actions .....	5

News Briefs .....	9
Topical Committees .....	10



## Participation: Focus on DOE Technical Standards Managers

There are about 80 Technical Standards Managers (TSMs) in the various DOE and contractor organizations. These individuals are the key to a successful Technical Standards Program in many ways. There is a "hard core" of dedi-

icated TSMs - about 15 or 20 "actives." They provide the starting point for all new DOE technical standards. They are experts in the TSP processes and procedures. They are familiar with their organizations and the subject matter experts therein. They bring forward any organization's standards issues for discussion and resolution. They participate with their counterparts to determine how DOE's Technical Standards Program will function and what services it will provide. They serve as a focal point for implementing Federal law and DOE and Federal policy.

Are you a Technical Standards Manager (or Alternate TSM)? Are you reliably representing your organization? ...your managers? ...your subject matter experts? Are you providing the help your organization's programs need? Are you participating in determining the direction that DOE is going, or, through non-

participation or passivity, are you merely going along for the ride and letting others lead the way? Even worse, are you not concerned because you do not know what the issues are or what your organization's needs are?

Change your way of living! Start listening in on the Technical Standards Managers' Committee Meeting teleconferences! (These are announced on a monthly basis.) Make sure your alternate listens in! For one hour a month, you can keep up with the issues and see if, when, and where you need to act to protect your organization's and DOE's interests. You can actually help improve a program through your participation.

If you are a manager or subject matter expert or standards preparer or reviewer in a contractor, DOE HQ, or Field organization, you surely need a Technical Standards Manager to assist you and represent your interests - or you should lobby for a replacement who will!

If you are a DOE Technical Standards Manager, remember, you have been designated in writing by your organization's senior managers to carry out responsibilities based on public law, public policy, DOE policy, Directives System policy, DOE orders, DNFSB commitments, and DOE and organizational needs. Join the fold - we'll help you get started! We need you, DOE needs you, and your organization needs you. For the "old timer" TSMs - thanks for the help and hard work!

— Rick Serbu

### Input Solicited... (Continued from Page 1)

A-119, *Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities*. A PDF file of the 1998 edition of TSL-1 can be found on the TSP Internet site - <http://apollo.osti.gov/html/techstds/techstds.html>.

In preparing the 1999 update to DOE-TSL-1, the TSPO already has access (through the "Explorer" system) to a significant number of the DOE directives that identify (a) non-Government standards that have been adopted for use, and (b) documents prepared by other Federal agencies that DOE and its contractors use as technical standards. However, there are other valuable source documents containing similar references to voluntary standards and Federal agency documents that should be reviewed as part of the TSL-1 update process. Examples of these documents include sets of "Necessary and Sufficient" or "Work-Smart" standards, DOE site/facility safety analysis reports prepared by DOE contractors, contractor site/facility implementation plans, and appendices to M&O contracts with listings of mandatory standards. Many of these source documents are accessible through the Internet at World Wide Web (WWW) sites other than Explorer.

Operations/Field Office and Contractor TSMs are requested to: (a) identify site/facility documents of the type discussed above, obtain copies of those documents, and send the copies to the TSPO at the address listed above, or (b) identify the WWW site (URL) where the documents can be accessed for review. Where these source documents can be transmitted electronically, send them to Marsha Poland, ORNL, 423-574-2506, [PolandMG@ornl.gov](mailto:PolandMG@ornl.gov). This information is needed no later than March 31, 1999.

## DOE-TSL-4

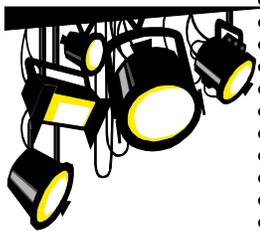
The *Directory of DOE and Contractor Employees Involved in Non-Government Standards Activities* serves as an information resource on personnel in the DOE community that either participate in the development of voluntary standards or serve on management boards of voluntary standards bodies. Again, this information is reported by DOE annually to NIST in accordance with OMB Circular A-119.

All TSMs are requested to review the 1998 edition of DOE-TSL-4 for individuals in their organization to contact for confirming their current participation(s). A PDF file of the 1998 edition of TSL-4 can be found on the TSP Internet site. In addition, all TSMs should issue a general request within their organization for information on new or modified participation activities. New participations, revisions of information previously submitted, or terminations of membership should be documented using DOE F 1300.2, "Record of Non-Government Standards Activity." A copy of this form is available as an attachment to DOE Order 1300.2A or the Technical Standards Program Procedures, or from the TSP Internet site listed above. Please be sure to provide complete information on the form to ensure a person's participation is recorded. Note that only new, revised, or terminated participations need to be documented on DOE F 1300.2. Unless a form is received (or somehow stated otherwise), a person's information will remain the same in TSL-4.

All DOE F 1300.2 forms should be transmitted to Amy Bush, ORNL, P.O. Box 2009, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-8065. Again, this information is needed no later than March 31, 1999.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Technical Standards Manager Spotlight



**Madelyn Wilson**  
**Technical Standards Manager**  
**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**Office of Scientific and**  
**Technical Information**  
**Oak Ridge, Tennessee**

*Editor's Note: As discussed in the December 1998 edition of The Standards Forum, the responsibility for supporting TSP information management and dissemination activities has shifted from OSTI to EH-72/TIS. With Madelyn's role coming to an end, we wanted to recognize her for the contributions she has made to the program. Thanks, Madelyn, and best wishes for all of your future endeavors.*

Madelyn Wilson, Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI), has served for five years as an OSTI Project Manager in support of the Department of Energy (DOE) Technical Standards Program. Her primary responsibilities have been in the areas of Internet Home Page development and maintenance, printing, distribution, and announcement of DOE technical standards documents. She assumed the added responsibility of Technical Standards Manager for OSTI in July 1998.

"During my association with the Technical Standards Program," Madelyn told *The Standards Forum*, "I have been involved in the complete metamorphosis that has taken place in the Program's approach to information management and dissemination. When I first became involved with the Program in 1994, the Office of Nuclear Safety Policy and Standards was printing approximately 1,000 copies of each technical standards document. However, with the advent of the Internet, the decision was made to migrate from the emphasis on hard copy dissemination to electronic document presentation. With technology directing and defining the assimilation of information, it became apparent that Departmental elements were encountering a different frontier in the collection, generation, and dissemination of data. This high-speed technology also meant educating users and establishing a comfort zone for users to rely upon the Internet as one's personal library for technical standards information. It has been an exciting challenge to join with the Technical Standards Program Office in the application of this rapidly developing technology to the everyday work of individuals involved in technical standards activities".

"It is at this juncture," Madelyn continued, "that I would like to take a few moments to reflect upon my adventure as OSTI Project Manager and Technical Standards Manager for the DOE Technical Standards Program. I must begin by simply stating that the best people within all of DOE are in this tremendous Program. I have enjoyed working with each of you, and most importantly, you were always willing to assist me in any capacity. The Program has undergone many changes, and it will



continue to evolve based upon the methodology of strategic planning and technological advancements. The leadership of the Program has done an outstanding job in forging the course of the Program as it enters the new millennium. The foundation that is being laid today will provide a position of strength for the Program tomorrow. The strategic planning of the Technical Standards

***The Program has undergone many changes and it will continue to evolve based upon the methodology of strategic planning and technological advancements.***

**— Madelyn Wilson**

Program will and can challenge other organizations within the Department to model after this Program. I encourage each of you to continue to exemplify this Program as the best example of an administrative and functional structure that utilizes and incorporates best business management principles and practices."

Madelyn says that the knowledge she has gained will follow her throughout her Federal career. "I realize I may never have the opportunity to work with many of you again. However, I want you to know that

the words of encouragement and the thoughtful Email messages you have shared with me are memories that will remain with me for a life-time. As the role of the Office of Scientific and Technical Information diminishes, my faith and belief in this Program will only intensify as each of us chart a new course of direction."

Thank you Rick Serbu, the Performance Assurance Project Office at ORNL, and the DOE Technical Standards Managers for allowing me the opportunity to participate in the Program and for providing a platform for me to expand and achieve my dreams.



## Upcoming Meetings

*Editor's Note - For information on upcoming meetings involving DOE topical committees, refer to the "Topical Committee Developments" section of this publication.*



The focus is to provide a forum for recent advances in fire safety engineering applications through technical presentations, workshops, and case studies. The intent is to stimulate the interaction between the fire research and fire safety engineering communities. There will be a tour of Underwriter Laboratories Fire Test Facility on Friday, October 8, 1999.

**May 16-20, 1999**

### National Fire Protection Association World Fire Safety Congress & Exposition

Baltimore Convention Center - Baltimore, Maryland

The Exposition has as its objective advancing the art and science of fire prevention and control. Mike McCurry, former press secretary and assistant to President Clinton, will be the featured speaker.

The NFPA Codes and Standards Forum will be held on May 18, 1999, at 2:00-5:00 pm. This open meeting will feature the latest changes to the NFPA codes and standards development process including emergency medical response, peer review, and an update on legal developments in codes and standards setting.

For more information, call 617-984-7310 or check the NFPA Internet home page at URL <http://www.nfpa.org/>.

**May 17-21, 1999**

### 4th IEEE International Software Engineering Standards Symposium (ISESS)

Hotel Bourbon - Curitiba, Brazil

Theme: *Best Software Practices for the Internet Age*

ISESS '99 is sponsored by the Software Engineering Standards Committee (SESC) of the IEEE Computer Society. ISESS '99 takes a global view of the best software practices and the tools required for today's software challenges.

For more information, check the Internet at URL <http://www.isess99.org/index.html> or contact the Program Chair, Dr. Ray Milovanovic, Email: [rajko@csc.ti.com](mailto:rajko@csc.ti.com).

**June 6-10, 1999**

### 1999 American Nuclear Society (ANS) Annual Meeting

Boston, Massachusetts

Theme: *The Atom in the Next Millennium*

For more information, check the Internet at URL <http://www.ans.org/meetings/>.

**October 4-7, 1999**

### Integrating Fire Research Into Practice

Chicago, Illinois

Co-organized by: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building and Fire Research Laboratory (NIST/BFRL) and the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE).

For more information, call 310-718-2910 or check the SFPE home page at URL <http://www.mindspring.com/~sfpe1/>.

**November 14-18, 1999**

### American Nuclear Society Winter Meeting

Long Beach Convention Center and Hyatt - Long Beach, California

For more information, check the Internet at URL <http://www.ans.org/meetings/>.

**November 14-19, 1999**

### 1999 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition

Opryland Hotel Convention Center - Nashville, Tennessee

This is the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Winter Annual Meeting. The highlight/industry topic is "Engineering Innovations for Increased Productivity."

For more information, see the ASME home page at URL <http://www.asme.org/>.

## Errata

The December 1998 issue, Volume 6, Number 3, of *The Standards Forum* contains an article on page 12 entitled "DOE Takes Lead on International Environmental Standard." Unfortunately, this article turned out to be factually incorrect on a number of points. The article originally appeared in the 1995 Summer edition of "Synergy" and (until recently) was carried on the Technical Information Services (TIS) home page. However, *The Standards Forum* has been informed that the original article had never been cleared with the Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance (EH-41) and contains the following errors.

Specifically:

- There is no DOE Order 490, *General Environmental Protection Program*. Several years ago the Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance considered revising DOE Order 5400.1, *General Environmental Protection Program*, and one of the draft versions under review was titled Order 490, but it never went beyond the draft stage.
- There is no DOE requirement to adopt the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System standard. This is a voluntary standard.
- Finally, DOE Order 5400.1, *General Environmental Protection Program*, is still in effect.

Any questions should be directed to Larry Stirling, Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance (EH-41) 202-586-2417.

*The Standards Forum* apologizes for any confusion or inconvenience that the reproduction of this article may have generated.



# Standards *Actions*

## DOE Technical Standards Projects Initiated

The following DOE technical standards projects were recently initiated. If you have any questions or are interested in participating in the development of these standards, please contact the persons listed below.

- *Backup Power Sources for DOE Facilities*, Project Number EDCN-0002, John Fredlund, DP-45; 301-903-3059, FAX 301-903-7065, [work@fredlund.net](mailto:work@fredlund.net).
- *Guidance for Criticality Safety Engineer Training and Qualification*, Project Number SAFT-0070, Gypsy Tweed (EH-34 agent); 423-481-8285, FAX 423-481-3234, [gtweed@parallaxnet.com](mailto:gtweed@parallaxnet.com).
- *Review Guide for Criticality Safety Evaluations*, Project Number SAFT-0071, Gypsy Tweed (EH-34 agent); 423-481-8285; FAX 423-481-3234; [gtweed@parallaxnet.com](mailto:gtweed@parallaxnet.com).
- *EH Glossary of Terms*, Project Number SDMP-0026, Norm Schwartz, EH-31; 301-903-2996, FAX: 301-903-4594, [Norm.Schwartz@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Norm.Schwartz@eh.doe.gov).

## DOE Documents Recently Published

The following DOE Document has recently been published:

- DOE-HDBK-1115-98, *Guide to Good Practices for the Selection, Training, and Qualification of Shift Technical Advisors*, December 1998 (superseding DOE-STD-1057-93, February 1993).

DOE employees and DOE contractors may obtain copies from the ES&H Technical Information Services, U.S. Department of Energy; telephone 1-800-473-4375 or FAX 301-903-9823.

Subcontractors and the general public may obtain copies from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Technology Administration, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161; telephone 1-800-553-6847 or FAX 703-321-8547.

Copies of DOE technical standards (i.e., DOE Standards, Specifications, Handbooks, and Technical Standards Lists) are also available on the Internet at the following URL: <http://apollo.osti.gov/html/techstds/techstds.html>.

## Non-Government Standards

### American National Standards Institute

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) publishes coordination activities of non-Government standards (NGS) biweekly in

*ANSI Standards Action*. Please note that distribution of *ANSI Standards Action* is normally made only to individual members of ANSI or in group mailings to site members of ANSI. For information on site membership, ask your local ANSI contact. For information on individual or group ANSI membership, call Susan Bose at 212-642-4948, Email [sbose@ansi.org](mailto:sbose@ansi.org). For further information on distribution policies of ANSI publications, call the ANSI distribution manager at 212-642-4952.

Copies of *ANSI Standards Action* and ANSI-published documents may be obtained from ANSI, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036 (212-642-4900, FAX 212-302-1286). Comments on listed draft standards may be submitted by contacting the standards developing organization for information.

The following listings are extracted from *ANSI Standards Action* and are representative of NGS development activities that may be relevant to DOE operations. Refer to *ANSI Standards Action* (see the ANSI Internet site, <http://www.ansi.org>) for a complete listing of changes and new publications, standards developing organizations, and additional

information about submitting comments. Additional information on ANSI activities and available non-Government standards can also be found on the ANSI Internet site or through the National Standards System Network (<http://www.nssn.org>).

### The following American National Standards are currently in coordination:

- ASME HST-5M, *Performance Standard for Air Chain Hoists* [revision of ANSI/ASME HST-5M-1991 (R1996)]; comments due April 13, 1999.
- ASME OM-aCode, *Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants* (supplement to ANSI/ASME OM-Code-1998); comments due March 30, 1999.
- ASME Y14.24, *Types and Applications of Engineering Drawings* (revision of ANSI/ASME Y14.24-1989 (R1996)); comments due March 30, 1999.
- ASSE Z590, *Criteria for Establishing Levels of Competence and Certification in the Safety Profession* (new standard); comments due April 13, 1999.
- ASTM D1356, *Terminology Relating to Sampling and Analysis of Atmospheres* (revision of ANSI/ASTM D1356-98); comments due April 13, 1999.
- ASTM D1608, *Test Method for Oxides of Nitrogen in Gaseous Combustion Products* (Phenol-Disulfonic Acid Procedure) (revision of ANSI/ASTM D1608-94); comments due April 13, 1999.

## Technical Standards Program Document Status as of 2/26/99

In Conversion	In Preparation	Out for Comment	Published in Past 30 Days
4	49	22	1

**Total in process = 71**

**Standards Actions** (Continued from Page 5)

- ASTM D4248, *Design of Steam Turbine Generator Oil Systems* (revision of ANSI/ASTM D4248-92); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - ASTM D4539, *Test Method for Filterability of Diesel Fuels by the Low Temperature Flow Test (Lift) Method* (revision of ANSI/ASTM D4539-94); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - ASTM D5846, *Test Method for Universal Oxidation Test for Hydraulic Fluids and Turbine Oils* (revision of ANSI/ASTM D5846-95); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - ASTM E906, *Test Method for Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products* (revision of ANSI/ASTM E906-98); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - ASTM E1275, *Practice for Use of a Radiochromic Film Dosimetry System* (revision of ANSI/ASTM E1275-93); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - ASTM E1539, *Guide for the Use of Radiation-Sensitive Indicators* (revision of ANSI/ASTM E1539-93); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - ASTM F328, *Practice for Determining Counting and Sizing Accuracy of an Airborne Particle Counter Using Near-Monodisperse Spherical Particulate Materials* (revision of ANSI/ASTM F328-80 (R1996)); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - ASTM F1216, *Practice for Rehabilitation of Existing Pipelines and Conduits by the Inversion and Curing of a Resin-Impregnated Tube* (revision of ANSI/ASTM F1216); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - ASTM Z2428Z, *Test Method for Positive Pressure Fire Test of Window Assemblies* (new standard); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - ASTM Z2992Z, *Guide for Quality Assurance Protocols for the Chemical Analysis of Atmospheric Wet Deposition* (new standard); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - ASTM Z6288Z, *Guide for Selection of Methods for Active, Integrative Sampling of Volatile Organic Compounds in Air* (new standard); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - ASTM Z7330Z, *Guide for Cleaning, Flushing and Purification of Steam, Gas and Hydroelectric Turbine Lubrication Systems* (new standard); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - GPTC Z380.1 - Addendum No. 1 *GPTC Guide for Gas Transmission and Distribution Piping Systems* (supplement to ANSI/GPTC Z380.1-1998); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - IEEE 309/N42.3, *Test Procedure and Bases for Geiger-Muller Counters* [revision of ANSI/IEEE 309-1970 (R1991)]; comments due April 13, 1999.
  - IEEE 449-1998, *Standards for Ferroresonant Voltage Regulators* (revision of ANSI/IEEE 449-1990); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - IEEE 1220-1998, *Application and Management of the Systems Engineering Process* (new standard), comments due April 13, 1999.
  - IEEE 1366-1998, *Trial Use Guide for Power Distribution Reliability Indices* (new standard); comments due December 10, 2000.
  - ISEA 107, *High-Visibility Safety Apparel* (new standard); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - N42.14, *Calibration and Use of Germanium Spectrometers for the Measurement of Gamma-Ray Emission Rates of Radionuclides* (revision of ANSI N42.14-1991); comments due April 13, 1999.
  - NACE MR0175-99, *Sulfide Stress Cracking Resistant Metallic Materials for Oilfield Equipment* (revision of ANSI/NACE MR0175-98); comments due March 30, 1999.
  - NISO Z39.79, *Environmental Conditions for Exhibiting Library and Archival Materials* (new standard); comments due March 30, 1999.
- The following international standards are currently in coordination** (comment due dates follow each entry):
- 65A/280/FDIS, IEC 61069-7: *Industrial process measurement and control - Evaluation of system properties for the purpose of system assessment - Part 7: Assessment of system safety* - March 1, 1999.
  - EN 1143-1:1997/prA1, *Secure storage units - Requirements, classification and methods of tests for resistance to burglary - Part 1: Safes, strongroom doors and strongrooms* - May 24, 1999.
  - EN 1146:1997/prA2, *Respiratory protective devices - Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus incorporating a hood (compressed air escape apparatus with hood) - Requirements, testing, marking* - March 24, 1999.
  - EN 50019:1994/pr A1: 1998, *Electrical apparatus for potentially explosive atmospheres - Increased safety 'e'* (for information).
  - HD 22.13 S1:1996/prA1: 1998, *Rubber insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V - Part 13: Single and multicore flexible cables, insulated and sheathed with crosslinked polymer and having low emission of smoke and corrosive gases* - April 18, 1999.
  - ISO/DIS 12135, *Metallic materials - Unified method of test for the determination of quasistatic fracture toughness* - April 1, 1999.
  - ISO/DIS 13847, *Petroleum and natural gas industries - Pipeline transportation systems - Field and shop welding of pipelines* - April 8, 1999.
  - ISO/DIS 14964, *Mechanical vibration and shock - Vibration of stationary structures - Specific requirements for quality management in measurement and evaluation of vibration* - April 8, 1999.
  - prEN 81-5, *Safety rules for the construction and installation of lifts and service lifts - Part 5: Screw lifts* - May 16, 1999.
  - prEN 933-10, *Tests for geometrical properties of aggregates - Part 10: Assessment of fines - Grading of fillers (air jet sieving)* - June 7, 1999.
  - prEN 1252-2, *Cryogenic vessels - Materials - Part 2: Toughness requirements for temperatures between 80°C and 10°C* - May 10, 1999.
  - prEN 1677-3, *Components for slings - Safety - Part 3: Forged steel self-locking hooks - Grade 8* - May 16, 1999.
  - prEN 1677-5, *Components for slings - Safety - Part 5: Forged steel lifting hooks with latch - Grade 4* - May 16, 1999.
  - prEN 1677-6, *Components for slings - Safety - Part 6: Links - Grade 4* - May 16, 1999.
  - prEN 10217-3, *Welded steel tubes for pressure purposes - Technical delivery conditions - Part 3: Alloy fine grain steel tubes* - March 22, 1999.
  - prEN 12419, *Respiratory protective devices - Light duty construction compressed air line breathing apparatus incorporating a full face mask, half mask or quarter mask - Requirements, testing marking* (for information).

(Continued on Page 7)

**Standards Actions** (Continued from Page 6)

- prEN 12619, *Stationary source emissions - Determination of the mass concentration of total gaseous organic carbon at low concentrations in flue gases - Continuous flame ionisation detector method* (for information).
- prEN 13411-1, *Terminations for steel wire ropes - Safety - Part 1: General purpose steel thimbles* - May 10, 1999.
- prEN 13414-1, *Steel wire rope slings - Safety - Part 1: Wire rope slings* - May 16, 1999.
- prEN 13462, *Explosive atmospheres - Explosion prevention and protection in mining - Basic concepts and methodology* - May 7, 1999.
- prEN ISO 15463, *Petroleum and natural gas industries - Field inspection of new casing, tubing, and plain end drill pipe* (ISO/DIS 15643: 1998) - April 10, 1999.

**The following newly published international standards are available from ANSI:**

- ISO 8529-3: 1998, *Reference neutron radiations - Part 3: Calibration of area and personal dosimeters and determination of response as a function of energy and angle of incidence.*
- ISO 8782-1: 1998, *Safety, protective and occupational footwear for professional use - Part 1: Requirements and test methods.*
- ISO/TR 12765: 1998, *Measurement of fluid flow in closed conduits - Methods using transit-time ultrasonic flowmeters.*

**American Society for Testing and Materials**

Standards activities of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) are published monthly in *ASTM Standardization News*. Orders for subscriptions or single copies of *ASTM Standardization News* may be submitted to ASTM, Subscription Dept.—SN, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428-2959. For information regarding ASTM membership, contact the Membership Services Department at 610-832-9691 (FAX 610-832-9667). ASTM publications may be ordered from the ASTM Customer Services Department at 610-832-9585 (FAX 610-832-9555). Comments on listed draft standards may be submitted by contacting the ASTM Standards Coordination Department at the above address. Questions may be addressed to the Technical Committee Operations Division at 610-832-9672 (FAX 610-832-9666). Additional information on ASTM activities is available on the ASTM Internet site (<http://www.astm.org>). The following listings are extracted from *ASTM Standardization News* and are representative of NGS development activities that may be relevant to DOE operations.

**The following ASTM standards are currently in coordination:**

(the due date for all items is March 10, 1999).

- New Standard, *Specification for Exterior Solar Radiation Control Coatings on Buildings* (Ref. Z2860Z).
- New Standard, *Test Method for Volatility Rate by Thermogravimetry* (Ref. Z5609Z).
- New Standard, *Test Method for Measurement of the Relative Free Radical Content of Insulating Oils of Petroleum Origin* (Ref. Z6919Z).
- New Standard, *Test Method for Oxidation Onset Temperature of Hydrocarbons by Differential Scanning Calorimetry* (Ref. Z6923Z).
- New Standard, *Practice for Using the Disposable En Core Sampler for Sampling and Storing Soil for Volatile Organic Analysis* (Ref. Z7509Z).

- New Standard, *Specification for Preformed Flexible Cellular Polyolefin Thermal Insulation in Sheet and Tubular Form* (Ref. Z7536Z).
- C 634-98, *Terminology Relating to Environmental Acoustics* (revised standard).
- C 1393, *Specification for Perpendicularly Oriented Mineral Fiber Roll and Sheet Thermal Insulation for Pipes and Tanks* (new standard).
- D 2864-98a, *Terminology Relating to Electrical Insulating Liquids and Gases* (revised standard).
- D 5513-94 (1998) (Includes change to title), *Practice for Microwave Digestion of Industrial Furnace Feedstreams for Trace Element Analysis* (revised standard).
- E 473-94, *Terminology Relating to Thermal Analysis* (revised standard).
- E 800-95, *Guide for Measurement of Gases Present or Generated During Fires* (revised standard).
- E 1992, *Terminology Relating to Terminology Management* (new standard).

**The following newly published standards are available from ASTM:**

- A 182/A 182M-97e, *Specification for Forged or Rolled Alloy-Steel Pipe Flanges, Forged Fittings, and Valves and Parts for High-Temperature Service* (revised standard).
- A 414/A 414M-98, *Specification for Steel, Sheet, Carbon, for Pressure Vessels* (revised standard).
- A 832/A 832M-97, *Specification for Pressure Vessel Plates, Alloy Steel, Chromium-Molybdenum-Vanadium* (revised standard).
- A 902-96a, *Terminology Relating to Metallic Coated Steel Products* (revised standard).
- A 977-97, *Test Method for Magnetic Properties of High-Coercivity Permanent Magnet Materials Using Hysteresigraphs* (new standard).
- A 979-97, *Specification for Concrete Pavements and Linings Installed in Corrugated Steel Structures in the Field* (new standard).
- A 990-98, *Specification for Castings, Iron-Nickel-Chromium and Nickel Alloys, Specially Controlled for Pressure Retaining Parts for Corrosive Service* (new standard).
- C 71-97a, *Terminology Relating to Refractories* (revised standard).
- C 303-98, *Test Method for Dimensions and Density of Preformed Block and Board Type Thermal Insulation* (revised standard).
- C 520-98, *Test Methods for Density of Granular Loose Fill Insulations* (revised standard).
- C 1109-98, *Test Method for Analysis of Aqueous Leachates From Nuclear Waste Materials Using Inductively Coupled Plasma-Atomic Emission Spectroscopy* (revised standard).
- C 1396 / C 1396M-98, *Specification for Gypsum Board* (new standard).
- C 1402-98, *Guide for High-Resolution Gamma-Ray Spectrometry of Soil Samples* (new standard).
- D 16-98, *Terminology for Paint, Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications* (revised standard).

(Continued on Page 8)

**Standards Actions** (Continued from Page 7)

- D 6046-98a, *Classification of Hydraulic Fluids for Environmental Impact* (revised standard).
- D 6304-98, *Test Method for Determination of Water in Petroleum Products, Lubricating Oils, and Additives by Coulometric Karl Fisher Titration* (new standard).
- D 6316-98, *Test Method for Determination of Total Combustible and Carbonate Carbon in Solid Residues From Coal and Coke* (new standard).
- F 1910-98, *Specification for Long Barbed Tape Obstacles* (new standard).

**American National Standards Projects Initiated**

The following is a list of proposed new American National Standards or revisions to existing American National Standards submitted to ANSI by accredited standards developers. DOE employees or contractors interested in participating in these activities should contact the appropriate standards developing organization. DOE-TSL-4 lists the DOE representatives on NGS committees. If no DOE representative is listed, contact the TSPO for information on participating in NGS activities.

**Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)**

**Office:** 445 Hoes Lane, P. O. Box 1331  
Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331  
**FAX:** 732-562-1571

**Contact:** Naeem Ahmad, [n.ahmad@ieee.org](mailto:n.ahmad@ieee.org)

- IEEE 833, *Recommended Practice for the Protection of Electric Equipment in Nuclear Power Generating Stations from Water Hazards* [revision of ANSI/IEEE 833-1988 (R1994)].
- IEEE 1539, *Guide for Testing Transmission Cable Systems with Extruded Insulation* (new standard).

**National Electrical Manufacturers Association**

**Office:** 1300 North 17th Street  
Suite 1847  
Rosslyn, VA 22209  
**FAX:** 703-841-3378

**Contact:** Daniel Threlkel, [dan\\_threlkel@nema.org](mailto:dan_threlkel@nema.org)

- ANS C50.41, *Polyphase Induction Motors for Power Generating Stations* (new standard).

**Contact:** Vince A. Baclawski, [vin\\_baclawski@nema.org](mailto:vin_baclawski@nema.org)

- NEMA AB 4-1996, *Guidelines for Inspection and Maintenance of Molded Case Circuit Breakers Used in Commercial and Industrial Applications* (new standard).

**Contact:** Ron Runkles, [ron\\_runkles@nema.org](mailto:ron_runkles@nema.org)

- Z535.2, *Environmental and Facility Safety Signs* (revision of ANSI Z535.2-1998).
- Z535.5, *Accident Prevention Tags* (for Temporary Hazards) (revision of ANSI Z535.5-1998).

**Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.**

**Office:** 333 Pfingsten Road  
Northbrook, IL 60004  
**FAX:** 847-509-6217

**Contact:** Mitchell Gold, [goldm@ul.com](mailto:goldm@ul.com)

- UL 1989, *Standard for Safety for Standby Batteries* (revision of ANSI/UL 1989-1994).

**Comments, Questions, and Addresses**

**Comments:** If you have any questions or comments, please contact Rick Serbu, EH-31, Manager, DOE Technical Standards Program Office (TSPO), 301-903-2856, FAX 301-903-6172, Email [Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov).

**Addresses:** To update the distribution list for this publication, please contact Marty Marchbanks, ORNL, 423-241-3658, FAX 423-574-0382, Email [mmf@ornl.gov](mailto:mmf@ornl.gov).

**Technical Standards Activities:** The TSPO would like to be kept informed of the status of technical standards that are being prepared or coordinated for DOE. Please provide this information to the TSPO at 423-574-7886, Email [lj8@ornl.gov](mailto:lj8@ornl.gov).

**Input Solicited...** (Continued from Page 2)**CY 2000 Federal Technical Standards Workshop**

Plans are being made to hold a second Federal Technical Standards Workshop in the spring of 2000 (tentatively the first week in May) in Washington, D.C. If there are issues or topics that should be considered for the workshop agenda, please submit them to Rick Serbu at 301-903-2856, [Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov).

As always, thank you in advance for your interest in and support of DOE standardization initiatives and the Technical Standards Program!

**Standards****Forum**

Editor ..... Marty Marchbanks

**Distribution:** If you would like to have your name added to (or removed from) the mailing list for this publication, or you need to make an address change, please notify Marty Marchbanks, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), 423-241-3658; FAX: 423-574-0382; Email: [mmf@ornl.gov](mailto:mmf@ornl.gov).

**Comments:** If you have any questions or comments please contact Rick Serbu, EH-31, 301-903-2856; Email: [Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov). If you have any questions or comments on DOE standards projects, please call Don Williams, ORNL, 423-574-8710; Email: [williamsdljr@ornl.gov](mailto:williamsdljr@ornl.gov).

**Publication:** ORNL and DOE's ES&H Technical Information Services publish *The Standards Forum* quarterly for the DOE Technical Standards Program.

## The Need for Updating References by the Federal Government to Voluntary Consensus Standards

In an article entitled "Bringing Government References to Voluntary Standards Up-to-Date," Kathleen Kono, Washington, D.C. Representative for the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), describes a successful effort underway by ASTM members and government agencies. The article appears in the February 1999 issue of *ASTM Standardization News*. Ms. Kono reports that she found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) approximately 1,000 references to more than 600 ASTM standards and that more than 90 percent of the referenced standards were out of date by at least 10 years (i.e., the references had been replaced by a later revision or a new standard). About one-half of the identified references are being addressed. Ms. Kono cites examples of ASTM-supported cooperative efforts underway with the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## ISO Publishes New Manual on ISO 14000 and Environmental Management

The following is based on a February 1, 1999, ISO press release at URL <http://www.iso.ch/presse/manual10.htm>.

More than 80 percent of 500 companies surveyed on their experiences with implementation of environmental management systems (EMS) found them to be cost effective. 60 percent of the companies quoted payback periods on their investment of less than 12 months.

The above results of a European survey are quoted by ISO (International Organization for Standardization) in its newly published book, *Environmental Management and ISO 14000* (ISBN 92-67-10280-X), available from national standards institutes which are members of ISO (see complete list on ISO's Internet site: [www.iso.ch](http://www.iso.ch)) and/or the ISO Central Secretariat.

This book has been published as Development Manual 10, the latest in a series by ISO aimed at helping developing countries and economies in transition to establish and strengthen their standardization infrastructures in order to assist in their economic growth.

*Environmental Management and ISO 14000* was prepared by a panel of authors from ISO/TC 207, the ISO technical committee responsible for ISO 14000. The contents include the worldwide developments that led to the setting up of the committee, introductions to environmental management and EMS, and other related issues addressed by TC 207, such as environmental auditing, environmental labelling, environmental performance evaluation, life-cycle assessment, environmental terms and definitions, and the use of ISO 14000 standards to support sustainable forest management.

ISO has also published a new brochure which describes the complete series of Development Manuals. It is entitled, "Setting Standards in Developing Economies" (ISBN 92-67-10286-9) and is available at no cost from ISO members and the ISO Central Secretariat.

For more information contact Roger Frost, Press Officer, + 41 22 749 01 11, FAX + 41 22 733 34 30, Email [frost@iso.ch](mailto:frost@iso.ch).

## The Open Standards Concept

Kenneth Krechmer advances 10 principles of the Open Standards concept in his article, "The Principles of Open Standards," that appeared in the November/December 1998 issue of *Standards Engineering*, Journal of the Standards Engineering Society (SES), Vol. 50, No. 6<sup>1</sup>. The principles listed in the article are:

1. Openness - all stakeholders may participate in the standards development process.
2. Consensus - all interests are discussed and agreement found; no domination by a single interest group.
3. Due Process - balloting and an appeals process may be used to find resolution.
4. Open IPR - holders of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) must identify themselves during the standards development process.
5. Open World - same standard for the same functions, world-wide.
6. Open Access - all may access committee documents, drafts, and completed standards.
7. Open Meeting - all may participate in standards development meetings.
8. On-going Support - standards are supported until user interest ceases rather than when provider interest declines.
9. Open Interfaces - interfaces allow additional functions, public or proprietary.
10. Open Use - low or no charge for IPR necessary to implement an accredited standard.

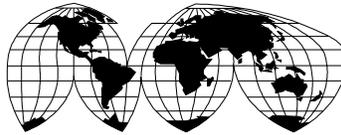
The first four principles are currently required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the fifth is supported. The remaining five, which are being developed, are discussed at some length in the article.

In his concluding remarks, Krechmer presented the Open Standards approach as a concept worthy of active support by all accredited SDOs. He states "The rationale behind Open Standards needs greater public exposure." Krechmer recommends that ANSI be charged formally by its SDOs in the development and implementation of the above concepts.



<sup>1</sup> Used with permission of *Standards Engineering*. For subscription and membership information contact: SES Executive Director, 13340 SW 96th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33176, 305-971-4798, FAX 305-971-4799.

## NEWS BRIEFS



## The World of Standards



## Topical Committee Developments

DOE Topical Committees (TCs) are formed from DOE working groups or technical groups that represent a technical or functional interest within the Department. TCs develop and coordinate standardization documents and address related issues within DOE. These committees also provide a path for technology transfer from DOE to U.S. industry. Direct ties are formed with counterpart Standards Developing Organization committees, subcommittees, and working groups to participate in the development and review of international and national standards of relevance to DOE operations. There are currently 21 topical committees (TCs) listed on the TSP Home Page. Twelve of them have their own Internet home pages linked to the TSP Home Page and two more have home pages in development. The 21 TCs are as follows:

- Accreditation Topical Committee
- Backup Power Working Group
- Biota Dose Assessment Committee (BDAC)
- Behavioral Safety Committee
- Construction Safety
- DOE Contractors Supplier Quality Information Group (SQIG)
- Emergency Management Issues SIG (EMI SIG)
- Environmental Management Systems
- Explosive Safety
- Fire Protection
- Hoisting and Rigging Technical Advisory Committee
- Industrial Hygiene Coordinating Committee
- Industrial Hygiene/Occupational Safety SIG (IH/OS SIG)
- Meteorological
- Metrology
- Occurrence Reporting SIG (OR SIG)
- Packaging and Transportation SIG (PATS SIG)
- Performance-Based Management SIG (PBM SIG)
- Pressure System Safety Committee
- Quality and Safety Management SIG (QSM SIG)
- Nuclear Safety Training

Three of the above TRADE Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are still in the process of charter development: Emergency Management Issues SIG, Packaging and Transportation SIG (currently inactive but showing interest), and Performance-Based Management SIG. The Chemical Safety TC is currently developing a charter.

If you are a member of a DOE group and would like your organization to be recognized across the DOE complex as a TSP topical committee, contact M. Norman Schwartz, 301-903-2996, [Norm.Schwartz@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Norm.Schwartz@eh.doe.gov), or Richard Serbu, 301-903-2856, [Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Richard.Serbu@eh.doe.gov). You will have the opportunity to share ideas with like-minded scientists and engineers within the Department and have the benefit of being more involved in standards work.

## Backup Power Working Group Tenth Annual Meeting

By: John Fredlund, Chair, Backup Power Working Group (301-903-3059; [Work@Fredlund.net](mailto:Work@Fredlund.net))



The DOE Backup Power Working Group (BPWG) is holding its annual meeting on April 27-29, 1999, at the Department of Energy Germantown Building. The BPWG fosters safe, practical, and effective testing, maintenance, operation, design, and installation of systems and equipment used to provide backup electrical power at DOE facilities. The BPWG provides an open forum on standard practices, safety issues, training, and solutions to problems encountered at DOE facilities. Attendance at the meeting is generally open and may be of interest to anyone involved in the design, analysis, installation, maintenance, or operation of DOE engine generators, uninterruptible power supplies, or stationary batteries. You can find out more about the meeting and the BPWG at <http://www.dp.doe.gov/CTG/bpwg/bpwg.htm>. Please contact John Fredlund if you are interested.

The BPWG is currently working on the update to DOE-STD-3003-94, *Backup Power Sources For DOE Facilities*. If you use this standard, please contact John Fredlund. We need to compile comments and experiences from users to help us bring the standard back as close to perfection as possible. Proposed changes to the standard will be discussed at the April meeting.



## The Biota Dose Assessment Committee: Progress Continues on Technical Standard Initiative

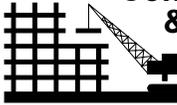
By: Steve Domotor, Chair, Biota Dose Assessment Committee (202-586-0871; [Stephen.Domotor@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Stephen.Domotor@eh.doe.gov))

The Biota Dose Assessment Committee (BDAC) continues to serve as a valuable resource in the development of a new DOE technical standard, "A Graded Approach for Evaluating Radiation Doses to Aquatic and Terrestrial Biota" (Project Number ENVR-0011). The draft technical standard, prepared by the committee's Standard Writing Group, was distributed for internal BDAC review in December 1998. The draft standard provides a cost-effective, easy to implement screening methodology as part of a graded approach for evaluating doses for comparison with DOE and internationally-recommended dose limits for biota. The timely completion of this draft technical standard was in part due to the innovative application of the BDAC Internet Site. An "electronic chalkboard" allowed members responsible for individual chapters and dose equations to quickly upload and provide electronic access to "in-process drafts" for other committee members to download and review. Review comments on the completed draft standard are also being submitted and made available within the committee through this technology.

(Continued on Page 11)

**Topical Committees** (Continued from Page 10)

The BDAC has a full schedule of activities planned for 1999. An overview of the BDAC and the Department's initiatives in the development of guidance for the protection of biota was presented at a meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Technical Committee on "Protection of the Environment from Ionizing Radiation" (Vienna, Austria; January 1999). Tentative future activities for the committee include: (1) assessing and resolving review comments and recommendations in March-May 1999; (2) developing an environmental parameters database for use with the screening and dose evaluation methods with an Internet-based prototype of this database for internal BDAC review expected in May 1999; and (3) consideration of a BDAC workshop for summer or fall of 1999. The workshop would provide members with opportunities to present and exchange information on DOE site-specific approaches for biota dose assessments, to continue the refinement of the draft technical standard, and to use site-specific monitoring data in developing examples which demonstrate application of the screening methodology and graded approach. Once finalized, the DOE technical standard will be available in electronic format and via the Internet - to include user-friendly screening value tables, spreadsheets, and a supporting dose parameter database.


**Construction Safety and Hoisting & Rigging Safety Committees Meeting in Berkeley**

By: Pat Finn, Chair, Construction Safety and Hoisting & Rigging Safety Topical Committees (301-903-9876, [Pat.Finn@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Pat.Finn@eh.doe.gov))



The Department of Energy Construction Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC) and the Hoisting and Rigging Technical Advisory Committee (HRTAC) will convene their annual meetings in Berkeley, California on April 27-30, 1999. The CSAC and HRTAC serve as advisory bodies to the Office of Worker Health and Safety (EH-5) by providing support to their policy efforts aimed at ensuring the safe performance of construction and hoisting and rigging activities at DOE facilities. They also act in the capacity of topical committees to the Technical Standards Program Office.

Topical committee responsibilities for the HRTAC include reviewing, evaluating, and recommending actions necessary to ensure that the DOE Hoisting and Rigging Standard (DOE-STD-1090) remains current and is consistent with Departmental guidance and referenced source standards. The Committee also interfaces with non-Government standards bodies (i.e., American National Standards Institute [ANSI]) in their work involving hoisting and rigging operations.

Topical committee responsibilities for the CSAC include interfacing with non-DOE standards development bodies such as the American National Standard for Construction and Demolition Operations (A10) as well as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) on activities which may have impact upon construction safety in DOE. This includes review and comment on construction safety program guidance, standards, and regulations published by these organizations as well as direct participation on activities having greater significance to construction safety in the DOE.

For further information about the meetings, contact Pat Finn, 301-903-9876, [Pat.Finn@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Pat.Finn@eh.doe.gov).

**DOE Fire Safety Committee: Report on the 1998 Fall Meeting**

By: Dennis Kubicki, Chair, Fire Protection Topical Committee (301-903-4794, [Dennis.Kubicki@eh.doe.gov](mailto:Dennis.Kubicki@eh.doe.gov))



The DOE Fire Safety Committee, at its December 1998 meeting, agreed to develop an Implementation Plan for National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 72, "National Fire Alarm Code," with the goal of liberalizing (reducing) the inspection, testing and maintenance (IT&M) frequencies of some fire alarm/signalling system components. This follows a similar effort by the Committee for NFPA Standard 25, "Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems." The Committee hopes to induce sites to adopt these revised frequencies to reduce costs while maintaining system reliability. Data collected over a period of years from the Hanford, Idaho and Oak Ridge sites for water-based systems confirms that a prudent reduction of IT&M frequencies will achieve significant cost reductions with no adverse consequences on system reliability. Note that the Committee recommends no alteration in the program for the Department's nuclear facilities. For additional information, please contact Dennis Kubicki.

**Metrology Committee and Standards Lab Managers Combine Annual Meetings**

By: Don Ragland, Sandia National Laboratories-Albuquerque (SNLA) (505-845-9623, [dragla@sandia.gov](mailto:dragla@sandia.gov))



Citing similar DOE interests and issues plus cost savings, the DOE Topical Committee on Metrology and the DOE Standards Laboratory Managers have agreed to conduct their meetings back-to-back at the new facilities of the DOE/Nevada Operations Office in Las Vegas, Nevada on March 24-26, 1999.

Several Standards Lab Managers, who represent the Nuclear Weapons Program, are also members of the Metrology Committee, and both groups share common interests in the various subjects to be addressed at the Third Annual Meeting of the Metrology Committee. In addition, both groups share common DOE/TSPO (Technical Standards Program Office) goals for conserving DOE expenditures. They view the back-to-back meetings as an opportunity for cost savings for their individual facilities and for DOE. At the same time, they will be furthering their aims of increased communications and cooperation among DOE facilities. Everyone benefits. The Metrology Committee has been instrumental in recommending that DOE adopt the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Guide 25, *General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*, which is currently being drafted by ISO as a standard (DIS/ISO 17025). The meeting will focus on the status of DIS/ISO 17025, its impact in various DOE technical areas, and its relationship to DOE quality assurance activities.

(Continued on Page 12)

**Topical Committees** (Continued from Page 10)

In addition, the relationship of DIS/ISO 17025 and health physics instrumentation calibration will be covered at the meeting. The Metrology Committee recently polled its entire database as to the standard(s) to which facilities adhere in their calibration efforts. The results of that poll will be addressed.

An ongoing project for the Metrology Committee has been to support the TSP's goal of establishing more widespread communications and sharing of resources, not only throughout the DOE complex but also between DOE and other Federal organizations that rely on metrology and calibration. To that end, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), with which the Metrology Committee cooperates, will address the effect of DIS/ISO 17025 on traceability issues in technical fields.

In addition, the metrology contingent within the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Metrology Committee have agreed to open avenues of communications. Those involved believe that both organizations, and ultimately all participating agencies of the Federal government, should experience stronger capabilities and increased cost savings as a result of these efforts. A representative from the DoD will speak to these issues at the meeting.

Topics to be presented by speakers at the Metrology meeting include:

- Dick Pettit, SNL/A - "Status Report on National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA) Activities;"

- Jim Bowman, ORNL - "Status of DIS/ISO 17025" (General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories ) within the ISO formalization process;
- Sharrill Dittmann, NIST - "DIS/ISO 17025 & Traceability Issues;"
- Dr. Charles Brokopp, NELAC - "Implementing NELAP (National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program);"
- Gary LaBruyere, INEEL - "DIS/ISO 17025 & Health Physics Instruments;"
- Joe Dressel, Metrology and Calibration Program Naval Sea Systems Command, "DoD Metrology and Mutual Metrology Issues with DOE;"
- Bud Danielson, DOE/HQ - "Status of DOE Order 414.1: Quality Assurance" (formerly 5700.6D); and
- David Green, ANL - "Common Interests of the DOE Analytical Managers Group (DAM) and the DOE Metrology Committee."

Attendance at this meeting is open to all DOE personnel and DOE contractors involved with measurements, standards, and calibration. For more information or to submit your registration for the meeting contact: Don Ragland (SNLA) at 505-845-9623 or [dragla@sandia.gov](mailto:dragla@sandia.gov).



# The Standards



United States Department of Energy

ES&H Technical Information Services

EH-72, 270CC

19901 Germantown Road

Germantown, MD 20874-1290