

Standards development through ASABE and ANSI

The role of ANSI

- ▶ ANSI, the American National Standards Institute, is the US national standards body.
 - ▶ ANSI is not the government
 - ▶ ANSI is recognized by the government and has broad interaction with numerous governmental agencies
 - ▶ ANSI membership includes many organizations such as ASABE, ASTM, ASME, IEEE and many more.
 - ▶ ANSI Essential Requirements: Consensus, Due Process, Openness, Balance

ANSI and ASABE

- ▶ ANSI:
 - ▶ Accredits ASABE to develop American National Standards using approved procedures
 - ▶ Audits ASABE every 5 years to verify compliance to requirements
 - ▶ Accredits ASABE to administer the US Technical Advisory Groups for 14 distinct international committees
 - ▶ Coordinates forums for specific topics
 - ▶ Organizational Member Forum
 - ▶ International Forum
 - ▶ Company Member Forum
 - ▶ Helps prevent duplication of efforts
 - ▶ Provides advice
 - ▶ Facilitates networking with other Standards Development Organizations (SDOs)
 - ▶ While ANSI has specific requirements, as long as those requirements are incorporated into a SDOs procedures, reviewed and approved by ANSI, a standard developed within those SDO procedures is eligible to be considered for an ANSI standard.
- ▶ The ASABE administrator leads the project through the process, filing the appropriate forms and assisting in the determination of success at each level of development.
 - ▶ The development process begins with an idea
 - ▶ A group of interested individuals is gathered (representing industry or self). Some are determined to be voting members. This is generally the main development group and is limited to 20-30 people representing a fair balance of producer, user, general interest

areas. Others are designated as observing members (wanting to follow the action but not interested in making a firm commitment to review and respond throughout the development process.

- ▶ The SDO presents the project to an oversight review committee which will approve the allocation of staff and financial resources for the project. A public notice of the project is posted by ANSI in the event any member of the public wishes to review and comment on the project.
- ▶ The development group meets as often as necessary with each other and other stakeholders to develop the outline of the standard and then flesh it out.
- ▶ Periodic reviews of the developing document are made by the development group.
- ▶ Once the development group is satisfied, the SDO presents an electronic ballot to the identified voters for a final review, comments and corrections. Observing members are also able to review the document and comment at this time. A public notice of the ballot is posted by ANSI in the event any member of the public wishes to review and comment on the project.
- ▶ All comments from voting and observing members must be addressed as well as comments submitted by any public reviewer.
- ▶ This comment process might lead to a revision and another ballot, following the same steps as above until all comments have been addressed and the voting group has provided consensus and approval.
- ▶ The process that was used to develop the standard is reviewed by the oversight committee and once their approval is received, the project is submitted to ASNI for final approval.

NOTE: ANSI does not review the content of the document. That is the job of the development committee and stakeholders. ANSI validates the process by which the standard was developed as meeting its essential requirements.