



FOCUS ON IEC COMMUNICATIONS & CULTIVATING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Communication, cooperation, collaboration – IEC standards would not be the powerful global solutions they are without those key components of a consensus-based system. But it's not always easy to bridge the diverse groups with varying perspectives and differing priorities. In the issue, the Current explores the tools and techniques USNC/IEC leaders and experts employ to meet those challenges and bridge the divides on the path to strong standardization solutions.

Resolving Issues between Technical Committees: A Challenge, but Not Impossible

By Joe Musso, Standards Program Manager, Underwriters Laboratories Inc.; Secretary for IEC TC 72 (automatic electrical controls), and a member of the USNC Technical Management Committee

Conflict resolution is never easy. As a father of two teenage daughters, I witness all kinds of "disputes." They are usually about clothes, or shoes, nail polish perhaps... or sometimes even nail polish remover. Like many dads, my expertise is extremely limited in these and other issues that face teenage girls on a regular basis. Therefore my typical response if asked to intervene (or if it is obvious the battle is beginning to escalate) is, "C'mon girls, please just figure it out."

This, of course, is my way of stepping back from a situation where I am not equipped to decide for them how to resolve their dispute. However, it is also an indirect way of teaching them that they need to find ways to resolve their disputes without always relying on a higher level of authority to step in and decide for them. They are the ones directly involved, who know the details, and have the facts to make a decision that is both fair and equitable for both parties.

Ok, so maybe the decision about who gets to wear a pair of boots to a particular event may not warrant such careful conflict resolution (although I know a couple of teenagers who might beg to differ!). However, it strikes me as analogous to situations when disputes occur between IEC Technical Committees (TCs).

COOPERATION OVER ESCALATION

Similar to how my daughters seek

authoritative intervention to quickly resolve a conflict, TCs may be tempted initially (or reflexively) to raise an issue to the IEC Standardization Management Board (SMB) when there is *(continued)*



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IEC symbols for electrical current:



ALTERNATING CURRENT (AC)



DIRECT CURRENT (DC)



AC/DC

Resolving Issues between Technical Committees *(continued)*

some sort of disagreement. Akin to the tact I use with my daughters, the SMB is consistent and clear with its approach to resolution of disputes between TCs. The SMB doesn't exactly say, "C'mon TCs, please just figure it out," but it is certainly the message they want TCs to understand!

Disputes between IEC TCs (and SCs) occur for various reasons, such as scope overlap and inconsistencies between requirements intended to assess similar compliance criteria. An example of the latter situation could be a requirement in a component or horizontal standard which may deviate slightly in an end-product standard that also includes evaluation of the same type of component, or portions thereof. Left unresolved, this could result in a component evaluation being seen as inadequate (or, at best, inconsistent) when it is employed in an end-product and its suitability evaluated in the application.

When a TC becomes aware of such

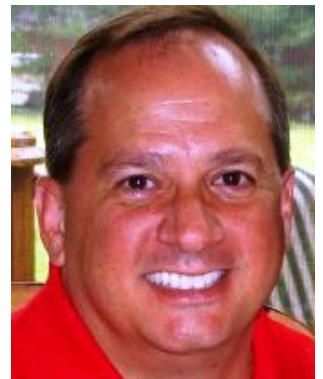
an issue, they are strongly encouraged to resist the initial temptation to contact the SMB for resolution. In fact, it states clearly in the ISO/IEC Directives (Part 1, Annex B, B.2), "Matters should be raised at the next higher level only after all attempts to resolve them at the lower levels have failed."

This article will reinforce the above point, and that improved collaboration between TCs is essential to the future of the IEC. It will also provide guidance and examples of the IEC tools available, such as the use of liaisons, to enhance cooperation between committees.

KEYS TO EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION

Collaboration between TCs, when done effectively, takes commitment, effort, and time. The use of liaisons as a means to bridge the gap and collaborate between TCs can be one of the most effective ways to not only resolve an ongoing dispute between committees, but to help

THE USE OF LIAISONS TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN TCS CAN BE ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO NOT ONLY RESOLVE AN ONGOING DISPUTE BETWEEN, BUT TO HELP AVOID ONE IN THE FIRST PLACE.



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avoid a dispute in the first place. TCs involved in a liaison relationship both need to approve the formal link between committees. However, it is well worth that step, as liaisons have the unique opportunity to monitor and participate actively in the standards development work of another committee.

Several types of liaisons are defined in the ISO/IEC Directives, but at a high level, liaisons generally have the ability to access working documents generated by the TC with which they have the relationship. They can also attend meetings, provide comments, and engage in discussions on behalf of his/her own TC. With the SMB's increasing emphasis on cooperation between TCs (and SCs), the role of liaisons is becoming more important. In the past, a liaison may have been viewed as simply an observer of another committee's work. They should now be seen as an integral link between technical groups, working together towards the overall success of the system, rather than working to ensure that "territories" are maintained.

Depending on the situation or need, the liaison role can also be elevated to a higher level, with one practice being to establish a "liaison coordinator" within a TC, defining clear responsibilities for the role. Those responsibilities could include addressing *(continued)*

Resolving Issues between Technical Committees *(continued)*

information requests between TCs due to emerging technologies, monitoring and ensuring reporting of liaisons to/from TCs, informing established liaisons of potential new work item proposals in an effort to avoid future conflicts, and creating a common area (e.g., Collaboration Tools folder) for liaison coordination to facilitate sharing of information.

CASE STUDY: TC 61 & TC 72

For those of us involved in IEC work, it is not difficult to think of examples of situations where active engagement of a liaison would likely have minimized or avoided a dispute between two committees. One such example, based on personal experience, is a conflict that arose several years ago between IEC TC 61, *Household electrical appliances*, and IEC TC 72, *Automatic electrical controls*. Without going into the technical details, several National Committees (NCs) within the “component TC” (72) had concerns with proposed requirements under consideration in the “end-product TC.” Rather than engaging the liaison as a first step and following due process, the



SOMETIMES A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING BETWEEN THE LIASONS AND TCS, WHERE THE ISSUES CAN BE DISCUSSED OPENLY IN DETAIL, IS THE BEST WAY TO CHART A PATH TOWARD A COOPERATIVE SOLUTION.

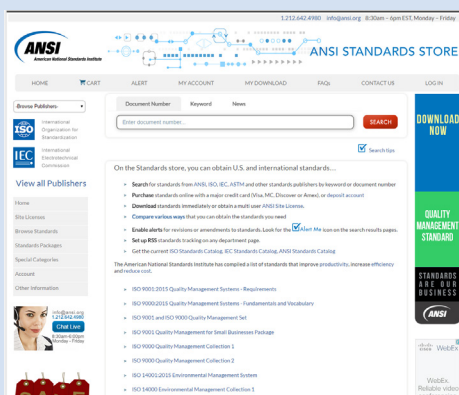
SMB was contacted by an individual NC involved with TC 72, but not on behalf of the TC. Not surprisingly, feedback from the SMB advised the TCs to work out the disagreement at the TC level. Thankfully, around the time of the conflict, the TC 72 liaison had changed, and the newly appointed individual took an active role in resolving the dispute. But after several rounds of written communication, it seemed that neither side would be willing to acquiesce.

Realizing the stalemate, the liaison and the TC officers sought to schedule a face-to-face meeting, whereby the issues could be discussed in great detail, with the hopes of a mutually agreeable solution. Within several months, a meeting was held in London, with the officers of both TCs present, as well as the liaison

and several technical experts from both committees. At the end of the day, both TCs had a common understanding of the technical issues, and were able to chart a clear path toward a solution that both groups could live with, albeit not perfect. More importantly was an appreciation for the collaborative meeting, and an agreement to continue working together with open and fair communication when future differences arise.

The intended takeaway is this: When conflicts arise between technical committees, resist the temptation to initially complain to Dad...I mean, the SMB. The TCs have knowledge about the conflict, the specific details, and all the facts to work toward a fair solution for both parties. And, with an active liaison, they also have the perfect means for effective collaboration between the affected parties. In the world of a systems approach, building relationships is key to the ongoing and future success of the IEC. ☺

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Committee Relationships and Communications Systems, End Products, and Components

By Ken Gettman, International Standards Director, NEMA

For the most part, in this world of ours it is no longer reasonable – often not even possible – for an individual to live their life completely independent of other people. We all need materials, food, clothing, products – things that are beyond our individual capability to acquire or produce. Thus, there is a need for cooperation, including sharing of resources, through communication and exchange of goods or services (including money) between the customer and supplier.

THE WORLD OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES

In the standardization world, IEC committees and USNC Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) have reached the same position. A product committee, even of the most simple article (e.g., conductors), can no longer develop the requirements for standards in their



scope in a vacuum. They must consider the needs of their customers (users of their standards), and, as often as not, they must also consider their own suppliers. Knowledge of the application has become paramount in determining the appropriate construction and

performance requirements so that pieces of the end assembly or system operate as intended, safely, and for longer than the initial energization period.

The IEC established a hierarchical concept, dubbed “System Approach Aspects,” for use in each committee’s Strategic Business Plan (SBP). This approach encourages (perhaps forces) the members of that committee to examine their colleagues’ committees within the IEC to determine whether they are customers, suppliers, or other committees for maintaining contact for technical consistency. For example, IEC TC 17, *High-voltage switchgear and controlgear*, has established the table at left as part of their SBP.

The rationale for this categorization is as follows:

- Customers need to define their needs and confirm that actions taken satisfy those needs;
- Suppliers provide what is needed but need to understand the conditions under which the need exists; and,
- Other committees are finding the need to incorporate functions and components similar to the original committee and may find a better way to build a mouse trap. In *(continued)*

System Committees (TC 17 role as customer)	TC 10, Fluids for electrotechnical applications TC 15, Solid electrical insulating materials TC 28, Insulation coordination TC 36, Insulators SC 36A, Insulated bushings SC 36C, Insulators for substations TC 77, Electromagnetic compatibility TC 112, Evaluation and qualification of electrical insulating materials and systems TC 121A, Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear
System Committees (TC 17 role as supplier)	SC 32A, High-voltage fuses TC 33, Power capacitors and their applications TC 99, System engineering and erection of electrical power installations in systems with nominal voltages above 1 kV a.c. and 1,5 kV d.c., particularly concerning safety aspects
Other Committees (TC 17 in contact with for technical consistency)	TC 9, Electrical equipment and systems for railways TC 28, Insulation co-ordination TC 42, High-voltage and high-current test techniques

Committee Relationships and Communications Systems... *(continued)*

In addition, there are committees serving horizontal functions that provide guidance on approaches that have been found to work in many situations.

As devices become more complex and interconnected to form systems that rely on other devices, products are being tasked with performing in roles not originally anticipated. Take the telephone, for example, and recall that it was not that many decades ago when phones were tied to a physical location by a cord connecting through a system of interconnects to central routing locations. Not only does your cell phone – able to fit in your pocket – no longer have wires to tie it down, but it has more computing power than computers that more than filled rooms. Another example is electronic motor control, formerly developed to serve in industrial applications but becoming more widely

used in appliances, recliner chairs, and electric vehicles. This expanded scope is forcing manufacturers, users, and standards developers to re-examine products for how they are used and to what sort of environment they are exposed. In turn, the requirements suitable for historic applications must be modified, and communication between all interested parties must take place to ensure compatibility.

Additional fallout from the increasing complexity of devices and systems is that the components of those end products seem to be just another part of the design. The end-product engineers and committees see that there is a particular function that needs to be addressed and focus on the function, not on the potential availability of distinct components serving the need without reinventing the wheel. In addition, while the end product committee certainly has the expertise on



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the application, there may be nuances and specialized experience within the component committee and its standards that would facilitate the overall operation and safety in the application.

APPLICATION TO TAGS

In the USNC, operation of TAGs typically has focused on developing and submitting positions on IEC documents and activities that reflect the interests within the U.S. only for the products or subjects under the scope of their IEC committee. Now, it is beneficial to establish liaisons between TAGs similar to those in IEC. This allows communication of new and changing requirements that impact partner committees so that adjustments can be made. In addition, the liaison enables discussion of proposals to determine if there would be unanticipated impacts on other U.S. colleagues. Furthermore, collaboration would enable concerns to be addressed regarding the ability of components to fulfill the needs of the end product or system application given the current parameters employed in developing the pertinent standard.

ONE MORE RECOMMENDATION

Review the SBP of the IEC committee being addressed and work with your colleagues – you never know what you might learn or be able to contribute to the overall community. ☺

LAUGH TRACK



"To improve our teamwork, only three chutes will open."

CartoonStock.com

Collaboration within the Domain of an IEC System Committee

By Alec McMillan, Principal Advisor, Rockwell Automation; IEC SEG 7 Smart Manufacturing Co-Convenor; SMB Ad Hoc Group 70 Member

IEC Systems Committees (SyCs) are proposed to coordinate activities between multiple technical committees from many standards developing organizations, each delivering standards for implementation within a complex domain such as Smart Energy, Smart Cities, Active Assisted Living, Low Voltage Direct Current Applications, and Smart Manufacturing.

The standards from each of the committees, when implemented together, are required to be complementary and support the desired features and functions of the overall system. The degree of interdependence of each standard will vary from the basic requirement of a common physical mechanical or electrical interconnection, to requirements for communication interfaces supporting specific communication protocols and requiring common data specifications which enable interoperability of the system. Each of the standards in the system will also have to support the desired system levels of safety, security, and reliability, as well as support the desired energy and environmental aspects of the particular business model implemented.

The complex relationships that exist in these domains require greater transparency and collaboration between the participating Technical Committees (TCs) to achieve the system's goal. This was addressed in a "lessons learned" system review by IEC Standardization Management Board (SMB) Adhoc Group (ahG) 70, which had a significant discussion about how an SyC would relate to the IEC TCs as well as non-IEC groups, and what could be done to encourage support and participation by these groups in the SyC's work.

It was agreed within ahG 70 that participation by TCs and non-IEC groups



should be strongly encouraged. The ahG explored the possibility of current liaison structures and ways to adjust the liaison processes for SyCs, and after extended debate, it was agreed that even a modified liaison process would still potentially discourage participation by other groups.

RECOMMENDATION: CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

A more open process was proposed and adopted by the SMB, which created a new class of "Contributing Member" within the SyCs. The principles of the process allow:

- Any TC and non-IEC group that is determined to have meaningful inputs to the work of the SyC can be named "Contributing Member" of the SyC ("C-Member")
- C-Members can be TCs/SCs (including ISO/IEC JTC1 SCs) or technical groups (outside of the IEC), and must be approved by a vote of the Systems Committee P-Members, with notification to the SMB through the Report to the Standardization

Management Board (RSMB).

- Each SyC plenary will review the list of C-Members and recommend any additions or removals.
- C-Members (TCs and non-IEC groups) can appoint experts to the expert pool.
- C-Members shall have the right to provide comments (but not vote) on any SyC document circulated for comment or voting.
- The list of C-Members shall be listed on the IEC web page for the SyC. Contact points for Contributing Members shall be maintained by the SyC Secretariat.
- Contributing Membership held by an IEC TC in the SyC will allow all experts in that TC to have access to the SyC Documents on the dashboard.
- C-Members do not have the right to introduce documents into the SyC for voting and approval. Any organizations who wish to bring in documents to the SyC should use the normal A, B, or D Liaison process.

(continued)

Collaboration within the Domain of an IEC System Committee *(continued)*

RECOMMENDATION: POOL OF EXPERTS

AhG 70 also proposed a new type of group, the "Pool of Experts," which was accepted by the SMB, in which:

- National Committees (NCs) can appoint experts to a SyC pool (managed by the SyC) with access to projects and groups, rather than to specific Working Group (WG) or document projects.
- System committees can define a call for experts based on a skill set description and can ask experts appointed to the pool to respond to a survey on their skill set inventory.
- NCs will appoint all interested members of the predecessor SEG to the SyC Pool for the first three years of the SyC, subject to their willingness to meet normal NC criteria for experts (qualifications and/or fees, etc.).
- NCs are encouraged to consider the appointment of SyC experts recommended by the SyC officers.
- Any expert appointed to the SyC Pool will have access to all of the documents for the SyC.

- C-Members are also encouraged to appoint experts to the membership pool.

RECOMMENDATION: DOCUMENT CIRCULATION

Additionally, the SMB also approved recommendations on document circulation to enhance the transparency of SyCs work to TCs and other outside groups:

- Documents will be sent to the officers of the IEC TCs and non-IEC organizations recognized by the SyC as Contributing Members and within two weeks, the Contributing Member officers shall respond to the SyC Secretary indicating their support or disagreement to the contents of the document, especially those parts referencing current or proposed work of the Contributing Members.
- SyC officers will take feedback of the Contributing Members into consideration deciding whether to amend or advance the SyC document for circulation.
- Documents circulated by the SyC for voting or comment shall also be



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circulated as an INF to each IEC TC/SC that is a Contributing Member of the SyC and provided to the non-IEC Contributing members for circulation to their constituency for information.

- SyCs must consider and respond to all feedback received.

It is anticipated that these three recommendations when implemented will facilitate more open communication and collaboration between the partner Technical Committees participating in the SyC and improve efficiency. ☺

DECISION DEPOT

This quarterly column provides easy access to recent decisions that have been made regarding IEC and USNC policies and procedures that directly affect our members. Click the links below to access the recent decisions.



- [SMB DECISION LIST](#)
[SMB/6363/DL](#)
- [CAB DECISION LIST](#)
[CAB/1699/DL](#)
- [IEC COUNCIL DECISION](#)
[LIST C/2065/DL](#)



Apply Today! Nominations for IEC Young Professionals Workshop Due June 1



United States
National Committee
of the IEC



The USNC is currently seeking nominations of emerging electrotechnology professionals to participate in the upcoming IEC Young Professionals 2018 Workshop, which will be held 22 – 26 October, in Busan, South Korea, in conjunction with the 82nd IEC General Meeting (GM). Nominations can be submitted using the [USNC Young Professionals \(YP\) Workshop Nomination Form](#) until June 1, 2018.

YP PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Each year, the IEC Young Professionals Workshop assembles international candidates at the beginning of their careers in electrotechnical standardization who have been chosen by IEC National Committees around the world. The program supports the increased involvement of young professionals in international electrotechnical standards and conformity assessment work, bolstering the future of technology transfer and long-term national involvement in the international standardization arena.

Alongside recipients from other nations, the USNC-selected young professionals will take part in a dedicated workshop covering information about the IEC and relevant strategies for international standardization and/or conformity assessment work. Networking opportunities will help cultivate long-term involvement of young people from all over the world in international

standardization. Participants will also be given the opportunity to visit local industry, receive guidance from a mentor, and observe a meeting of the IEC Standardization Management Board (SMB) and Conformity Assessment Board (CAB). Individuals chosen to take part in the 2018 Young Professionals Workshop will be financially supported for their travel to Busan and for up to three nights of accommodations.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS


The USNC will select up to three young professionals to represent the United States at the 2018 workshop. The selectees may be employed by industry, the government, academic bodies, consumer organizations, or any other member of the U.S. standards and conformance community that uses, benefits from, or contributes to the IEC's work in electrotechnical standardization and conformity assessment. The program is intended for individuals who have completed their undergraduate education and are in the early stages of their profession—graduate engineers or managers, for example.

Candidates may be nominated by any interested stakeholder who is not a member of the program's selection panel; letters of support from members of the standardization community testifying to the candidate's appropriateness for the

workshop and significant achievements to date are highly encouraged. Prospective candidates may also nominate themselves, but must provide at least one letter of professional recommendation and written assurance that their employers have agreed to allow them to attend the 2018 IEC GM if selected.

Candidates will be judged based on their demonstrated leadership and dedication in connection with standardization and/or conformity assessment activities, as well as their vision of the larger commercial and strategic impact of standards and conformance work, and their accomplishments in their chosen field of activity. Nominated individuals will be assessed by a selection panel made up of USNC officers, standing committee officers, former U.S. Young Professionals Workshop participants, and a pool of USNC Honorary Life Members. All individuals chosen to take part in the 2018 Young Professionals Workshop will be notified in July 2018.

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!

To nominate yourself or another individual, complete the [USNC Young Professionals \(YP\) Workshop Nomination Form](#) and submit it to Kendall Szulewski-Francis at ksfrancis@ansi.org by **June 1, 2018**. For more information about the IEC YP Program, visit www.iec.ch/members_experts/ypp/. 

Register Now! USNC Effective IEC Participation Online Course on May 22

The next USNC Effective IEC Participation Course will take place on Tuesday, May 22, 2018, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM (EDT). This online webinar is designed to give tips and advice to USNC delegates who wish to improve their skills as representatives of the U.S. electrotechnical sector at IEC meetings. In addition, the course is a great introduction to international meeting protocol for those who are new to the work of the USNC and IEC.

The instructors for the May 22 course will be:

- Sonya Bird, USNC Vice President – Technical, U.S. IEC/SMB Representative; International Standards Manager, Underwriters Laboratories Inc.
- Elaina Finger, USNC Communications & Continuing Education Committee Chair; Global Standards Process Coordinator, Corning Incorporated

Please complete your registration and

submit the required \$100 fee by Friday, May 18, using the following link:

[Effective IEC Participation Course – Registration](#)

Pre-requisite: The USNC/IEC Training Modules have been made available to the USNC Constituency. If you are new to the USNC/IEC, it is essential that you

review and familiarize yourself with these modules prior to participating in this course. You can view these modules by [clicking here](#).

Please note: This course is on a first come, first served basis. The maximum number of participants for the course is 35 people, so please register as soon as possible. ☹

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST



Stay up on the latest policies, documents, and other resources from the USNC, IEC, ANSI, and other partners in the standards and conformity assessment community.

- [IEC News Log](#)
- [Fly Me to the Sky](#)
- [From Driver to Driven](#)
- [A New Era of Solar PV](#)

New! IEC Academy Provides Centralized Access to Online Training in Standardization

By Elaina Finger

Created to better support IEC National Committees and the broader community, IEC Academy opened its virtual doors in January 2018. A concept announced in IEC AC/36/2017, IEC Academy is a centralized web location for IEC training for standards and conformity assessment experts, academia, young professionals, affiliates, committees and working groups.

Among the objectives of the IEC Academy is to create a harmonized set of training materials to be used by the Central Office and National Committees, tailored by role, to ensure that NC Officers and Secretaries as well as TC/SC officers, conveners, project leaders, and experts are well-educated and better able to carry out their duties in an efficient manner, thereby enabling shorter standards development time. To this end, they offer the following:

- **Monthly webinars and training workshops**

Every second Tuesday of the month, there are two identical webinars offered at different times to accommodate participants in various time zones. These webinars



The screenshot shows the IEC Academy website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for 'You & the IEC', 'About the IEC', 'News & views', 'Standards development', 'Conformity assessment', 'Members & experts', 'Developing countries', 'IEC Academy', and 'Webstore'. A search bar is located to the right of the menu. Below the navigation, the 'IEC Academy' section is highlighted, with a sub-menu for 'Academy'. The main content area is divided into three columns: 'Reference Material', 'eLearning', and 'Webinars and Training Workshops'. The 'Webinars and Training Workshops' section contains a table with the following data:

Date	Time	Title	Location	PDF
2018-01-15	09:30-10:30	New IEC Collaboration Platform - Introduction	Play ▶	3.12MB
2018-01-15	14:30-15:30	New IEC Collaboration Platform - Introduction	Play ▶	
2018-01-16	09:30-10:30	Standards Development Processes	Play ▶	629KB
2018-01-16	14:30-15:30	Standards Development Processes	Play ▶	
2018-01-25	09:30-10:30	New IEC Collaboration Platform - Introduction	Play ▶	3.12MB
2018-01-25	14:30-15:30	New IEC Collaboration Platform - Introduction	Play ▶	
2018-02-20	09:30-10:30	Drafting of Standards	Play ▶	1.49MB
2018-02-20	14:30-15:30	Drafting of Standards	Play ▶	
2018-03-13	09:30-10:30	Conformity Assessment and Standards Development	Play ▶	1.64MB
2018-03-13	14:30-15:30	Conformity Assessment and Standards Development	Play ▶	
2018-04-10	09:30-10:30	Best Practices for WG Conveners and Project leaders	Play ▶	

include such topics as the new IEC Collaboration Platform, the Standards Development Process, Drafting of Standards, Conformity Assessment, and Best Practices for Working Group conveners and project leaders. Online registration is open, and a recording of each session is available for viewing after the fact for those who cannot attend.

- **Links to eLearning sites**

Access training modules for IEC Conformity Assessment groups and the YP Program, take an interactive training course on the IEC, or schedule a customized web-based or on-site training for your TC on drafting IEC publications.

- **Access to reference material**

Links to many informative and practical areas on the IEC website are provided. These include information on roles and responsibilities for various TC/SC functions, processes and procedures for the development and maintenance of international standards and other deliverables, and tools and services provided by the IEC to assist in the work of the NCs, TCs, SCs and other groups.

The IEC Academy manager, Jan-Henrik Tiedemann of the IEC Central Office, will be working closely with National Committees to assess needs, discuss ideas, and develop appropriate tools to achieve common goals related to training, webinars and e-Learning. He would also like to hear from individuals with feedback on current offerings as well as ideas for future webinars. Email him at jti@iec.ch.

To access the IEC Academy, go to:
www.iec.ch/academy

USNC Mourns the Losses of John Rennie and Milena Krasich



The USNC and IEC communities were deeply saddened in recent weeks by the deaths of two of its dedicated members and outstanding leaders, John Rennie and Milena Krasich.

JOHN RENNIE

John Rennie, longtime Technical Advisor for the USNC Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for IEC Technical Committee (TC) 31, *Equipment for explosive atmospheres*, passed away on March 20, 2018, at the age of 82.

Mr. Rennie was a lifetime member of the USNC/IEC, representing the United States and FM Approvals, and served on the management committees for many years. He also served as Working Group manager for several other IEC TCs.

Mr. Rennie was the beloved husband of the late Deborah S. (Martin) Rennie. A devoted father, he is succeeded by his children, Deborah J. Jernegan and her husband Clifford of Edgartown, Nancy E. Webster and her husband Kenneth of Norfolk, and Julie S. Gelerman and her husband Edward of Canton. He was also a loving brother of Alex B. Rennie and his wife Virginia O'Toole of Falmouth, and the cherished grandfather of Laura, Alex, Eva, Katie, K.C., Ella, Andrew, Jack, and Meghan.

A graduate of Northeastern University, Mr. Rennie was a retired engineer for Factory Mutual (FM), and served as a member of the Board of Directors of ANSI and ISA. As an ANSI member, he was the FM Approvals representative to the ANSI Electrical and Electronic Standards Management Committee, in addition to being the major interface between FM Approvals and ANSI. He was presented with the prestigious Elihu Thomson Electrotechnology Medal by ANSI in 2009 in recognition of his exceptional work in international standardization. He continued to participate in TC 31 activities, reading document and providing comments until very recently.

The USNC sends its deepest sympathies to Mr. Rennie's family and friends; he will be missed.



MILENA KRASICH

On March 21, 2018, Milena Krasich, an esteemed leader and renowned expert in the area of dependability, passed away at the age of 81.

Ms. Krasich became involved in the USNC/IEC in June 2003 as Deputy Technical Advisor for TC 56, *Dependability*. Within a year she had become the head delegate representing the USNC at meetings with the U.S. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and internationally at IEC. She was at the forefront of standards work in this area, participating in numerous Working Groups and Project Teams.

Ms. Krasich was born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, on December 16, 1936, to parents Zivojin and Elisabeth Pandurovic. Excelling academically, she became a proud professional before emigrating to Switzerland and then on to the United States. She worked on projects ranging from naval weapons, to Mars spacecraft, to acoustic reliability, and is responsible for the development of a patent on *System, Method, and Apparatus for Modeling Project Reliability*. She was a trailblazer for women in the electrical engineering field, writing multiple publications, accepting numerous awards, and traveling the world on behalf of her professional affiliations, all while raising a family of three. She was also an avid pet lover and was never without her furry friends.

Ms. Krasich is survived by her three children, Irena Homsher, Andre Krasich, and Emil Krasich; her grandchildren, Julia Homsher and Ava Homsher; her son-in-law, Dustin Homsher; her daughter-in-law, Sarah Ottow; and her ex-husband, Mihailo Krasich. Her beloved pets, Mishko, Mimi, and Scarlet have all found new homes.

Ms. Krasich's impact will live on, and she will not be forgotten. The USNC sends its condolences to her family and friends.



Nominations Now Being Accepted for ANSI 2018 Leadership and Service Awards



ANSI 2018 Leadership & Service Awards

Celebrating Excellence

Nomination Deadline: June 15

ANSI has announced a call for nominations for its 2018 Leadership and Service Awards. Presented in conjunction with World Standards Week 2018, the awards honor individuals who have made significant contributions to voluntary consensus standardization and conformity assessment programs and have consistently demonstrated a commitment to their industry, the nation, and the enhancement of the global standards system.

"The annual awards program is a long-standing and valuable ANSI tradition," said S. Joe Bhatia, ANSI president and CEO. "We welcome this opportunity each year to recognize the tremendous contributions that individuals with diverse backgrounds and perspectives make to standards and conformity assessment issues that affect both the economy and our well-being."

The following Leadership and Service Awards are open for nominations:

- Astin-Polk International Standards Medal
- Coonley Medal
- Finegan Standards Medal
- Lohse Information Technology Medal
- Meritorious Service Award
- Next Generation Award
- Ritterbusch Conformity Assessment Medal

- Thomson Electrotechnology Medal
- Wham Leadership Medal
- President's Award for Journalism

Representatives of industry, government, academia, consumer organizations, and the U.S. voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment community, with the exception of current officers of the Institute's Board of Directors, are considered eligible for an award. Recipients will be chosen from the list of nominees by an awards committee comprised of the officers of the ANSI

Board of Directors.

ANSI will honor the 2018 award recipients on the evening of Wednesday, October 17, 2018, at a banquet and ceremony to be held at the

Fairmont Hotel in Washington, DC.

Nominations are due by Friday, June 15, 2018 (5 p.m. Eastern).

Along with the nomination form, letters of support from members of the standardization community attesting to the nominee's outstanding achievements and appropriateness for receipt of the award are strongly encouraged. The nomination forms are available here. Winners will be announced by August 2018.

For information detailing the nomination procedure, the recipient selection process, and nomination forms, visit www.ansi.org/awards. ☺



World Standards Week 2018 Schedule Released



ANSI has announced the schedule of events for World Standards Week (WSW) 2018, on October 15–19 in Washington, DC. WSW is an annual event where members of the standards and conformity assessment community come together in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018

- Intellectual Property Rights Policy Committee Meeting (IPRPC), Day 1
- Standards Competition

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2018

- IPRPC Meeting, Day 2
- ANSI Legal Issues Forum 2018

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018

- ANSI International Policy Committee (IPC) Meeting
- 2018 ANSI Awards Reception, Banquet, and Ceremony

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018

- ANSI Joint Member Forum
- ANSI Annual Business Meeting Luncheon
- U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day 2018

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2018

- National Policy Committee & Conformity Assessment Policy Committee Meeting (NPC/CAPC)

Visit www.ansi.org/wsweek for further details on events, sponsorship opportunities, and registration. ☺

Host City: **SAN FRANCISCO!**

Sponsor the IEC 2022 General Meeting
Hosted by the USNC

For only the seventh time since 1904, the United States is gearing up to host the IEC General Meeting, 31 October – 4 November, 2022, in San Francisco. Organizations with a stake in all areas of electrotechnology are invited to demonstrate their commitment to international standardization and conformity assessment through sponsorship of the ten-day event.

For more information, see the [IEC 2022 Sponsorship Brochure](#) or contact Kendall Szulewski-Francis at ksfrancis@ansi.org or 212-642-4965.



Thank You to the Organizations Already on Board as IEC 2022 Sponsors



SAVE THE DATE

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Meetings & Events

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The USNC Current newsletter is distributed to the constituency of the U.S. National Committee (USNC) of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). It provides updates on technical activities and other information of interest to members of the electrotechnical community. Some articles are reprinted with permission from the IEC News log.

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The opinions expressed by the authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the USNC/IEC nor of ANSI.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Contributions are gladly accepted for review and possible publication, subject to revision by the editors. Submit proposed news items to: Kendall Szulewski-Francis, ksfrancis@ansi.org

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2018

15 – 17 May
PASC Okayama, Japan

11 – 12 June
SMB, CAB Meetings
Geneva, Switzerland

15 – 17 May
PASC/APCF Meetings
Okayama City, Japan

10 – 11 June
CAG, CAB Meetings
Geneva, Switzerland

11 – 12 June
CAG, SMB Meetings
Geneva, Switzerland

13 June
IEC Council Board
Geneva, Switzerland

Week of 10 September
CAPCC/TMC/Council
TIA: Arlington, VA

12 September
Industry Event: Standards
and the Protection of Critical
Infrastructure
Washington, DC

10 – 12 October
FINCA Meetings
Mexico City, Mexico



22 – 26
October
82nd IEC General Meeting
22 October: SMB, CAB
24 October: CB
26 October: Council
Busan, Republic of Korea

2022

31 October – 4 November
86th IEC General Meeting
San Francisco, CA, USA

Hosted by



United States
National Committee
of the IEC

For additional event info,
visit www.ansi.org/calendar and
search for "USNC" or "IEC"

UPCOMING 2018 ISSUES OF THE USNC CURRENT

www.ansi.org/usnc

Q II Cybersecurity

Q III Stakeholder Involvement

Q IV Regional Partnerships (FINCA,
COPANT, APCF, PASC, etc.)