



1918 - 2018

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
WITH THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE



1910–1920

Founding a Standards System in the United States

In 1918, the American Engineering Standards Committee (AESC) is formed as a public-private partnership from a group of five engineering organizations and three federal agencies. Initially, AESC has a budget of only \$7,500 and a staff of two people. Its first approved standard is for screw threading sizes on pipes.

January

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1920–1930

The Roaring Twenties and the Rise of Standards

With the booming industrialization of the 1920s, AESC works to establish the beginnings of a nationwide standards system that helps modernize the U.S. mining, engineering, and construction industries; develop infrastructure; and improve the safety of industrial workers. In 1928, AESC reorganizes and forms the American Standards Association (ASA).

February

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1930-1940

Standards at Home and at Work

Despite the economic downturn of the Great Depression, standards development in the U.S. broadens its focus to address occupational safety and household technology. And looking beyond our borders, ASA becomes affiliated with the U.S. National Committee (USNC) of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

March

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STANDARDIZATION



**WILL BRING
OUR BOYS
HOME SAFE!**

1940–1950

Standardization Goes to War

During the Second World War, ASA plays a key role in the U.S. war effort by setting standards for the manufacture of parts used in weapons and vehicles and ensuring that they can be produced more quickly, cheaply, and in greater numbers. Nearly 1,300 engineers work on special committees to produce the American War Standards and Procedures, which are critical to meet the nation's wartime industrial needs. After the war, ASA and 24 standards organizations from other countries come together in Europe to form the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

April

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1950–1960

The Post-War Industrialization Boom

The '50s are a time of great technological growth and optimism, including new areas of industry that have never been seen before. ASA helps to guide the industry through the development of fields like nuclear energy, along with the electronics innovations and early computers that will pave the way for the Information Age.

May

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Peace Love Standards



1960-1970

A Decade of Growth and Change

Reorganizing once more to the USA Standards Institute (USASI), the Institute releases its first accreditation mark: the American National Standard (ANS), which becomes a highly coveted status in the standardization community. A few years later, USASI reorganizes again to become the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

June

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1970-1980

Strengthening the Standardization System

In 1970, ANSI formalizes its public review process and establishes the Board of Standards Review, which greatly enhances the openness, credibility, and balance of the standards development process. This innovation is one of the most significant developments in the Institute's history, and it greatly increases confidence in the national standardization system. Looking internationally, in 1976 the USNC of the IEC becomes a formal, integrated body of ANSI.

July

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GLOBALIZATION



1980-1990

The Age of Globalization

The '80s see the birth of numerous global economic institutions and free-trade agreements, increasing the need for standardization on a global level to unlock foreign markets. To meet the challenge, the standards system grows to encompass not only products and worker safety, but also performance, processes, and personnel best practices. ANSI cements its key policy and technical leadership roles within ISO and IEC and focuses intently on regional and bilateral outreach programs.

August

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1990–2000

Taking a Lead Role in the New Economy

As competition among global markets increases, involvement in the standardization community becomes increasingly relevant for organizations that are looking for a strategic advantage over their competitors. The World Trade Organization reinforces and defines the global importance of standards, while domestically the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 mandates that all federal agencies rely upon voluntary consensus standards wherever possible.

September

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Standardization NATION



2000–2010

The New Millennium

With a new focus on engagement with government agencies, ANSI officially moves its headquarters to Washington, DC, and publishes its first-ever National Standards Strategy. As prominent nationwide product recalls draw attention to the importance of product safety and how companies source their materials, ANSI takes a leading role in demonstrating the value of standards and conformance in keeping consumers safe.

October

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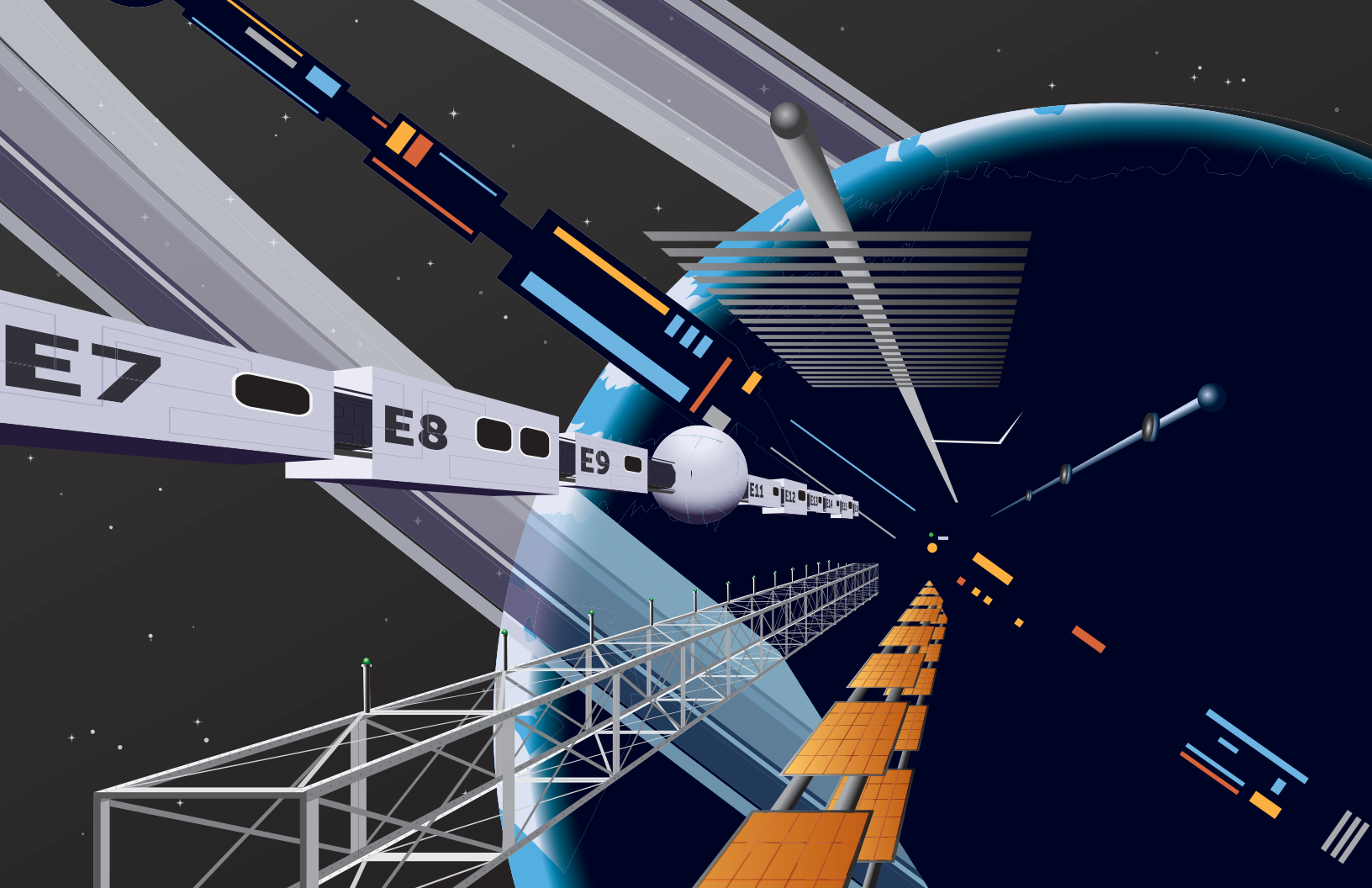
2010-2020

A Changing Economy

As new information technologies begin to radically transform the U.S. economy, ANSI begins to focus on service sector jobs, workforce development, and credentialing. Recognizing the importance of emerging technologies that will continue to revolutionize the way we work, play, and live, ANSI takes a lead role in issues such as nanotechnology, additive manufacturing (3D printing), and drones.

NOVEMBER

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What's next?

Looking to the Future

As mankind continues to develop the technologies that are still only in the realm of science fiction, ANSI will continue to lead the way—ensuring that standards and conformance will support a better future for us all.

December

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A Century of ANSI:

Celebrating the Art of Standardization

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2018. Please enjoy this desk calendar, where important moments in ANSI's history are described alongside original illustrations representing notable design styles of each decade.

