



American National Standards Institute

Throughout its history, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has maintained as its primary goal the enhancement of global competitiveness of U.S. business and the American quality of life by facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems and promoting their integrity. The Institute provides a forum for hundreds of ANSI-accredited standards developers that work cooperatively to develop American National Standards (ANS).

ANSI is the official U.S. representative to the International Accreditation Forum, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), via the U.S. National Committee.

Comprised of businesses, professional societies and trade associations, standards developers, government agencies, and consumer and labor organizations, the ANSI Federation represents the diverse interests of more than 120,000 entities and 3.2 million professionals worldwide.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

NANOTECHNOLOGY STANDARDS PANEL

NANOTECHNOLOGY

Research and technology development at the atomic, molecular, and macromolecular levels aimed at creating and using structures, devices, and systems that have novel properties and functions because of their small size.



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Nanotechnology is quickly becoming more commercially viable and rapid progress is being made in the manufacture and characterization of nanoscale materials. As the pace accelerates, the emerging need for standards is increasingly clear to researchers, manufacturers, regulators, and other stakeholders.

A cross-sector coordinating body

In response to a request of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) in the Executive Office of the President of the United States, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) formed its Nanotechnology Standards Panel (ANSI-NSP) in August 2004. The Panel serves as a cross-sector coordinating body established for the purpose of developing standards in the area of nanotechnology.

Initial area of focus

The ANSI-NSP's initial area of focus is nomenclature and terminology. Further possible areas of work may include materials properties as well as procedures for testing, measurement and characterization.

Participation is open to all

The ANSI-NSP provides the framework within which stakeholders can work cooperatively to promote, accelerate and coordinate the timely development of voluntary consensus standards that are intended to meet identified needs related to nanotechnology research, development, and commercialization.

Membership in the ANSI-NSP is open to all directly and materially-affected parties.

For more information, please visit
www.ansi.org/nsp

Objectives of the ANSI-NSP

- Coordinate and provide a forum for interested parties to define needs, determine work plans and establish priorities for updating standards or creating new standards.
- Solicit participation from nanotechnology-related sectors and academia that have not traditionally participated in the voluntary standards system, and work cooperatively to achieve the mission of the ANSI-NSP.
- Facilitate the timely development and adoption of standards responsive to identified needs in the area of nanotechnology in general and nomenclature/terminology specifically.
- Facilitate and promote cross-sector collaborative efforts between standards developing organizations to establish work plans and develop joint and/or complementary standards.
- Where standards do not exist, obtain agreement from a standards developer to initiate development of the standard in a timely manner.
- Establish and maintain liaison with other national, regional and international standards efforts addressing nanotechnology issues so as not to create identical or harmonize existing standards.
- Establish and maintain a database of nanotechnology standards, accessible from the Internet, and capable of generating updates, notices, and reports.
- Identify any impediments preventing the timely adoption of American National Standards.
- Make widely available the results of the ANSI-NSP's work.