

What is an **American National Standard (ANS)** anyway?
And how can I participate in the ANS development process?

- ✓ The webinar will start at 2pm Eastern
- ✓ All participants are muted for the duration of the webinar
- ✓ Slides will be distributed to all by email
- ✓ Please use the **CHAT** option to submit a question and send it to “All Panelists” (Not to the Host)
- ✓ This session will be recorded and the recording *may* be available at a later date





A NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION

THAT
COORDINATES
THE U.S. STANDARDIZATION SYSTEM

AND
REPRESENTS U.S. INTERESTS
TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATIONS



ALMOST **EVERYTHING**
AROUND YOU

IS AFFECTED BY
STANDARDIZATION

Let's get started...

- On behalf of ANSI, thanks very much for your interest
- A huge thank you to those of you who are already involved in standards...you literally make the world a better place
- Goals for the next 90 minutes:
 - ✓ Connect you to the world of standards and pique your interest
 - ✓ Share information about ANSI and the “American National Standards” (ANS) process
 - ✓ Spread the word about the value of standards in our daily lives and to the U.S. economy
 - ✓ Encourage you to get involved through ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers (www.ansi.org/asd)



Standards

are the building blocks of innovation.

They establish the size, shape, or capacity of a product or system. They specify performance of products, processes, or personnel. They may also define terms.

Today is a review of the basics

- What is a standard?
- A bit about the U.S. Standards System
- What is ANSI? For more: www.ansi.org
- Why do standards matter and who creates them?
- What are American National Standards (ANS)?
 - ✓ What requirements apply to the ANS consensus process?
 - *ANSI Essential Requirements: Due process requirements for American National Standards (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements)*
 - ✓ Who develops ANS?
 - ✓ How you can participate in the development of ANS through [ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers \(ASDs\)](#)

So let's begin with some context ...

The Public/Private Partnership



The cornerstone of the
U.S. standardization
system

Government and
industry together
develop standards to
achieve policy objectives.

The Public/Private Partnership



1995 National Technology
Transfer and Advancement
Act (NTTAA) —
Public Law 104-113

Encourages government
agencies to rely on existing
private-sector standards
whenever possible

There are more than
100,000 standards in
the U.S...

...developed by
hundreds of SDOs and
consortia...

...with over **13,000**
approved as American
National Standards (ANS).



What is a standard? A VCS? An ANS?

- **Standard***: a document that tells you how to define or do or say or make or test or organize or design something
 - **Voluntary Consensus Standard (VCS)*** (*definition to follow*): a private sector standard developed in a specifically defined open and fair environment with general agreement by stakeholders (OMB A-119, NTTAA)
 - see <https://www.nist.gov/standardsgov/what-we-do/federal-policy-standards/key-federal-directives>
 - **American National Standard (ANS)**: a VCS developed in accordance with the “ANSI Essential Requirements: Due process requirements for American National Standards” and subject to ANSI’s **unique**: 1) accreditation of consensus procedures; 2) neutral oversight; 3) approval process; 4) Patent Policy; 5) appeals process; and 6) procedural audit process.

* Simplified definition

For reference...

- National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 ([NTTAA](#))
 - This law directs all federal government agencies to use, wherever feasible, standards and conformity assessment solutions developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies in lieu of developing government-unique standards or regulations.
- [OMB Circular A-119](#): *Federal Participation in the Development and use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities*
 - “The policies of Circular A-119 are intended to encourage Federal agencies to benefit from the expertise of the private sector, promote Federal agency participation in standards bodies to support the creation of standards that are useable by Federal agencies, and minimize reliance on government-unique standards where an existing standard would meet the Federal government’s objective.”

Definition of VCS Body

OMB Circular A-119

- e. “**Voluntary Consensus Standards body**” is a type of association, organization, or technical society that plans, develops, establishes, or coordinates voluntary consensus standards using a voluntary consensus standards development process that includes the following attributes or elements:
- (i) **Openness:** The procedures or processes used are open to interested parties. Such parties are provided meaningful opportunities to participate in standards development on a non-discriminatory basis. The procedures or processes for participating in standards development and for developing the standard are transparent.
 - (ii) **Balance:** The standards development process should be balanced. Specifically, there should be meaningful involvement from a broad range of parties, with no single interest dominating the decision-making.
 - (iii) **Due process:** Due process shall include documented and publically available policies and procedures, adequate notice of meetings and standards development, sufficient time to review drafts and prepare views and objections, access to views and objections of other participants, and a fair and impartial process for resolving conflicting views.
 - (iv) **Appeals process:** An appeals process shall be available for the impartial handling of procedural appeals.
 - (v) **Consensus:** Consensus is defined as general agreement, but not necessarily unanimity. During the development of consensus, comments and objections are considered using fair, impartial, open, and transparent processes.

Definition of VCS from OMB Circular A-119

What Are Voluntary Consensus Standards?

- “Voluntary consensus standard” is a type of standard developed or adopted by **voluntary consensus standards bodies**, through the use of a voluntary consensus standards **development process** as described in Section 2e.
 - These bodies often have **intellectual property rights (IPR)** policies that include provisions requiring that owners of relevant patented technology incorporated into a standard make that intellectual property available to implementers of the standard on non-discriminatory and royalty-free or reasonable royalty terms (and to bind subsequent owners of standards essential patents to the same terms).
 - In order to qualify as a “voluntary consensus standard” for the purposes of this Circular, a standard that includes patented technology needs to be governed by such policies, which should be easily accessible, set out clear rules governing the disclosure and licensing of the relevant intellectual property, and take into account the interests of all stakeholders, including the IPR holders and those seeking to implement the standard.
- *ANSI’s Patent Policy that applies to American National Standards (section 3.1 of the ANSI Essential Requirements) fulfills this requirement and has existed for more than 50 years*

ANSI Patent Policy = IPR Policy for ANS

- ANSI Patent Policy (3.1 of the *ANSI Essential Requirements*) is a safeguard for users of an ANS and for ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers (ASD) because it lets both know whether a patent holder of *essential* technology that is referenced in the ANS is available on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms (RAND) to all who wish to implement the ANS
 - the Patent Policy applies only to "essential" patent claims and not to patented technology that may be referenced in the standard, but is not necessary in order to comply with the standard's requirements
 - early disclosure of the possible existence of any such essential patent claims is encouraged so all are aware and can make informed choices regarding the inclusion of the patented technology
 - the ASD must receive from the patent holder or its designee a written assurance (aka Patent Letter of Assurance - PLOA) that the patent holder either does not hold a patent claim required to implement the standard or that it will license applicants (those seeking to implement the standard) under RAND terms
 - the ANSI Patent Policy requires that when an ASD receives a PLOA for an essential patent, the standard must include a notice that points out to implementers that there may be a patent claim that is essential to the implementation of the standard

ANSI's Patent Policy

- To learn more, see these other ANSI documents for guidance:
 - ✓ 2022 edition of *Guidelines for Implementation of the ANSI Patent Policy - An Aid to More Efficient and Effective Standards Development In Fields That May Involve Patented Technology*
 - ✓ 2020 edition of *Understanding the Patent Policy of the American National Standards Institute ("ANSI") – A Primer*

Let's briefly review some background about standards development...

The U.S. System is Unique

Most countries (top down)

Standards
development
priorities driven by
government or
national standards
bodies

U.S. system (bottom up)

Standards
development
priorities driven
by users and
markets



For More Information on the U.S. System



United States Standards Strategy
www.us-standards-strategy.org



**United States Conformity
Assessment Principles**
www.ansi.org/uscap

Let's look at some key actors in standards development in the U.S.

	ANSI	Standards Developers	Companies & Other Stakeholders	Consumers & Other Stakeholders	Government & Other Stakeholders	NIST
Coordinates U.S. system and policy development	X					
Independently run standards development activities		X				
Coordinates and monitors US Government (USG) use of and participation in VCS activities. Develops NIST standards.						X
Legal metrology and WTO-TBT enquiry point						X
Provides technical input for standards development			X	X	X	X
Participates in U.S. policy development	X	X	X	X	X	X


The Public/Private Partnership

ANSI has a memorandum of understanding with:

NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

- Outlines ANSI's and NIST's responsibilities in standardization
- Recognizes the value of the public/private partnership
- Confirms ANSI's coordinating role in the U.S. standardization system

ANSI's Mission



To enhance both the global competitiveness of U.S. business and the U.S. quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems, and safeguarding their integrity.

ANSI Quick Facts



501 (c) (3)
non-profit

Founded
in 1918

130+ staff

ANSI
Affiliates



workcred
an affiliate of ANSI

70+ staff

ANSI Affiliate Organizations



ANAB is committed to bringing greater trust and confidence to the global marketplace through **comprehensive accreditation services**.



Workcred's mission is to strengthen workforce quality by improving the **credentialing system**, ensuring its ongoing relevance, and preparing employers, workers, educators, and governments to use it effectively.

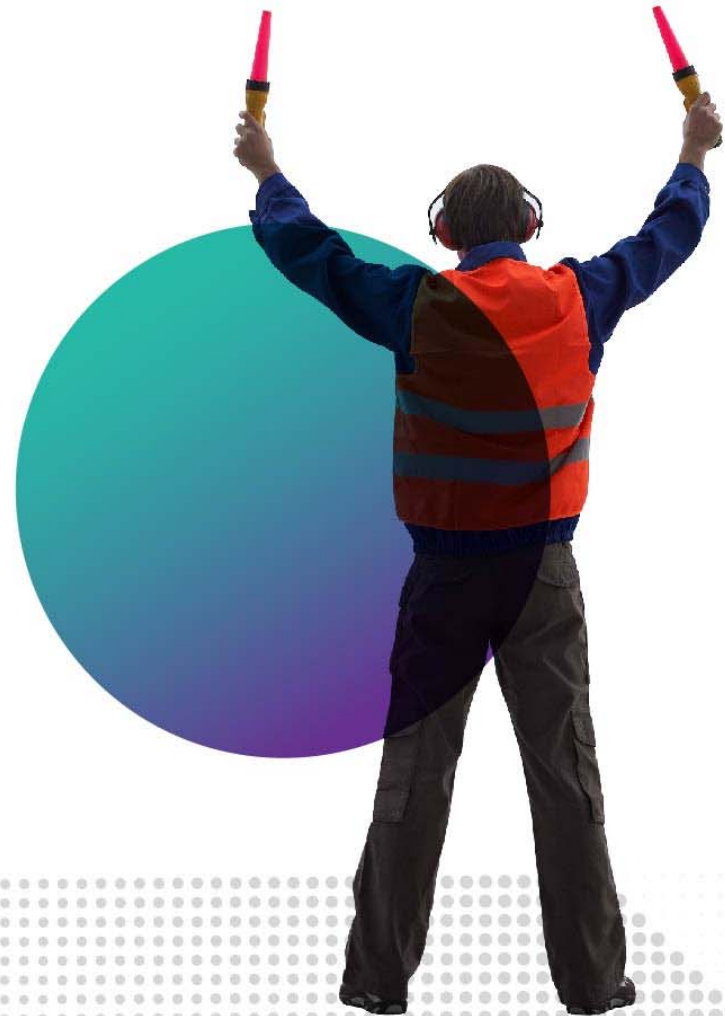
An aerial photograph of a large, circular plaza with a light-colored tiled floor. Numerous people are scattered throughout the plaza, some walking, some standing in groups, and some sitting. The plaza is surrounded by a low wall or railing. The overall scene is busy and open.

ANSI represents and serves the diverse interests
of more than **270,000 COMPANIES**
AND ORGANIZATIONS and **30**
MILLION PROFESSIONALS
worldwide.

ANSI's Role as Coordinator

ANSI **coordinates**,
supports, and
safeguards the
U.S. standards
ecosystem.

(We don't write standards.)



What Does ANSI Do?

Coordinates and ensures the integrity of the standards and conformity assessment system

- » Serves as a bridge between public and private sectors
- » Provides a neutral forum
- » Accredits standards developing organizations (SDOs) and approves American National Standards



Represents the U.S. around the world

- » Serves as the official U.S. representative in international and regional standardization forums
- » Facilitates access to these forums and programs by U.S. experts, organizations, and industry
- » Coordinates standards capacity-building programs in developing countries
- » Promotes U.S. interests





American National Standards Institute

- U.S. national body member to the ISO (International Organization for Standardization www.iso.ch)
- U.S. national body member to the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission www.iec.ch) via the U.S. National Committee (USNC)
- a U.S. member of IAF and ILAC (International Conformity Assessment)
- member of regional forums in the Pacific Rim and the Americas
- liaison with groups in Europe, Africa and the Middle East
- bilateral agreements with other national standards and conformity assessment bodies



As the bridge between public-sector policies and private-sector solutions, ANSI has a vital role to play in strengthening U.S. competitiveness, fostering innovation and improving quality of life.

Let's look at some examples of ANSI as a Convenor...

Standardization Collaboration

One way ANSI coordinates and supports the standardization system is through **standards collaboratives and workshops**, which:

- Bring together the public and private sector in a **neutral forum**
- Identify current and in-development standards, where gaps exist, and recommend solutions
- Identify organizations that can perform the needed work



Standardization Collaboratives

Advance **cross-sector coordination** in the standards and conformance programs needed to support and grow **emerging technologies and markets**

Active Collaboratives:



2017: Unmanned Aircraft Systems Standardization Collaborative



2011: ANSI Electric Vehicles Standards Panel



2003: Homeland Defense and Security Standardization Collaborative



2016: America Makes & ANSI Additive Manufacturing Standardization Collaborative



2004: Nanotechnology Standards Panel

Previous Collaboratives:



2013: ANSI Network: Smart and Sustainable Cities



2010: The Financial Management of Cyber Risk



2006: ID Theft Prevention and ID Management Standards Panel



2012: ANSI Energy Efficiency Standards Coordination Collaborative



2007: ANSI Network on Chemical Regulations



2005: Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel



2010: ANSI-NIST Nuclear Energy Standards Coordination Collaborative



2007: Biofuels Standards Coordination Panel



1994: Information Infrastructure Standards Panel

Standardization Workshops

Convene stakeholders for targeted workshops to **identify potential areas for standards coordination** and **propose appropriate activities** (which may evolve into a collaborative)

Active Workshops:



2022: Global Supply Chain Security for Microelectronics



2021: Measuring the Impact of Standards on Health and Safety

Previous Workshops:



2020: Standardization and the Commercial Space Industry



2018: Dietary Supplements Standardization Coordination



2020: Standardization Empowering AI-enabled Systems in Health Care



2009: Workshop Toward Product Standards for Sustainability

Questions?

Accreditation

- *ANSI: Standards developers*
- *ANAB (an ANSI affiliate): Conformity assessment bodies*



“Accreditor”

- ANSI accredits standards developers, through the ANSI Executive Standards Council (ExSC)
 - ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers ([ASDs](#)) sponsor American National Standards ([ANS](#))
- ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) is a wholly owned subsidiary of ANSI that accredits conformity assessment bodies, e.g., certifiers of products, people and systems (see next slide)
- *ANSI is not a standards developer or certifier*

ANSI and ANAB: Standards in different contexts

- “Conformity Assessment” is the methodology used to evaluate compliance with standards or technical regulations.
 - For more information about Conformity Assessment in the U.S.:
(https://www.standardsportal.org/usa_en/conformity_assessment/conformity_assessment_approaches.aspx)
- For example, a label on a product might make a statement of conformance with a standard: **Product x** meets *ANSI/ABC 1-2013 (How to build a widget)*
 - *In this case, ANSI itself did not develop the referenced standard and ANAB did not certify the product*
 - *ANSI approved the standard, sponsored by an ASD, as an ANS*
 - *ANAB may have accredited the product certification body*

ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB), as an Accrerator: Conformity Assessment

- “Conformity assessment” provides assurance and confidence
 - to consumers, businesses and government when personnel, products, systems, processes, or services are evaluated against the requirements of a voluntary standard
 - www.ansi.org/ncap (see U.S. Conformity Assessment Principles)
- ANAB offers many accreditation programs for conformity assessment bodies (CAB):
 - www.anab.org
 - many standards, including some ANS, form the basis of conformity assessment programs
- While standards are among the documents used in conformity assessment programs, the accreditation requirements for standards developers vs. conformity assessment bodies are distinct and the programs are separate...



ACCREDITATIONS

	clien	standar
Accreditation Body - ANAB (ISO/IEC 17011)	Product Certification Body	ISO/IEC 17065
	Personnel Certification Body	ISO/IEC 17024
	Certificate Issuer	ANSI-ASTM E2659
	Validation/Verification Body	ISO/IEC 17029
	Management Systems Certification Body	ISO/IEC 17021-1
	Laboratory	ISO/IEC 17025
	Inspection Body	ISO/IEC 17020
	Proficiency Test Provider	ISO/IEC 17043
	Reference Material Producer	ISO 17034
	Medical Lab	ISO 15189
	Biobanking	ISO 20387



American National Standards Process:

ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers (ASD) develop standards that are approved as American National Standards (ANS)

ANSI as an “Accreditor” of standards developers

- Accreditation by ANSI as a standards developer is a pre-condition for submitting a standard for approval as an American National Standard (ANS)
 - In other words, an individual standard can only be submitted to ANSI for approval as an ANS by an ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer (ASD) – www.ansi.org/asd
- ANSI **accreditation** as a standards developer is based on a defined process that is overseen by neutral standards experts who are ANSI Members (ANSI ExSC)
 - Standards developer Accreditation process highlights: Accreditation application, public review & comment, approval of compliant consensus procedures, multi-level appeals process, re-accreditation when procedures are revised, annual compliance certification, regular procedural audits of ANS
 - See section 4.1 of the *ANSI Essential Requirements*

Accreditation as a Standards Developer: for American National Standards (ANS)

At ANSI:

- Accreditation **as a standards developer** relates to the procedures used in relation to American National Standards (ANS) only.
- Accreditation means that a standards developer's procedures with respect to **proposed and approved ANS** meet the due process based criteria established in a document called the ***“ANSI Essential Requirements”*** (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements)
- Once accredited, a standards developer uses those procedures to develop evidence of consensus with respect to the content of a proposed ANS.

Let's remind ourselves why standards are important...

Why are standards important?

- Standards **facilitate trade**, commerce, and **innovation**
- Standards give us **common language**
- Standards help to **advance scientific discovery** and **keep people safe** by minimizing injuries and **protecting key environmental resources**
- Standards **reduce costs** in the public and private sectors
- Standards **support interoperability** in all areas of life
- Standards **protect public health, safety and security**
- Standards **make everyday life and the economy work**, for example:
 - Product standards: **banking cards**, washing machines, **face shields**, goggles
 - Safety standards: lifejackets, eyewear, boiler pressure vessel code, national electrical code, life safety code, **standards for first responders**
 - Performance standards: **food** and toy safety
 - Prescriptive & performance standards (some can be both): **indoor air quality**
 - Management systems standards: quality, environmental & **energy** management
 - Personnel standards: **food handlers**, crane operators, welders
 - Built environment standards: plumbing, mechanical and building **codes**
 - **ICT standards**: underpin almost everything

Who creates standards?

- Companies, government, consortia, standards developers, code organizations and others like trade associations and not-for-profits, create standards (domestic & international):
 - some are for limited or internal use, e.g., in a company or within a government agency
 - some are produced for broader use
 - some are created as Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS)
 - ✓ **an American National Standard (ANS) is a Voluntary Consensus Standard**
 - *Unless mandated by law, compliance is voluntary*
- In the US, the standards process is market driven, sector based, industry led, and government supported
 - All who are directly and materially interested in a standard under development, including consumers and the general public, can have a voice in the ANS process

ANSI recognizes “multiple paths” to standards development

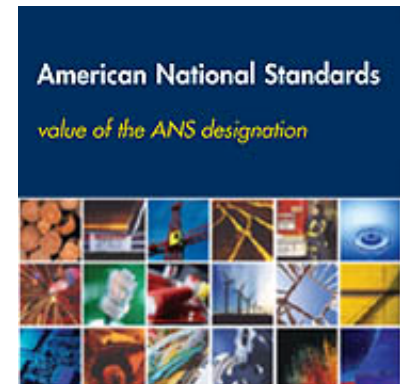
- ✓ Not every standard needs to be an **ANS**, but this presentation highlights the basis for the credibility, integrity and confidence an ANS designation reflects



Let's focus on one category: American National Standards (ANS)

- 238 ANSI-accredited standards developers (ASD) www.ansi.org/asd
 - *ANSI Essential Requirements: due process requirements for American National Standards* (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements)
 - “ANSI Essential Requirements” and an ASD’s accredited procedures govern the ANS process
 - Only ASDs may submit standards for approval as ANS
 - Accreditation by ANSI is a pre-condition for submitting a standard for approval as an ANS
 - All ANS are maintained on a regular cycle to ensure currency
- Over 13,000 American National Standards
- All ASDs are subject to ANSI’s neutral third-party oversight including a regular procedural audit
 - Not all standards developed by these organizations are approved as ANS
 - ANSI’s rules apply only to ANS

Learn more: www.ansi.org/ansvalue



- Introduction
- Standards Developers
- General Public

- What is an ANS?
- More to Know
- Get Involved
- Essential Requirements

GET TO KNOW ANSI'S ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS!



The Essential Requirements govern the American National Standards development process.

[ACCESS THE ER >](#)

SOLUTIONS

I want to... Select an option

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE OVERSEES STANDARDS AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES.



ANSI's mission is to enhance both the global competitiveness of U.S. business and the U.S. quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards

Who makes decisions about ANS-related actions?

3 main committees populated by ANSI members:

➤ **ANSI Executive Standards Council (ExSC)**

➤ **ANSI Board of Standards Review (BSR)**

➤ **ANSI Appeals Board**

- All serve as fiduciaries and neutral, knowledgeable professionals
- Oversight role and decision-making is subject to conflict of interest procedures

See next slide

ANSI ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS 2022

Due process requirements for American National Standards

[DOWNLOAD PDF](#)

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS SECTIONS: **1.0** 2.0 3.0 4.0 5.0

[ANNEX A: DEFINITIONS](#) [ANNEX B: PROVISIONAL ANS](#)

www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements

- For American National Standards (ANS), all ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers (ASDs) are bound by:
 - the ***ANSI Essential Requirements*** and
 - the ASD's **ANSI-Accredited Procedures**
- Broad flexibility in consensus process models used by ASDs, some variables:
 - Layers of review and approval
 - Numerical requirements
 - Votes at meetings or via ballot
 - In-person meetings, webinars, teleconference, mail/hard copy
 - Concurrent or sequential steps, e.g., vote and public review
 - Use of electronic systems to support the consensus process
 - Starting with a draft standard or from scratch
 - Any document that is not yet an “ANS” is “draft” or “proposed”

Overarching Consideration of ANS Process: Due Process

- Due process means that any party (organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest has a right to participate by:
 - ✓ expressing a position and its basis
 - ✓ having that position considered
 - ✓ appealing if adversely affected
- Due process allows for equity and fair play
 - Fairness and consistency are safeguards

ANSI Essential Requirements - *Criteria for ANS consensus and approval*

- *ANSI's Essential Requirements* (see sections 1.0 & 2.0)
 - Openness
 - Lack of dominance
 - Balance
 - Coordination and harmonization
 - Notification of standards development
 - Consideration of views and objections
 - Consensus body vote
 - Procedural appeals
 - Written procedures

ANSI's Definition of Consensus

- **Consensus** means substantial agreement has been reached by directly and materially interested parties.
 - This signifies the concurrence of more than a simple majority, but not necessarily unanimity.
 - Consensus requires that all views and objections be considered, and that an effort be made toward their resolution.
- Every ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer's procedures includes a definition of consensus; the definitions vary but must be applied as written and must be consistent with ANSI's definition
- **Consensus is more than a numerical determination**

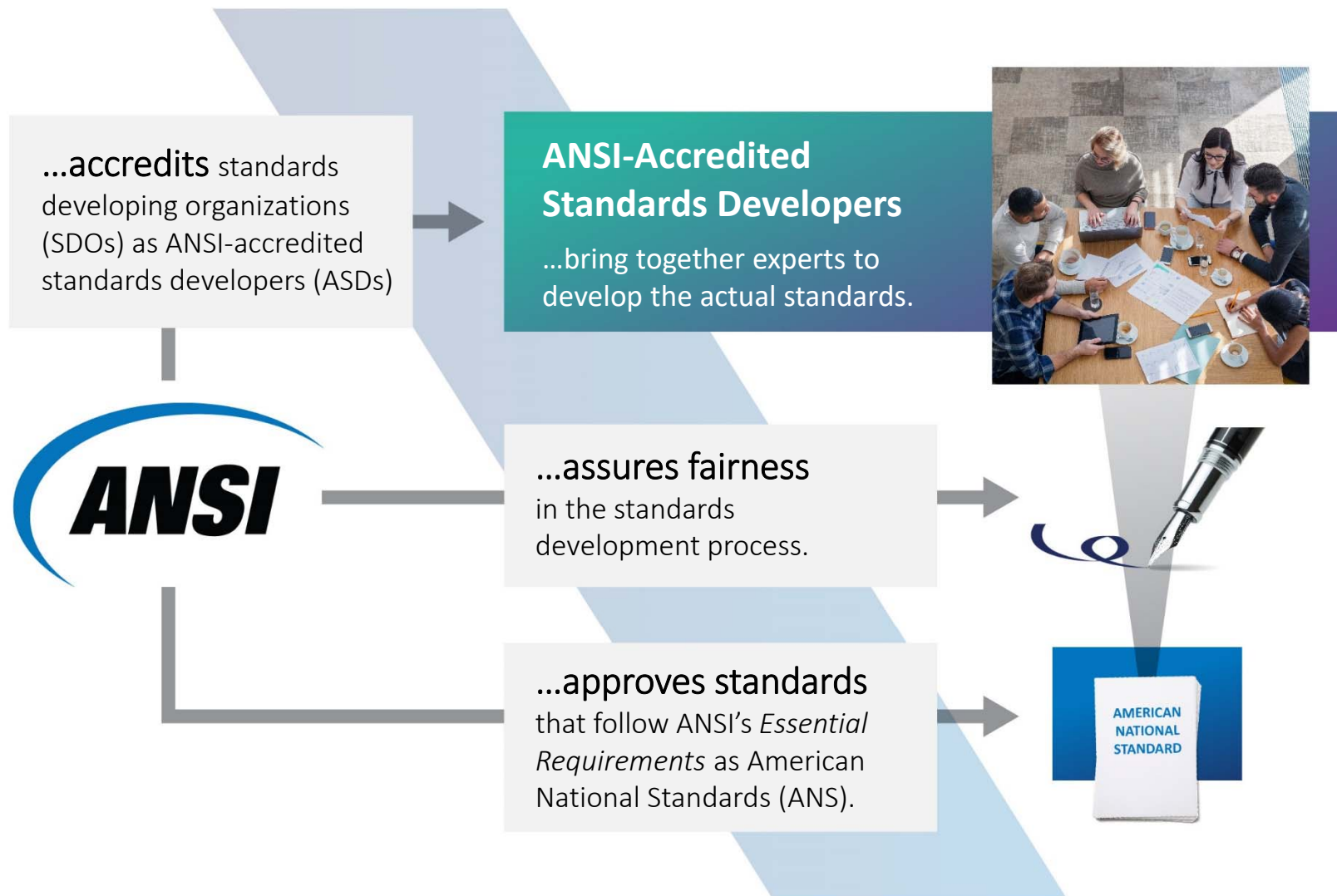
ANSI Essential Requirements

- All ASDs and accredited procedures must also comply with ANSI's requirements related to:
 - ANSI Patent Policy (3.1)
 - Commercial terms & conditions (3.2)
 - Antitrust policy (3.3)
 - ANS record retention/evidence of compliance (3.4)
 - Metric policy (3.5)
 - Interpretations policy (3.6)
 - Publication (4.4)
 - Maintenance requirements (4.7)

What rules apply to the ANS process?

- In addition to the *ANSI Essential Requirements*:
 - The Standards Developer's **ANSI-accredited procedures**
 - Often available from ASD's website (*but must be available upon request*)
 - Provide the details of processes related to public notice, voting, comment consideration, appeals, etc.
 - May include ANS consensus body participation requirements
 - Standards Developer's **electronic tools** (vary): requiring use of online systems or specific forms/formats is acceptable
 - **Consensus body membership** application, code of conduct, etc. (vary)
 - Typical default when procedures are silent:
Roberts Rules of Order, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (or similar)

How is an American National Standard (ANS) Developed?



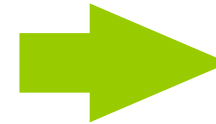
ANS Development Cycle — Overview



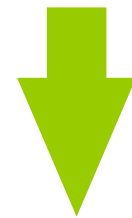
**PINS Announcement;
PINS Deliberation**



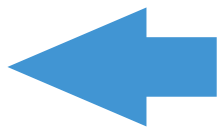
**Public Review;
Consensus vote**



**Consensus Body: Consideration of
Views & Objections;
Recirculation;
Complete ASD Appeals**



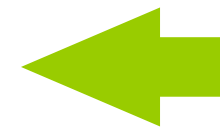
**ANSI Procedural
Appeals;
Publication;
Maintenance**



**Approval as an
American National
Standard (ANS)**



Review of Due Process Requirements



Approval as an *American National Standard (ANS)*

- Approval as an American National Standard (ANS)
 - Means the sponsoring standards developer VOLUNTARILY subjects a standard to ANSI's
 - Neutral oversight and approval process
 - Public notice and comment requirements
 - Document maintenance requirements – documents are current, review cycle required
 - Appeals process: time-tested, credible and fair **procedural** review
 - Procedural audit process, which addresses the integrity and the “plumbing” of the consensus process
 - Short-hand for compliance with OMB A-119 and the NTTAA
 - An ANS is a Voluntary Consensus Standard



Standards that hold ANS status are used globally too



- When they meet an international marketplace need
- Because the procedures used by ASDs to develop consensus for ANS meet globally accepted criteria
 - ANS designation indicates compliance with the *World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Code of Good Practice (CGP)* criteria for openness, transparency, impartiality and consensus, relevance and effectiveness
 - ANS are often developed by U.S.-domiciled international standards developers
 - ANS serve as the basis for many ISO, IEC or other international standards
 - Many ISO, IEC and ISO/IEC JTC 1 standards are nationally adopted by ASDs as ANS

*Questions before we talk
about how to participate in
the ANS process?*

American National Standards – *Hallmarks of the ANS process matter*

- Integrity and inclusiveness of the ANS process result in high quality standards that help to protect the public interest and foster commerce
- ANS designation indicates market and stakeholder recognition and acceptance: “quality”
- ANS designation = open, credible and fair process with respect to an individual standard
- ANS process, when properly conducted, provides potential legal safeguards: helps to avoid antitrust and other issues



So how can you participate?

- On almost any given day, a standards group or technical committee (aka *consensus body*) is working on standards and making decisions that could affect the bottom line of our national economy, individual and public safety, innovation – and you and/or your organization

Shouldn't you be involved?

Are you a consumer interested in participating?

Are you an ASD looking to increase consumer participation?

ANSI's Consumer & Government Relations Manager:

Cleo Stamatou: Cstamatou@ansi.org

Cell: 410-245-3483

➤ <https://www.ansi.org/outreach/consumers/consumers-standards>

Let's review some additional tools and data that will help you decide where you need to be represented...and then, how you can participate effectively...

How to ID the sponsor of an ANS?

Which ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer (ASD)?

- ✓ Identify the standard(s) via the unique alpha-numeric designation, e.g., ANSI/ABC 123-2019
 - Not all ANS include “ANSI” in the designation
 - All ANS are labeled on the [cover or front matter](#)
 - “an American National Standard” or use the [ANS logo](#)
- Designations frequently include the acronym of the [ASD](#) – for example: API, CTA, NFPA, ASHRAE, ASME, UL, IAPMO, ASTM, NSF, NEMA, IEEE, ASIS, CSA, ISEA, ATIS, AAMI, AAFS, ADA, ICC, AWWA, NIST, JEDEC, INCITS, SIA, PMI, Acoustical Society of America (ASC S1, S12, etc.)...
- “BSR” in the designation of a standard on ANSI’s website, indicates that the standard is proposed as an ANS, but not yet approved as such

How to search for American National Standards (ANS)?

- **Downloadable lists of: ASDs (with contact info), ANS and proposed ANS**
 - www.ansi.org/asd
 - <https://www.ansi.org/resource-center/standards-action>
 - <https://www.ansi.org/american-national-standards/info-for-standards-developers/accredited-standards-developers>

➤ Allows you to contact an ASD directly, identify an ANS or proposed ANS
- www.ansi.org/StandardsAction – **ANSI Standards Action**
 - Published every Friday & it's free, *please subscribe*
 - Project initiation notices (PINS), Open public comment opportunities, recently approved ANS, Recruitment announcements, Public notices +
- <http://ibr.ansi.org/> - **ANSI IBR Portal**
 - Posting of some standards referenced in regulations or urls to link to developer sites where drafts/standards may be posted for review
- <https://webstore.ansi.org/> – **ANSI Webstore**
 - Many ANS (and other standards) available for sale

- Introduction
- Standards Developers
- General Public

- What is an ANS?
- More to Know
- Get Involved
- Essential Requirements

GET TO KNOW ANSI'S ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS!



The Essential Requirements govern the American National Standards development process.

[ACCESS THE ER >](#)

SOLUTIONS

I want to... Select an option

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE OVERSEES STANDARDS AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES.



ANSI's mission is to enhance both the global competitiveness of U.S. business and the U.S. quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards

How to participate?

- Apply for **voting membership** on the ANS **consensus body** (voting group): apply to the ASD directly
 - some ASDs also offer participation on one or more sub-groups
 - reasonable fees for participation may apply (fees vary)
- Submit public review comments **during an open ANSI public review period** (www.ansi.org/standardsaction):
 - submit comments to the ASD directly and you may copy psa@ansi.org
 - some ASDs post public review drafts online during an open comment period while others charge a fee to obtain a copy of a draft to defray development and production costs
 - electronic submittal of public comments may be required in a specific format or via an online system
 - comment deadline dates apply and are enforced

How to participate? More options...

- Submit proposal to develop an ANS or revise an existing ANS
 - Submit to the ASD in accordance with its procedures
- Research other options that may be available through the ASD including:
 - Informational member, observer, etc.
 - Liaison, Affiliate, etc.
 - Working group or task group or drafting group participation, etc. (contributor, but non-voting option)

ANS Participation tips...

Be informed and prepared

- Review and familiarize yourself with the *ANSI Essential Requirements* (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements)
- Obtain a copy of the ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer's (ASD) *accredited procedures*
 - Check online or contact ASD staff directly
- Review the sponsoring ASD's *website* (websites are included at www.ansi.org/asd)
- *Identify a staff person/E-mail* at the developer who is able to serve as a resource, e.g., “committee secretary” or “liaison”

ANS Participation tips...

Be pro-active and timely

- Review *ANSI Standards Action* (www.ansi.org/standardsaction) each Friday to see what standards are being proposed (*Information Concerning*) or open for public review (*Call for Comment*)
 - Some limited revisions are published in Standards Action itself (up to 5 pages)
- Understand which portions of a standard are under review (not always the entire document)
 - Sometimes only a few sections or a very limited revision, etc.
 - Comments on an unrelated

ANS Participation tips...

Be pro-active and timely

- Adhere to [deadlines](#) and [formatting requirements](#) to ensure that your votes or comments are properly received and considered
 - When a public comment/public review period is announced in [Standards Action](#), deadlines for commenting are specified and matter!
 - This is the only time when ANSI's public comment consideration and response rules apply
 - If you are a voting member, submit votes by established deadlines
 - Respond to ballots per ASD's instructions

ANS Participation tips...

Participate productively

- Participate in **good faith and in accordance with procedure**
 - Familiarize yourself with any applicable “Code of Conduct”
- If you have a concern, speak with ASD staff to understand your rights to **informal dispute resolution** options and, if needed, appeals rights
 - all ASDs offer a **procedural appeals** option
 - to preserve your right to appeal **a procedural issue** to ANSI concerning a specific ANS, you must conclude the procedural appeals process at the ASD first
- For information about ANSI’s appeals options, go to www.ansi.org/ASD for guidance documents or psa@ansi.org

Let's circle back to ANSI's role...



Why ANSI Membership?

Standardization decisions impact your entire industry.

ANSI membership gives you a seat at the table.

- membership@ansi.org or www.ansi.org/membership
- Monthly ANSI Membership webinar: <https://www.ansi.org/membership/overview-webinar>



Benefits of ANSI Membership



Engagement and partnership across the standards community



Opportunities to influence U.S. and ANSI positions and policies



Access to market intelligence, news, and standardization guidance



Recognition and promotion as an ANSI member

Questions?
Closing thoughts...

ANSI and the US Standards System represent...

- A **public-private partnership** developing strategies and standards-based solutions for a strong nation and a safer, healthier world...
 - **STRENGTH** – openness, fairness and diversity make the US standards system strong
 - **INNOVATION** – standards spur and support innovation
 - **ACTION** – standards are responsive to human and market needs
 - **GROWTH** – standards facilitate economic growth and keep us competitive
 - **PRODUCTIVITY** – standards promote and support productivity
 - **SOLUTIONS** – standards-based solutions address issues of national, regional and international importance
 - **PARTNERSHIP** – everyone has a voice and all are welcome
 - **COLLABORATION** – stakeholders work together to develop solutions
- Interested in case studies? See www.standardsboostbusiness.org

Helpful Resources...

- ANS Process Overview: <https://www.ansi.org/> (1st tab on the left)
- *ANSI Essential Requirements*: www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements
- List of approved ANS and proposed ANS: www.ansi.org/asd
- List of ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers: www.ansi.org/asd
- *ANSI Standards Action* (weekly information about proposed and approved ANS): www.ansi.org/standardsaction
- Summary of ANS process steps: www.ansi.org/anskeysteps
- ANS Value Brochure: www.ansi.org/ansvalue
- Standards Boost Business: www.standardsboostbusiness.org
- Online and in-person training options: www.standardslearn.org
- Staff are available via psa@ansi.org
- ANSI FAQ page: <https://www.ansi.org/standards-faqs>

Now more than ever...we hope that you will decide to participate in standards development and be part of the innovative solutions being developed every day...

Thanks so much for your interest...please keep my contact information if ANSI can be of help to you or your organization...

American National Standards Institute

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