

**ExSC Interpretation Related to the Lifespan of a Provisional American National Standard
May 2012**

The ANSI ExSC was asked to review *Annex B: Procedures for the Development of a Provisional American National Standard (ANS) or a Provisional Amendment to an ANS* of the *ANSI Essential Requirements: Due process requirements for American National Standards* (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements) to determine whether a document processed as such may be extended past the two year lifespan established in clause *B.1.8. Withdrawal*, which reads as follows:

B.1.8 Withdrawal

A Provisional ANS or Provisional Amendment shall exist for no longer than two years from the date on which it is approved by the ASD. If consensus is achieved and the affected standard (either the Provisional ANS or the ANS as modified by the Provisional Amendment) is published as an ANS, the Provisional ANS or Provisional Amendment is superseded and shall be withdrawn. If consensus is not achieved, the Provisional ANS or Provisional Amendment shall be withdrawn at that time, but no later than two years from the date on which it was approved. A notice of the withdrawal shall be published in ANSI's *Standards Action*.

The ExSC discussed the issue and agreed that the current language is clear: a Provisional Standard/Provisional Amendment may not be extended beyond two years per clause *B.1.8 Withdrawal* and the ExSC is not inclined to revise this provision.

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