

By way of background, in November 2010, the ANSI Executive Standards Council (ExSC) announced for public comment proposed procedural revisions related to conflict and duplication within the American National Standards process. These revisions were contained in ExSC 8096. In response to the public comments received and in light of the comments voiced at the May 2011 ANSI Workshop *Standards Wars: Myth or Reality?* the ExSC acknowledges that in general, little support for most of the proposed revisions was expressed.

The ExSC accepted that many of the proposed revisions should not proceed as presented in 8096 and so it has been withdrawn. Instead, the proposed revision below (ExSC 8189) is now offered for public comment. This proposal focuses on the timeliness of the PINS Deliberation and follow-up process, with a goal of ensuring that agreed upon actions proceed at a reasonable pace.

In addition, the ExSC will continue to work on two issues in particular:

1. Development of additional guidance text for inclusion in the current *PINS Informational Summary* ([www.ansi.org/asd](http://www.ansi.org/asd)) or a new related document. As with any informative document, additional requirements will not be included, but the goal of including a PINS Deliberation Report as well as suggestions for improving the likelihood of successful coordination remains and will be reflected. When a draft is available, it will be announced for public comment.
2. A Working Group of the ExSC and interested parties is being formed to further develop a proposed definition of “Duplication”.

The proposed revisions to the *ANSI Essential Requirements: Due process requirements for American National Standards* that follow are intended to strengthen and promote timely coordination efforts. The text below also reflects a reorganization and editorial correction of existing text.

## **2.5 Notification of standards development and coordination**

Notification of standards activity shall be announced in suitable media as appropriate to demonstrate the opportunity for participation by all directly and materially affected persons. Developers are encouraged to consult any relevant international or regional guides that may impact the proposed standard and shall advise the relevant ANSI-Accredited U.S. TAG(s) if the standard is intended to be submitted for consideration as an ISO, [IEC](#) or ISO/IEC JTC-1 standard.

### **2.5.1 Project Initiation Notification (PINS)**

At the initiation of a project to develop or revise an American National Standard<sup>1</sup>, notification shall be transmitted to ANSI using the Project Initiation Notification System (PINS) form, or its equivalent, for announcement in *Standards Action*. Comments received in connection with a PINS announcement shall be handled in accordance with these procedures.

A statement shall be submitted and published as part of the PINS announcement that shall include:

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<sup>1</sup> Including the national adoption of ISO and IEC standards as American National Standards, but excluding actions set-forth in 2.5.1.1.

- (a) an explanation of the need for the project, including, if it is the case, a statement of intent to submit the standard for consideration as an ISO, IEC or ISO/IEC JTC-1 standard; and
- (b) identification of the stakeholders (e.g., telecom, consumer, medical, environmental, etc.) likely to be directly impacted by the standard.

If the response to sub-section (b) changes substantively as the standard is developed, a revised PINS shall be submitted and published.

**2.5.1.1 PINS Exceptions**

A PINS is not required for revisions of an American National Standard that is maintained under continuous maintenance and (1) is registered as such on the ANSI website, (2) has a notice in the standard that the standard is always open for comment and how to submit comments, and (3) has information on the developer’s website that the standard is under continuous maintenance and how to submit comments. A PINS is also not required in connection with the decision to maintain an ANS under the stabilized maintenance option. A PINS form may be submitted, but is not required, at the initiation of a project to reaffirm or withdraw an American National Standard.

**2.5.1.2 Assertions of conflict**

If a developer receives written comments within 30 days from the publication date of a PINS announcement in *Standards Action*, and said comments assert that a proposed standard conflicts with an existing American National Standard (ANS) or a candidate ANS that has been announced previously in *Standards Action*, a mandatory deliberation of representatives from the relevant stakeholder groups shall be held within 90 days from the comment deadline. Such a deliberation shall be organized by the developer and the commenter and shall be concluded before the developer may submit a draft standard for public review. If the deliberation does not take place within the 90-day period and the developer can demonstrate that it has made a good faith effort to schedule and otherwise organize it, then the developer will be excused from compliance with this requirement. The purpose of the deliberation is to provide the relevant stakeholders with an opportunity to discuss whether there is a compelling need for the proposed standards project

**2.5.1.3 PINS Deliberation Report**

The outcome of a PINS deliberation shall be conveyed in writing (the “Deliberation Report”) within 30 days after the conclusion of the deliberation by the developer to the commenter and to ANSI. Upon submission of the Deliberation Report, the developer may continue with the submission of the draft standard for public review. If additional deliberations take place, they should not delay the submission of the draft for public review, and an updated Deliberation Report shall be conveyed within 30 days after each deliberation. Any actions agreed upon from the deliberations shall be carried out in a reasonably timely manner, but normally should not exceed 90 days following the deliberation. Subsequently, the developer shall include the Deliberation Report(s) with the BSR-9 submittal to the ANSI Board of Standards Review (BSR) for consideration should the developer ultimately submit the subject standard to ANSI for approval.

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In the case of ANSI Audited Designators, the Audited Designator shall provide a Deliberation Report to the commenter and to ANSI within 30 days after each deliberation. The Audited Designator shall review the results of the deliberation prior to designating a standard as an ANS.

While the outcome is not binding, unless binding provisions are agreed to by the developer, participants are encouraged to develop a consensus on whether and how the standards development project should proceed. See also 4.3.

### **2.5.2 Public Review**

In addition, proposals for new American National Standards and proposals to revise, reaffirm, or withdraw approval of existing American National Standards shall be transmitted to ANSI using the BSR-8 form, or its equivalent, for listing in *Standards Action* in order to provide an opportunity for public comment. If it is the case, then a statement of intent to submit the standard for consideration as an ISO, IEC or ISO/IEC JTC-1 standard shall be included as part of the description of the scope summary that is published in *Standards Action*. The comment period shall be one of the following:

- A minimum of thirty days if the full text of the revision(s) can be published in *Standards Action*;
- A minimum of forty-five days if the document is available in an electronic format, deliverable within one day of a request, and the source (e.g., URL or an E-mail address) from which it can be obtained by the public is provided to ANSI for announcement in *Standards Action*; or
- A minimum of sixty days, if neither of the aforementioned options is applicable.

Such listing may be requested at any stage in the development of the proposal, at the option of the standards developer, and may be concurrent with final balloting. However, any substantive change subsequently made in a proposed American National Standard requires listing of the change in *Standards Action*.