**ANS Standards Code Week (Suggestion from Sven Bader)**

Standards Committee Survey

The survey was issued to our 1000+ Standards Committee members in February/March of this year resulting in a total of 77 responses. A summary of results is provided below:

* Interest in virtual standards week (only required question)
* 59 in favor of a virtual standards week / 18 opposed
* Frequency: 39 once a year / 18 twice a year / 1 quarterly / 19 no response
* Meeting openness
* Concern with all meetings open to Standards Committee members w/registration:

49-No **/**  3-Yes **/** 7-Maybe

* Concern with all meetings open to the public w/registration

26-no **/**  10-Yes **/**  23-Maybe

* Interest in a virtual plenary

35-Yes **/**  24-No

Potential plenary topics include:

* Overall status of industry, status of ANS in general, or status of standards
* Standards processes, guidance vs tech standard etc....
* Potential impact of advanced reactors and SMRs on the current/future ANS standards
* The encompassing realm of standards (i.e., how standards are a part of everything we already do)
* Importance of standards
* Economics and finance in the industry
* Major issues that need to be addressed, either new or existing standards
* Use of Risk-Informed, Performance-based method in standards development
* Aligning standards with current industry needs, such as consolidating, streamlining and faster turnaround of standards
* Explanation of how the virtual week will work.
* History of codes and standards, not just ANS
* How standards and government policy shape each other
* ANS standards overview, standards process overview, style guide reminders, industry trends with standards use and adoption
* Updates of ANS standards with respect to latest materials as per ASME/ ASTM
* Summary of ANS standards metrics highlighting those standards that are 'withdrawn' (and still available for use) pending the required 5-year(?) revision.
* Discussion by some SMR Chief Nuclear Officers on how they are using standards, what standards they need, what standards issues do they see now, what they would like the standards to focus on in the future.
* Current priority of ANS standards/new standards published
* Invite Craig Piercy or someone outside of ANS to discuss the nuclear industry
* Virtual social during virtual standards week (not a required question)
* General interest in a virtual social

11-Yes **/**  24-No **/** 24-Maybe

* 14: hold separate social by consensus committee (to include their subcommittees and working groups)
* 17: hold one virtual social for all
* Should professional development hours be provided for Professional Engineers?
* 22-Yes **/**  34: not appliable
* Willingness to help organize a virtual standards week
* 14-Yes **/** 32-No **/**  9-Maybe
* General comments (open ended field)
* Virtual standards week would constrain committees from scheduling their virtual meetings when they can obtain greatest participation. Face-to-face standards weeks have benefit of casual interaction where a lot of ideas are shared, and synergies are identified outside of the meetings. This benefit is not achieved with a virtual standards week.
* We've been wanting to hold something like this in the ANS conferences like a poster session to have mixing of ANS standards but couldn't really get the interest going.
* Am doing a lot of travel so a one- or two-week block might not fit my schedule.
* Limited need/value
* I believe each CC should identify the most important standards in need of being updated and schedule reasonable hours (e.g., 2-hour blocks) to work on these standards during some portion of this week.
* I would be interested in seeing a standards week grouped by subcommittee or consensus committee. This would be easier for potential attendees to justify their participation and plan accordingly to be able to attend.
* I really don't see the benefit of a virtual set of meeting on a set week.
* Federal agencies may have difficulties in being able to send staff for in-person sessions or attend virtually depending on what other work is occurring when this week is scheduled.
* I think that communications channels within ANS are sufficient. I don't see any benefit to gathering such a large number of individuals. The only possibility that I see is strong personalities attempting to hijack authority.
* My concern with extra participation by others in the meetings is that an excessive number of participants could inhibit progress. Some controls on that would be needed, either in total number, or possibly whether others are allowed to speak. They could contribute via a chat session.
* I would like to hear the ASME's opinion why this is valuable before voting for it.
* Have been on FWDCC about 3 years and have not worked on a standard yet. Did not get a response to my inquiry about participating. Also, when are we supposed to have time for this?
* I believe the larger benefit of ASME's BPV Code Week, is multiple face-to-face meetings and the networking it enables. I understand ASME is cutting back on face-to-face Code Week meetings, though, so I don’t know how that is working out.
* Need more information or examples how this would be done. It would need to be highly focused and limited, to maybe 3 standards per meeting.
* This could also be used to recruit new members to work on ANS standards, possibly including targeted invite of student members and other young professionals who are already in ANS.
* Defined outcomes from the meeting to show work and don't turn it into a meeting with little results other than talking.
* I do not understand what a "virtual standard" is....
* The benefits of holding a virtual standards week(s) are unclear to me. I also fear that trying to coordinate between the many standards groups could disrupt our normal meeting schedules.
* I think it is a good idea, but I don't know if my employer would allow me to be available to support that.
* Perhaps some lessons learned can be gleaned from ASME's approach with "Code Week" or "NQA week". While these are face to face, they were done virtually from 2020-2022. Setting aside one week for focusing on standards can be quite beneficial.
* Testing facilities should develop to meet ANS standards requirements globally
* I just don't think I would have the time to attend, beyond already existing events/meetings.
* I do see advantages to setting aside a week to work on standards. I have voted no for two reasons. First, I don't see that there would be any real advantage to having our group (2.22) meet at the same time as other groups; we don't seem to interact much and it seems like an unnecessary constraint to schedule the groups to meet during the same week. From a scheduling standpoint, I could not dedicate a full week of time to standards with my current workload; at some point, that may improve, but for now I am basically only able to work on the standard with my "spare" time.
* I support the concept if it will make standards process faster. Speed is the need.
* "Reduced Engagement: Virtual meetings often lead to lower participant engagement and attention. Participants might be distracted by their surroundings or multitasking, making it difficult to achieve a productive discussion. Also, typically certain individuals tend to dominate the conversations. • Technical Issues: Virtual meetings often depend on stable internet connections and functioning technology. Technical problems such as connectivity issues, software glitches, or equipment failures can disrupt the meeting and prevent effective communication. Additionally, certain discussions, especially those involving complex or sensitive topics, may benefit from in-person interactions where elaboration, clarification, and immediate feedback can happen more naturally. • Difficulty in Collaboration Through Sidebar Conversations: For discussions that require collaboration on documents or materials, in-person meetings allow for additional sidebar conversation and enable a more fluid exchange of ideas and brainstorming than might be feasible in a virtual format. Finally, in-person meetings often allow for clearer follow-up discussions and a smoother transition into other activities."
* It’s a good idea to have some sort of gathering. However, having it virtual could be awkward and not get the participants to engage.
* Virtual meetings are nice, but it would be nice to have an inspersion meeting. Off season in Orlando is pretty inexpensive.
* Without further description of a format and objective for such a meeting, it's not clear what the benefit would be to individual standards, working groups or committees.