

AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE STRATEGIC PLAN
June 2021 through June 2026

Vision

The American Nuclear Society (ANS) Standards Committee (SC) is recognized as an industry leader in developing standards for the implementation of nuclear science and technology.

Mission

To develop and maintain high-quality, domestic, and international consensus standards that meet the current and anticipated future needs of the nuclear industry¹ and to promote their broad acceptance, endorsement, and use.

Goals and Objectives

Each of the following five goals is defined by its objective and supported by specific initiatives to achieve the goal.

Goal #1: Align Standards Development Priorities with Current and Emerging Industry Needs

Objective: Establish an approach and supporting systems to collect industry priority input and integrate it into the standards priorities and delivery targets.²

Initiatives

- A. Establish an ANS Standards Executive Advisory Committee (EAC).
- B. Work with the ANS Standards EAC to develop, and later update, priorities for standards and delivery targets.
- C. Identify target standards for which harmonization can represent an improvement by considering
 - intra-ANS (among ANS standards), and
 - inter-standards development organization (SDO) (between ANS standards and standards under another SDO).
- D. Conduct periodic surveys to gain feedback from the industry including federal and state regulatory agencies.

¹ The term “industry” as used in this plan means the portions of the nuclear science and technology community within the scope of the ANS Standards Committee.

² The proposed industry “U.S. Nuclear Standards Advisory Committee” (USNSAC) co-lead by ANS and ASME is currently in progress to gain approval and move forward. Its main objective is to collaborate and harmonize industry codes & standards (C&Ss) efforts among all SDOs in support of reactor developers’/designers’ advanced reactor designs.

- E. Develop interface matrix outlining the scope, responsibilities, and interface management between the ANS/American Society of Mechanical Engineers Joint Committee on Nuclear Risk Management and the Risk-informed, Performance-based Principles and Policy Committee (RP3C).
- F. Incorporate risk-informed and performance-based methods into ANS standards, where appropriate.
- G. Advertise the success of RP3C and the positive impact it can have on external organizations.

Goal #2: Develop and Maintain High-Quality Standards

Objective: Ensure that effective training and knowledge transfer are embedded in the standards development process and augment participant capabilities to develop and maintain high-quality standards.

Initiatives

- A. Provide easier working group (WG) guidance with improved indoctrination.
- B. Improve the technical content of standards.
- C. Reinvigorate training sessions for consensus committee (CC) WG members and subcommittee (SubC) chairs to ensure proper understanding of writing standards.

Goal #3: Improve Standards Development Production and Efficiency

Objective: Improve efficiencies with respect to development and maintenance of ANS standards.

Initiatives

- A. Review and update procedures to shorten the development and approval processes.
- B. Clarify the authority of the CC, SubC, and WG chairs regarding expectations to take appropriate actions to ensure a project stays on track.
- C. Establish a requirement for quarterly status reports on WG and SubC activities to be reviewed by the CC chair.
- D. Ensure all CC, SubC, and WG members are aware and understand their responsibilities.
- E. Ensure the WG has the necessary personnel and resources.
- F. Reduce cost and improve effectiveness of standards meetings.

Goal #4: Expand ANS Awareness and External Outreach

Objective: Improve interfaces between the SC and other segments of ANS and with other industry organizations through better communication related to existing standards and standards development activities to ensure continuing relevance.³

Initiatives

- A. Improve ANS standards communications with industry groups and regulatory agencies to promote industry awareness of existing standards and improve industry participation in standards development activities to ensure continuing relevance.

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- B. Establish periodic leadership interfaces with regulatory agencies, owners' groups, and industry executives to align needs and build support for development and greater use of ANS standards.
- C. Improve interfaces between ANS SC and other SDOs.
- D. Determine whether additional action is needed to keep industry and trade groups advised of approved standards and in-progress standards in their areas of interest.
- E. Establish needed international organization interfaces.
- F. Improve communication to the Society on the successes of ANS standards.
- G. Improve the effectiveness of the Professional Division Liaison Program.
- H. Increase standards sales.
- I. Conduct two fee-based standards training pilots.

Goal #5: Improve Industry Representation and Sustainability of Working Groups, Subcommittees, and Consensus Committees

Objective: Increase participation in ANS standards development to (1) ensure continued technical capability of SC members, (2) enhance knowledge capture and transfer, and (3) increase participation of young nuclear professionals.

Initiatives

- A. Recruit volunteers from local sections.
- B. Recruit at ANS national conferences.
- C. Recruit volunteers from ANS Professional Divisions and Technical Groups.
- D. Utilize the ANS Standards EAC for assistance in recruiting WG members.