

INMM Accredited Standards Committee N15
Annual Report to the INMM Executive Committee
July 2012

This report covers the period July 2011 to July 2012.

Status of Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) N15 Standards.

ASC N15 has three active standards:

- N15.8-2009 – SNM Control and Accounting Systems for Nuclear Power Plants,
- N15.51-2007 – Measurement Control Program, Nuclear Materials Analytical Chemistry Laboratory, and
- N15.36-2010 – Measurement Control Program, Nondestructive Assay Measurement Control and Assurance.

All of these standards were published by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and are available online at <http://webstore.ansi.org/>.

ASC N15 has several standards under review or development, including:

- N15.19-1989 – Volume Calibration Techniques (not active). An N15 writing team is working through the ANSI process for adopting International Organization of Standardization (ISO) standard 18213 (18213-1 through 18213-6) on tank calibration and volume determination for nuclear materials accountancy as an American National Standard, replacing N15.19. The U.S. ISO TAG with responsibility for ISO 18213 assigned U.S. rights to INMM ASC N15, and the INMM and ANSI approved a written agreement for the adoption. A working meeting is planned in conjunction with the 53rd Annual INMM meeting in July 2012.
- N15.28-1991 – Training and Certification of Safeguards Personnel (not active). An initial meeting of interested stakeholders was held in July 2011 to begin work toward reissuing N15.28. The writing group is reviewing related U.S. industry and government standards approved since N15.28 was last issued to check for duplication or potential conflict of interest and to further refine the revision's scope.
- N15.41-1994 – Measurement Control, General Principles (not active). The writing team has prepared a draft to be circulated to a wider writing group for further review and revision. Plans are being made for further discussion during the annual N15 meeting in July 2012.
- N15.51-2007 – Measurement Control Program – Nuclear Materials Analytical Laboratory (active). The subcommittee writing team held webinars in May and June to discuss and review potential changes to the standard. ANSI requires review for all active standards every 5 years, therefore the subcommittee is working through the deliberation process toward reaffirmation or revision of this active standard prior to November 2012. The 5.1 Analytical Chemistry Subcommittee will hold their regular meeting during the 53rd Annual INMM meeting on Sunday July 15, 2012 from noon-2 pm EDT. Peter Mason plans to provide a presentation on the *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement* published jointly by the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC), International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC),

International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP), and International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML).

- New Standard – Nondestructive Assay Measurements of Nuclear Material Holdup: General Provisions. The writing team finalized the draft standard which was sent to the technical editor for review. Those edits will be reviewed by the writing team chair by the end of June. ANSI guidance regarding the citation of references and additional resources will be reviewed and incorporated as well. Once these tasks are complete the standard should be ready for ballot vote. The draft N15 standard discusses administrative practices and other general provisions; it is expected to supplement an ASTM test method that discusses technical aspects of holdup measurements.

ASC N15 Consensus Body Ballot Roster. The ASC N15 Board is in the process of updating the INMM ASC N15 Consensus Body Ballot Roster for 2012. This should be completed in time for the “Holdup” and N15.51 standards to be voted on by the new ballot roster. As part of the update, the N15 interest categories and balance were reviewed in conjunction with changes made by ANSI to the 2012 ANSI Essential Requirements.

Outreach and Collaboration.

- N15 continues to explore the use of on-line meeting capabilities to provide additional working session options for N15 writing teams and subcommittees. Webinar sessions have been utilized to assist several writing teams in the review and deliberations for their standards.
- N15 Board participated in ANSI meetings for standards developers held in the Washington, DC area in October 2011 and March 2012 and a webinar addressing ANSI procedural compliance in January 2012. The Board also attended a meeting of the Nuclear Energy Standards Coordination Collaborative by webinar on March 12, 2012.
- N15 Board provided comments and participated in discussions during an ANSI effort to define duplication within the American National Standards process, January-February 2012.
- Tracking UF6 cylinders – DOE/NNSA staff have expressed interest in developing a voluntary consensus standard for identification, labeling and tracking of UF6 cylinders and are working to define the standard’s scope and purpose. Efforts are underway to reach out to manufacturers and other potential stakeholders. This topic will be discussed during the 53rd Annual INMM meeting on Thursday morning (July 19), Session B. N15 will contact INMM ASC N14, who maintains N14.1-2001 – *Uranium Hexafluoride –Packaging for Transport*, for further collaboration. (Labeling UF6 cylinders falls within the scope of ASC N14; tracking and accounting for UF6 material falls within the scope of ASC N15.) To our knowledge, the N14.1 standard has been revised but it has not yet been balloted.
- The N15 Annual meeting will be held Wednesday, July 18, 2012 from noon – 2 pm EDT during the 53rd INMM annual meeting.

ASC N15 Web page. ASC N15, together with assistance from INMM staff, launched a home page for N15 activities in 2011. The home page is hosted on the INMM website. ASC N15 is preparing necessary data, such as membership lists, for use on the home page.

Summary. The N15 Board would like to express thanks to all who give of their knowledge, expertise, time and effort in the development of ASC N15 voluntary consensus standards. We invite all those with a material and stakeholder interest in N15 standards to attend our meetings.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of N15 by,

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