Policies and Procedures for Standards Development for the

Computer/ Simulation Interoperability (C/SI) Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization (SISO)

Standards Activity Committee (SAC)

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Role of Standards Development and these Procedures

In today’s technological environment, standards play a critical role in product development and market competitiveness. In the IEEE, the responsibility for how a standard originates and evolves is managed by a Standards Committee. It is essential in the management of a standard’s development to avoid any actions by the Standards Committee or the participants that result in a violation of procedures. These procedures establish the necessary framework for a sound standardization process.

1.2 Conduct

Meeting attendees and participants in standards activities shall demonstrate respect and courtesy toward each other and shall allow each participant a fair and equal opportunity to contribute to the meeting discussion. While participating in IEEE standards development activities, all participants, including but not limited to, individuals, entity representatives, entity members, entities participating directly in the entity process, and entities participating indirectly in the individual process, shall act in accordance with all applicable laws (nation-based and international), the IEEE Code of Conduct, the IEEE Code of Ethics, and with IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws (see IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws Clause 5.2.1 on “Participation in IEEE standards development”) and IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual.

1.3 Modification to these Procedures

The official policies of this Standards Committee are those that have been accepted by the IEEE-SA Standards Board based on the recommendation of the Audit Committee (AudCom), and are available online on the IEEE-SA Standards Board AudCom website. No other copy shall be designated as the official copy. Any changes that the Standards Committee desires to make to the procedures shall not be valid until revised policies have been recommended for acceptance by AudCom and accepted by the IEEE-SA Standards Board.

None of the rules or requirements in these policies and procedures may be suspended.

1.4 Hierarchy
Participants engaged in the development of standards shall comply with applicable federal, state, and international laws. In addition, for standards matters, the latest versions of several documents take precedence over this document, in the following order:

New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law  
IEEE Certificate of Incorporation  
IEEE Constitution  
IEEE Bylaws  
IEEE Policies  
IEEE Board of Directors Resolutions  
IEEE-SA Board of Governors Resolutions  
IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws  
IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual  
IEEE-SA Standards Board Resolutions

*Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR)* is the recommended guide on questions of parliamentary procedure not addressed in these procedures.

1.5 Fundamental Principles of Standards Development

These Policies and Procedures outline the orderly transaction of standards activities of this Standards Committee. [Hereinafter referred to as “the Standards Committee”] For the development of standards, openness and due process shall be applied, which means that any person with a direct and material interest who meets the requirements of these Policies and Procedures has a right to participate by:

a) Expressing a position and its basis,  
b) Having that position considered, and  
c) Appealing if adversely affected.

Due process allows for equity and fair play. In addition, due process requires openness and balance (i.e., the standards development process should strive to have a balance of interests and not to be dominated by any single interest category). However, for the IEEE Standards Standards Association ballot, there shall be a balance of interests without dominance by any single interest category.

1.6 Definitions

*Written communication* includes but is not limited to meeting minutes, letter, email, and fax.

Standards Committees of IEEE standards projects are committees that are responsible for the development and coordination of the standards project and the maintenance of the standard after approval of the standard by the IEEE-SA Standards Board. (see *IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws* Clause 5.2.2 on “Standards Committees”).
Responsible Subcommittee is an optional subgroup of the Standards Committee with delegated responsibility for approving the submission of Project Authorization Requests (PARs) and Standards Association ballots. Responsible Subcommittees assist the Standards Committee in the control and management of a large scope of work involving multiple working groups. A PAR study group or a working group (WG) is not a Responsible Subcommittee.

Administrative subgroup (e.g., AdCom or ExecCom) is an optional subgroup of the Standards Committee responsible for specified activities and decisions. An Executive Committee can include all the voting members of the Standards Committee.

A participant is an individual involved in the standards development process (see IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws Clause 5.2.1 on “Participation in IEEE standards development”). NOTE: Participants can be members or non-members of IEEE, IEEE-SA, or the Standards Committee.

A non-member is a participant who has not satisfied the criteria for membership defined in Clause 4.2.

A member is a participant who has satisfied the criteria for membership defined in Clause 4.2. A member is eligible to be listed on the Standards Committee roster.

A non-voting member is a member who has not satisfied the criteria for voting membership defined in Clause 4.3.

A voting member is a member who has satisfied the criteria for voting membership defined in Clause 4.3. A voting member can participate in Standards Committee motions and any ballots of the Standards Committee.

1.7 IEEE Standards Committee Scope

Standards Committee scope is to sponsor development of standards that enable simulation interoperability.

1.8 Organization of the Standards Committee

The Standards Committee shall consist of officers (see Clause 3) and other members.

2.0 Responsibilities of the Standards Committee

The Standards Committee shall be responsible for at least the following:

a) Developing proposed IEEE standards and ensuring that they are within the scope of the Standards Committee.

b) Initiating and overseeing ballots of proposed IEEE standards within its scope, including:
1) Approving PARs from a subgroup or the Standards Committee.

2) Submitting a proposed PAR to the IEEE-SA Standards Board for consideration. Following approval of the PAR, the Standards Committee shall submit necessary requests for extension, modification, or withdrawal of the PAR as required by the IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual.

3) Submitting draft standards from a subgroup or the Standards Committee to the IEEE-SA for Standards Association ballot.

c) Maintaining the standards developed by the Standards Committee.

d) Acting on other matters requiring Standards Committee effort as provided in these procedures.

e) Cooperating with other appropriate standards development organizations.

f) Protecting against actions taken in the name of the Standards Committee without proper Standards Committee authorization.

g) Limiting distribution of the membership roster to appropriate parties.

h) Communicating with the IEEE-SA Standards Board on specific Standards Committee activities as needed.

i) Handling appeals as described in Clause 9.

j) Access and use IEEE’s data, including personal data, from IEEE systems for the purposes intended, including to support the technical development work on the standard, and only in compliance with IEEE or IEEE-SA Privacy and data privacy policies.

2.1 Sponsorship

The Computer/Simulation Interoperability (C/SI) Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization (SISO) Standards Activity Committee (SAC) is responsible for the development and coordination of standards project(s) including their maintenance after their approval as standard(s) by the IEEE-SA Standards Board. Specifically, the Computer/Simulation Interoperability (C/SI) Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization (SISO) Standards Activity Committee (SAC) is responsible for those IEEE-SA Standards Board approved project(s) for which SISO SAC has been identified or assigned as either the sole Standards Committee or the primary Standards Committee. The development and maintenance of standards shall be accomplished as defined within the clauses of these Policies and Procedures.

3.0 Officers

There shall be a Chair and a Secretary, and there should be a Vice-Chair. SISO SAC and its subgroups shall not charge meeting fees or have any financial transactions.
The officers (and any person designated to manage the SA ballot) shall be members of any grade of the IEEE, or IEEE Society affiliates, and also members of the IEEE-SA (see IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws Clause 5.2.1 on “Participation in IEEE standards development”). The officers shall organize the Standards Committee, oversee the Standards Committee’s compliance with these Policies and Procedures, and submit proposed documents approved by the Standards Committee (with supporting documentation) for appropriate review and approval by the IEEE-SA Standards Board. Officers shall read the relevant training material available through IEEE Standards Development Online.

3.1 Election of Officers

 Officers shall be elected in accordance with the procedures of the entity that established this Standards Committee. The procedures are as follows:

 There shall be an annual vote of the Standards Committee to elect the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

 Membership in SISO is open to anyone with a material interest in simulation interoperability. All members are eligible to run for SISO SAC. All SISO SAC members are eligible to self-nominate to serve in an officer role.

 The SISO Executive Committee (EXCOM) designates an Election Committee consisting of three to seven members to oversee annual elections. Nominations to run for SISO SAC are self-nominations. When the self-nomination period closes, the Election Committee posts a final summary of candidates for SISO SAC. Voting is accomplished by completing an electronic ballot. The web-based ballot processing system automatically records all votes allowing an audit by the Election Committee of all voting transactions. The individuals with the most votes fill the allotted number of vacancies. Ten at-large SISO SAC members are elected to 2-year terms. The term of office for a SISO SAC member expires at the end of the Annual Simulation Innovation Workshop.

 Within 30 days after election results are announced, SISO SAC elects officers. SISO SAC members eligible for office and eligible to vote for officers are those that will serve on the committee following the Annual Simulation Innovation Workshop. The Chair and Vice Chair must be different individuals, but one may serve as Secretary if the committee so votes. The results of SISO SAC officer elections are confirmed by the SISO EXCOM.

 The term of office for each officer shall be one year.

3.2 Temporary Appointments to Vacancies

 If an office other than the Chair is vacant for any reason (such as resignation, removal, lack of nomination at an election), a temporary appointment shall be made by the Chair for a period of
up to 12 months. An appointment or election for the vacated office shall be made in accordance with requirements in Clause 3.0 and Clause 3.1.

3.3 Removal of Officers

An officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the voting members of the Standards Committee meeting in Executive Session. The officer suggested for removal shall be given an opportunity to make a rebuttal prior to the vote on the motion for removal.

3.4 Responsibilities of Officers

When carrying out the duties of an officer described in IEEE’s policies and procedures, officers of the Standards Committee:

a) shall not act:
   1) in bad faith;
   2) to the detriment of IEEE-SA;
   3) to further the interest of any party outside IEEE over the interest of IEEE; or
   4) in a manner that is inconsistent with the purposes or objectives of IEEE; and

b) shall use reasonable efforts to ensure that participants of the Standards Committee conduct themselves in accordance with applicable policies and procedures including, but not limited to, the IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws Clause 5.2.1 on “Participation in IEEE standards development.” (See Clause 1.2.)

The officers of the Standards Committee shall manage the day-to-day work of the Standards Committee. The officers are responsible for implementing the decisions of the Standards Committee and managing the activities that result from those decisions.

3.4.1 Chair

The responsibilities of the Chair shall include:

a) Leading the activity according to all of the relevant policies and procedures.
b) Forming study groups, as necessary.
c) Being objective.
d) Entertaining motions, but not making motions.
e) Not biasing discussions.
f) Delegating necessary functions.
g) Ensuring that all parties have the opportunity to express their views.
h) Setting goals and deadlines and adhering to them.
i) Being knowledgeable in IEEE standards processes and parliamentary procedures and ensuring that the processes and procedures are followed.
j) Seeking consensus of the Standards Committee as a means of resolving issues.
k) Prioritizing work to best serve the Standards Committee and its goals.
l) Complying with the Chair’s responsibility with respect to the IEEE-SA Intellectual Property Policies, including but not limited to the IEEE-SA Patent Policy (see “Patents” Clause 6 of IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws and “Call for patents” Clause 6.3.2 of IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual) and Copyright (see “Copyright” Clause 7 of IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws and Clause 6.1 of the IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual).
m) Submitting approved Standards Committee P&P to the IEEE-SA Standards Board Audit Committee (AudCom – see http://standards.ieee.org/board/aud/index.html).
n) Ensuring that each Working Group has a set of P&P approved by the Standards Committee. The Chair will provide the Working Group P&Ps to AudCom upon request.
o) Ensuring the submission of an annual financial report(s) for the operation of the Standards Committee and all of its standards development committees (e.g., Working Groups, task groups).
p) Being familiar with training materials available through IEEE Standards Development Online.
q) Notifying IEEE SASB of any officer election/appointment, removal, and changes in status.

3.4.2 Vice-Chair

The responsibilities of the Vice-Chair(s) shall include:

a) Carrying out the Chair’s duties if the Chair is temporarily unable to do so or chooses to recuse himself or herself (e.g., to give a technical opinion) or carrying out those duties specifically delegated by the Chair to the Vice-Chair.
b) Being knowledgeable in IEEE standards processes and parliamentary procedures and assisting the Chair in ensuring that the processes and procedures are followed.
c) Being familiar with training materials available through IEEE Standards Development Online.

3.4.3 Secretary

The responsibilities of the Secretary include:
a) Scheduling meetings in coordination with the Chair and distributing a meeting notice in conformance with Clause 6.0.

b) Distributing the agenda at least 14 calendar days before the meeting—notification of the potential for action shall be included on any distributed agendas for meetings.

c) Recording minutes of each meeting according to Clause 6.4 and IEEE guidelines (see http://standards.ieee.org/develop/policies/stdslaw.pdf), and publishing them within 60 calendar days of the end of the meeting.

d) Creating and maintaining the membership roster, referred to in 4.7, and submitting it to the IEEE Standards Association annually.

e) Being responsible for the management and distribution of Standards Committee documentation.

f) Maintaining lists of unresolved issues, action items, and assignments.

g) Recording attendance of all attendees.

h) Maintaining a current list of the names of the voting members and distributing it to the members upon request.

i) Forwarding all changes to the roster of voting members to the Chair.

j) Being familiar with training materials available through IEEE Standards Development Online.

**3.4.4 Responsible Subcommittee Chair**

The responsibilities of the Responsible Subcommittee Chair include:

a) Tracking the current status and scope for all standards sponsored by the Standards Committee, avoiding scope overlap, and reporting status for projects sponsored by the Responsible Subcommittee.

b) Coordinating activities with the IEEE-SA Standards Board and other Responsible Subcommittee Chairs of the Standards Committee, as appropriate.

c) Checking that documentation for opening a standards PAR and for submitting a draft standard for ballot is complete and correct by performing a review prior to submission.

d) Assisting in the creation of Working Groups and authorizing the Working Group Chair through the IEEE-SA myProject process.

e) Attending meetings of the Standards Committee and reporting any standards requiring immediate or urgent action.

f) Fulfilling responsibilities of the Standards Committee Chair as in 3.4.1, except for submitting the Standards Committee's P&P.
4.0 Membership

4.1 Attendance at Meetings

Not Applicable.

4.2 Non-voting Membership

Not Applicable.

4.3 Voting Membership

Each voting member is expected to attend meetings as defined in this clause. SISO membership is open to anyone with a material interest in simulation interoperability. All SISO members vote in annual elections. SISO SAC comprises eleven at-large elected members. Ten members are elected to fill at-large positions and one member is an elected at-large member serving as the Vice-Chair of the SISO Conference Committee. With the approval of the other elected SISO SAC members, the Chair may recommend up to four additional SISO members to serve for a period of one-year. All recommendations are approved by SISO EXCOM. All voting members shall maintain their SISO membership throughout their terms. All SISO SAC members are voting members. All SISO SAC members are expected to participate in all SISO SAC meetings. Individual voting members who are unable to participate in a face-to-face meeting or a meeting via teleconference are expected to cast eVotes in advance of the meeting in accordance with the SISO SAC procedure established for that purpose. All voting members are expected to cast votes when electronic voting is necessary. Attendance at a meeting via teleconferencing and/or electronic means (e.g., Internet conferencing) may count towards the attendance requirements.

4.3.1 Requirements for Voting Members

Not Applicable.

4.3.2 Request to the Chair for Voting Membership

Not Applicable.

4.4 Review of Membership

The rules in this clause do not apply to ex-officio voting members.

The Chair shall review the list of voting members at least annually. Voting members are expected to fulfill the requirements of active participation as defined in Clause 4.3. When a voting member does not meet these obligations, the Chair shall consider the matter for appropriate action, which may include termination of voting membership. The Chair may
“specially maintain” a voting or non-voting member’s status that would otherwise be lost by failing to meet their obligations. Reasons for such an action might include consideration of personal hardship, medical emergency, or outstanding contributions.

The Chair shall, at least annually, review the status of any members that are specially maintained to validate that the reasons are still applicable.

The Chair shall obtain the approval of the Computer/Simulation Interoperability (C/SI) Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization (SISO) Standards Activity Committee (SAC) meeting in executive session with a 2/3 vote to terminate an individual’s [non-voting or] voting membership.

Upon termination, the Chair shall notify the individual of their new status, along with the reason.

4.5 Ex-officio Voting Membership

Not Applicable.

4.6 Other Membership Classes

Not Applicable.

4.7 Membership Roster

A membership roster is a vital aspect of standards development. It is an initial tool if an issue of indemnification arises during the process of standards development. The Secretary shall make reasonable efforts to maintain a current Standards Committee roster. Due to privacy concerns, the roster shall not be distributed except to the IEEE-SA Board of Governors, IEEE-SA Standards Board, and IEEE-SA staff unless everyone on the roster has submitted written approval for such distribution. The roster shall include the following:

a) Title of the Standards Committee and its designation

b) Scope of the Standards Committee

c) Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary

d) Members: for all, name, e-mail address, affiliation and membership status (e.g., voting member, non-voting member, etc.)

e) For each subgroup other than Working Groups: subgroup title, Chair, and names, e-mail addresses, and affiliations of members

4.8 Membership Public List
A current and accurate Standards Committee membership list shall be maintained. The membership list may be posted on the Standards Committee web site and may be publicly distributed. The membership list shall be limited to the following:

a) Title of the Committee and its designation  
b) Scope of the Committee  
c) Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary,  
d) Members: (for all) Name, affiliation

5.0 Subgroups Created by the Standards Committee

The formation and disbandment of subgroups (e.g., Responsible Subcommittees, Executive committees (ExCom), Administrative committees (AdCom), ad hocs, PAR study groups, Working Groups, and other subgroups, such as writing groups) requires approval by a majority vote of the Standards Committee as described in clause 7.1. Standards Committee subgroups, other than Working Groups and their subgroups, operate under these Standards Committee P&P.

The Standards Committee shall outline all expectations with respect to how the subgroup shall function, including scope of work, deliverables, membership, and voting in the subgroup. The charge to the subgroup shall clearly state which activities are appropriate. The scope and duties delegated to the subgroup shall be approved at the time the subgroup is formed, and subsequent changes in scope or duties shall also require approval by a majority vote of the Standards Committee. The scope, duties, and membership of all subgroups shall be reviewed annually by the Standards Committee.

The Chair of a subgroup may be appointed by the Chair of the Standards Committee, or nominated and elected by the Standards Committee, or nominated and elected by the subgroup. The Standards Committee may remove an officer of any subgroup by a 2/3 vote.

5.1 Executive Committee

Not Applicable.

5.2 Responsible Subcommittee

Not Applicable.

5.3 Working Groups – Individual Method

Standards Working Groups are responsible for the definitive content of one or more documents and for responding to views and objections thereon. Such Working Groups shall maintain a membership roster and shall comply with the provisions for preparing standards.
If a Working Group being formed has individual-based membership, the Standards Committee shall require that the individual standards Working Group adopt procedures consistent with the IEEE-SA Baseline Policies and Procedures for IEEE Standards Working Groups – Individual Method. In addition, the Standards Committee shall review proposed amendments from its Working Groups to the Working Group Policies and Procedures to ensure that they are not in conflict with these procedures, the *IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual* or with each other. A Standards Committee may adopt one set of Working Group P&P—Individual Method, and require that it shall be used by all its individual working groups.

The Standards Committee Chair shall appoint the initial Chair of a new Working Group. Voting membership shall be granted automatically to those participants attending the first meeting of a newly chartered Working Group upon their request. After the first meeting, voting members are subject to the requirements in the Membership clause of the Working Group Policies and Procedures.

5.4 Working Groups – Entity Method

Standards Working Groups are responsible for the definitive content of one or more documents and for responding to views and objections thereon. Such Working Groups shall maintain a membership roster and shall comply with the provisions for preparing standards.

If a Working Group being formed has entity-based membership, the Standards Committee shall require that the entity standards Working Group adopt procedures consistent with the IEEE-SA Baseline Policies and Procedures for IEEE Standards Working Groups – Entity Method. In addition, the Standards Committee shall review proposed amendments from its Working Groups to the Working Group Policies and Procedures to ensure that they are not in conflict with these procedures, the *IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual* or with each other.

A Standards Committee may adopt one set of Working Group P&P—Entity Method, and require that it shall be used by all its entity standard Working Groups.

The Standards Committee Chair shall appoint the initial Chair of a new Working Group. Voting membership shall be granted automatically to those entities attending the first meeting of a newly chartered Working Group upon their request, provided they fulfill the requirements of the Clause 5.2.1 “Participation in IEEE standards development” of the *IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws*, as applicable for Working Groups using the entity method.

5.5 PAR Development

When a proposal comes before a Standards Committee concerning a standards development project, the Standards Committee may form a PAR Study Group or may task an existing Working Group to examine the proposal and, if the proposal merits formation of a project, draft a Project Authorization Request (PAR) for consideration by the Standards Committee.

The *IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual* states, under “Duties of the Standards Committee” the following mandatory requirement: “Submit a properly completed Project
Authorization Request (PAR) for IEEE-SA Standards Board approval within six months of the first decision to initiate the project.”

5.5.1 PAR Study Group

A PAR Study Group is formed as a subgroup of the Standards Committee, and is subject to all relevant operating procedures concerning subgroups of the Standards Committee and parent bodies, including the IEEE-SA Standards Board.

After the PAR Study Group recommendations have been considered by the Standards Committee, and the PAR approved by the IEEE-SA Standards Board (if applicable), the Standards Committee should disband the Study Group.

5.5.2 Criteria for Consideration of a PAR by the Standards Committee

The Standards Committee should consider, and the PAR Study Group or Working group should therefore address, the following issues when evaluating a project proposal:

a) Potential market acceptance of the standards project, including technical feasibility

b) Relationship to related standards, if known, including its distinct identity from other projects

c) Viable volunteer leadership and participation

d) Realistic scope and objectives

5.5.3 Participation and Voting

Any participant in attendance (for a PAR Study Group or Working Group developing a PAR under the individual method) or entity, as defined in Clause 5.2.1.2 “Membership requirements for standards developed under the entity method” in the IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws (for a PAR Study Group or Working Group developing a PAR under the entity method) may vote on motions in a PAR Study Group or Working Group related to development of a PAR. Approval shall be by a greater than 50% approval vote of those present and voting either “approve” or “disapprove.”

5.5.4 Submission of a PAR to the Standards Committee

The PAR Study Group or Working Group shall report its recommendations on the formation of the project to the Standards Committee. The deliverable from the PAR Study Group or Working Group to the Standards Committee should be a report addressing the criteria for consideration and, if appropriate, a draft PAR. The report should include a roster of participants and minutes.

5.6 Other Subgroups
The Standards Committee may form and disband other subgroups (e.g., Technical advisory groups, ad hocs, and standing committees) with approval by a majority vote of the Standards Committee. The charge to the subgroup shall clearly state which of the following complementary activities is appropriate:

1) The subgroup is responsible for the definitive content of one or more documents and for responding to views and objections thereon. Such subgroups shall maintain a membership roster and shall comply with the provisions for preparing standard(s).

2) The subgroup is responsible for assisting the Standards Committee (e.g., drafting all or a portion of a document, drafting responses to comments, drafting public statements on standards, or other purely advisory functions).

The Standards Committee shall outline all expectations with respect to how the subgroup shall function, including scope of work, deliverables, membership, voting in the subgroup, and parliamentary procedures for approval to move any deliverables to the Standards Committee for action.

6.0 Meetings

Standards Committee meetings may be conducted via electronic means or in-person or in-person with one or more participants contributing via electronic means. Standards Committee meetings shall be held, as decided by the Standards Committee Chair, or by petition of 5 or more voting members, to conduct business such as making assignments, receiving reports of work, progressing draft standards, resolving differences among subgroups, and considering views and objections from any source. A meeting notice shall be distributed to all members at least 30 days in advance of a face-to-face meeting and at least 15 days in advance for an electronic (including teleconference) meeting. A meeting agenda (including participation information) shall be distributed to all members at least 10 days in advance of a face-to-face meeting, and at least 5 days in advance for an electronic meeting. Meetings of subgroups may be held as decided upon by the members or Chair of the subgroup. Notification of the potential for action shall be included on any distributed agendas for meetings.

All IEEE Standards development meetings are open to anyone who has a material interest and wishes to attend. However, some meetings may occur in Executive Session (see Clause 6.2).

6.1 Quorum

A quorum shall be identified before the initiation of Standards Committee business at a meeting, but if a quorum is not present, actions may be taken subject to confirmation by letter or electronic ballot, as detailed in Clause 7.4. When the voting membership is less than 50 voting members, a quorum shall be defined as a majority of the current total voting membership. When the voting membership is 50 or more voting members, a quorum shall be defined as 10% of the current total voting membership or 26, whichever is greater. Voting members who recuse themselves shall not be counted in the equation to determine whether a quorum exists.
6.2 Executive Session

Meetings to discuss personnel or sensitive business matters (e.g., the negotiation of contracts), or for other appropriate non-public matters (e.g., the receipt of legal advice), may be conducted in Executive Session.

The matters discussed in executive session are confidential, and therefore, attendance at the Executive Session shall be limited to those with governance authority, outside advisors (e.g., lawyers or consultants) where necessary to provide professional guidance, and select IEEE-SA staff who may have information or a perspective relevant to the subject matter discussed in Executive Session. An individual may be invited to join for a portion of the discussion and then excused at the appropriate time. In each case, except as authorized by the Standards Committee, participants in an Executive Session are prohibited from discussing or disclosing any information presented and discussed during such Executive Session to a third party or other person not present during the Executive Session, and shall not continue to discuss such matters after the Executive Session has adjourned.

Executive Sessions should be conducted face-to-face (in person) to provide the greatest assurance that the content of such Executive Sessions will be kept confidential. However, when necessary, Executive Sessions may include participants who participate by teleconference provided such persons agree not to disclose any information so discussed, and agree that they will participate in such conference in a manner that does not result in third parties gaining access to such discussions or information.

6.3 Meeting Fees

Not Applicable.

6.4 Minutes

The minutes shall record the essentials in concise format, including the following:

a) Name of group
b) Date and location of meeting
c) Officer presiding, including the name of the secretary who wrote the minutes
d) Meeting participants, including affiliation and voting member status at the end of the meeting.
e) Call to order, Chair’s remarks
f) Reminders of IEEE policies, such as Patent policy, and Copyright policy
g) The fact that a Call for Patents occurred and any responses made to such Call
h) Approval of minutes of previous meeting
i) Approval of agenda
j) Technical topics
   1) Brief summary of discussions and conclusions
   2) Motions exactly as they are stated, including the names of mover and seconder, and the outcome of each motion
k) Action items
l) Items reported out of executive session
m) Recesses and time of final adjournment
n) Next meeting—date, time, and location

All submissions, presentations, and reports considered during the meeting shall be referenced in the minutes, identifying the source of the submission. URLs should be provided where possible.

The following shall not be recorded in minutes:

- Transcriptions of detailed discussions
- Attributions of comments to specific participants

7.0 Voting

7.1 Approval of an Action

Approval of an action requires approval by a majority (or two-thirds) vote as specified below in 7.1.1 (majority), and 7.1.2 (two-thirds). The “majority, two-thirds vote” is defined as one of the following:

a) At a meeting (including teleconferences) where quorum has been established, a vote carried by majority (or two-thirds) approval of the votes cast (i.e., Approve or Do Not Approve votes, excluding abstentions) by the voting members in attendance.

b) By electronic means (including email), a vote carried by majority (or two-thirds) of the votes cast (i.e., Approve or Do Not Approve votes, excluding abstentions), provided a majority of all the voting members of the Standards Committee responded.

7.1.1 Actions Requiring Approval by a Majority Vote

The following actions require approval by a majority vote:

a) Formation or modification of a subgroup, including its procedures, scope, and duties
b) Disbandment of subgroups
c) Approval of minutes
d) Delegation to a subgroup for Authorization for submittal of a PAR, modification of a PAR, withdrawal of a PAR, or Standards Association balloting
e) Approval to co-sponsor a project (PAR).

7.1.2 Actions Requiring Approval by a Two-thirds Vote
The following actions require approval by a two-thirds vote:

a) Adoption of new or revised Standards Committee procedures,* interest categories, or revisions thereof
b) Approval of public statements
c) Approval of change of the Standards Committee scope*
d) Approval of termination of the Standards Committee *
e) Removal of an officer except the Chair

* Following Standards Committee approval, items a, c, and d require notice to the IEEE-SA Standards Board.

7.2 Standards Committee Approvals

7.2.1 Moving a Draft Standard to Standards Association ballot

Moving a draft standard to Standards Association ballot requires approval of the Standards Committee. Approval by the Standards Committee shall be limited to conducting a procedural review. The Standards Committee may delegate this approval authority to a subgroup.

7.2.2 Change in Scope of a Standards Project

Standards Committee approval is required for any substantive change in the scope of a standard or project. The Standards Committee may delegate this approval authority to a subgroup. Requested changes shall be reviewed to ensure that the standards project remains within the scope of the Standards Committee and shall also be reviewed to determine if the standards project requires a modified PAR.

7.3 Proxy Voting

Not Applicable.

7.4 Voting Between Meetings

At the discretion of the Chair, the Standards Committee shall be allowed to conduct voting between meetings by the use of a letter or electronic ballot. If such actions are to be taken, they shall follow the rules of IEEE Bylaw I-300.4(4).

8.0 Communications

All correspondence on behalf of the Standards Committee shall contain identification of the Standards Committee as the source of the correspondence.
8.1 Formal Internal Communication

If correspondence between subgroups involves issues or decisions (that is, non-routine matters) affecting other subgroups, copies shall be sent to all affected subgroup Chairs and the Standards Committee officers.

8.2 External Communication

Inquiries relating to the Standards Committee shall be directed to the Chair, and members shall so inform individuals who raise such questions. All replies to inquiries shall be made through the Chair.

8.3 Public Statements for Standards

All Standards Committee public communications shall comply with the policies of the IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual.

Individuals making public statements that have not been approved by the Standards Committee shall state that they are speaking as individuals, and their views do not necessarily represent the views of the Standards Committee, IEEE-SA, or IEEE (see clause 5.2.1.6 “Official statements” in the IEEE-SA Standards Board Bylaws).

8.3.1 Standards Committee Public Statements

Standards Committee public statements shall not be released without prior approval as per Clause 7.1.2 of these procedures.

8.3.2 Subgroup Public Statements

Subgroup public statements shall not be released without prior approval of the subgroup. Such public statements also require approval of the Standards Committee.

Subgroup public statements shall be identified in the first paragraph of the public statement as being specifically the position of the subgroup, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Standards Committee, IEEE-SA, or IEEE. These statements shall be issued by the subgroup Chair and shall include the Standards Committee Chair in the distribution. Such statements shall not bear the IEEE, the IEEE-SA, or the Standards Committee logos.

8.3.3 Public Statements to be Issued by other Entities

If the Standards Committee wishes to go to another IEEE entity (as defined in Section 15 of the IEEE Policies) to have that entity offer a public statement on a standards matter, they shall do so only after agreement from the IEEE-SA Standards Board and approval from the IEEE-SA Board.
of Governors. Upon Standards Committee approval, proposed public statements that need to be issued by other IEEE entities shall be forwarded to the IEEE-SA Standards Board Secretary for further action.

8.4 Informal Communications

Informal communications shall not imply that they are a formal position of the IEEE, the IEEE-SA, or the Standards Committee.

8.5 Standards Publicity

The Standards Committee is encouraged to prepare press releases and other forms of publicity to promote their activities. Please see clause 5.1.4 “Standards publicity” of the IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual for further instructions.

9.0 Appeals

Technical discussions and decisions occur within the Standards Committee subgroup (e.g., Working Group). Any person dissatisfied with a technical decision shall follow the approved procedures for providing technical input to the subgroup that made the decision, including but not limited to making a technical comment during the applicable comment submission and/or balloting period.

The Standards Committee recognizes the right of appeal on procedural grounds. Procedural concerns within a Standards Committee subgroup shall be first presented to the subgroup or Working Group for resolution. If the procedural concern is not resolved after presentation to the subgroup for resolution, the complaint regarding any procedural action or inaction on the part of the Standards Committee, or a Standards Committee’s subgroup, shall be presented to the Standards Committee for resolution. If the party bringing the complaint determines that the Standards Committee’s proposed resolution is unacceptable, such party can file a procedural appeal with the Standards Committee.

Appeals to the Standards Committee shall be addressed as follows:

The appellant shall file a written appeal to the Standards Committee Chair within 30 days of the event (action or inaction). The written appeal shall state the nature of the issue, including any adverse effects; the clause(s) of the procedures that are at issue; summarize previous attempts to resolve the issue with the subgroup or Working Group that is responsible for the standard including the outcome/decision of each attempt; and propose specific remedies that would satisfy the appellant’s concerns. The appellant shall provide any supplemental information necessary to support the claims made in the appeal.

Upon receiving a written appeal, the Standards Committee Chair shall form an Appeal Committee consisting of at least five members of the Standards Committee, none of whom were
directly involved in the matter in dispute, and who will not be materially or directly affected by any decisions made concerning the dispute and shall appoint a chair. The chair of the Appeal Committee shall be an officer of the Standards Committee, if possible. The Appeal Committee shall review the written appeal and decide, within 45 days of the submission of the written appeal, whether or not to recommend to the Standards Committee that an Appeal Panel be formed to consider the appeal. The Appeal Committee may try to resolve the issue with informal discussions with the concerned parties prior to making a decision about an Appeal Panel. The Appeal Committee may decline to recommend an Appeal Panel if (i) the appeal deals with ethical issues, (ii) the appeal deals with technical issues, or (iii) the appellant has not attempted to first resolve the issue informally with the subgroup or Working Group that is responsible for the standard. If the Appeal Committee declines to recommend an Appeal Panel based on these criteria, the Appeal Committee shall provide a written communication to the Standards Committee Chair and the appellant outlining the reason for its decision.

If the Appeal Committee determines that the appeal submission is acceptable, the Standards Committee Chair shall form an Appeal Panel consisting of an Appeal Panel Chair and two other members, none of whom were directly involved in the matter in dispute, and who will not be materially or directly affected by any decisions made concerning the dispute. The Appeal Panel shall have at least two members that are acceptable to both the appellant and the appellee. The Appeal Panel shall hear the appeal during a time convenient to all parties (with at least two weeks’ notice to all concerned parties), and, if possible, prior to the next regular meeting of the Standards Committee. The appeal may be conducted in person or by telephone conference. Failure of the appellant to participate in the hearing (barring unforeseen technical difficulties) shall constitute a withdrawal of the appeal.

A written decision shall be rendered by the Appeal Panel within 30 days of hearing the appeal and communicated to the parties concerned, including the Chair of the Appeal Committee and the Standards Committee Chair.

Details of the Standards Committee’s appeals process. The general operating principle of fairness requires every member of SISO to have the right to appeal the actions of the SISO committees, panels, groups or their leadership. These appeals may be made at any time during the process of executing the activities of SISO. Persons who have directly and materially affected interests and who have been, or could reasonably be expected to be, adversely affected by the action, or by the lack of action in any part of the SISO processes, shall have the right to appeal provided:

a. That technically based appeals, or technical elements of appeals, shall be resolved at the level of the cognizant product or study group; and

b. That claims based solely on ethical considerations shall only be considered under the IEEE Code of Ethics.
c. That the action being appealed occurred within 30 days of the submission of the appeal.

If there is an issue of concern, all efforts to resolve the issue with the parties involved should be made before resorting to the appeals process. The appropriate SISO organizational element shall fully explain the appeals process and possible outcomes to all involved parties so that they can make an informed decision to whether or not an appeal is the best or only path to resolution of their concern(s). If the appeals process must be invoked, the party making the appeal should clearly state these items in writing:

d. Decision or action being appealed.

e. Why the decision or action is in question.

f. What effect the decision has had on the appellant.

g. What the appellant believes can be done to correct the matter.

The first level of appeal within SISO is the SISO Appeals Board. The SISO Appeals Board consists of the Vice Chair of the EXCOM (Appeals Board Chair), the Vice Chair of the CC, and the Vice Chair of the SAC. If any member of the Appeals Board is a party of an appeal, the EXCOM Chair shall appoint another member of the respective committee to serve on the Appeals Board for the specific appeal.

Upon receipt of an appeal, the Appeals Board will determine if the appeal meets the criteria of this section. If the appeal meets the criteria, the Appeals Board will determine the facts of the appeal and determine if the decision or action violates the SISO policies and procedures or its subordinate administrative documents. The Appeals Board may, if it determines it necessary, request an interpretation of the SISO administrative document from the EXCOM Chair. Once the determination is made by the Appeals Board, the Appeals Board Chair will provide the appellant and the party(ies) whose actions are being appealed a written Appeals Board Determination that includes the findings and directed resolution.

Either party in the appeal may choose to elevate the appeal to the second level of appeal. The decision to elevate an appeal to a higher level must be made in writing to the Appeals Board Chair within 15 working days from the date of the Appeals Board Determination. The notification of a decision to elevate the appeal should clearly state why the Appeals Board Determination is in question.

The second level of appeal within SISO is either to SAC (for appeals related to IEEE activities) or the EXCOM (for all other appeals). Upon receipt of a notification of a decision to elevate an appeal, the Appeals Board Chair will provide the appropriate SISO Committee Chair with a copy of the original appeal, a copy of the Appeals Board Determination, and a copy of the notification of the decision to elevate the decision.
The committee hearing the second level of appeal shall review the information and make a determination if the Appeals Board Determination was in error. The SAC shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the eligible SAC members to overturn the Appeals Board Determination. The SAC Vice Chair is not eligible to vote on an elevated appeal. The EXCOM shall require an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the eligible EXCOM members to overturn the Appeals Board Determination. The EXCOM Vice Chair is not eligible to vote on an elevated appeal.

If the Appeals Board Determination is overturned, the SISO Committee hearing the second level of appeal shall identify an alternate resolution and the SISO Committee Chair will provide the appellant and the party(ies) whose actions are being appealed a written determination of the appeal and the directed resolution.

The SAC shall be the final SISO level of appeal for groups developing and supporting IEEE Standards. Additional appeals shall be to the IEEE Standards Association Standards Board.

The EXCOM shall be the final SISO level of appeals for all other appeals.

No announcement of the determination and resolution of any appeal shall be made outside the parties of the appeal until the SISO appeals process is complete.

Standards Committee procedural appeals shall be conducted as follows:

The number of participating (i.e., speaking) representatives for each of the parties to the appeal is limited to a maximum of three (3). Other individuals may attend the hearing, but will not be permitted to address, or be addressed by, the Standards Committee’s Appeal Panel or either of the parties to the appeal at any time (including during the question and answer period). No recordings or verbatim transcriptions of the hearing are allowed, except by the IEEE-SA at its sole discretion.

The Standards Committee Appeal Panel may call an Executive Session before, during the course of, or following an appeal hearing to consider its action on a specific appeal.

No party to an appeal may communicate with any member of the Standards Committee Appeal Panel regarding the appeal while the matter is pending (i.e., from the time of filing of the appeal brief to finalization of the Standards Committee Appeal Panel decision).

The appellant has the burden of demonstrating adverse effects, improper action(s) or inaction, and the efficacy of the requested remedial action. Each party may adduce other pertinent arguments, and members of the Standards Committee Appeal Panel may address questions to individuals. The Standards Committee Appeal Panel shall only consider documentation included in the appeal brief and reply brief, unless
a) Significant new evidence has come to light; and

b) Such evidence reasonably was not available to the appellant or appellee, as appropriate, at the time of filing; and

c) Such evidence was provided by the appellant or appellee, as appropriate, to the other parties as soon as it became available.

Prior to the hearing, the members of the Standards Committee Appeal Panel may convene to review the ground rules before the participants appear.

If, after completion of the Standards Committee’s appeals process, the party bringing the complaint determines that the Standards Committee’s Appeals Panel decision is unacceptable, such party can file a procedural appeal with the IEEE-SA Standards Board as described in Clause 9 on “Appeals” of the IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual.