

PRIMER  
ON  
*Engineering  
Standards*

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*Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data*

Jawad, Maan H.

Primer on engineering standards / by Maan Jawad, Owen R. Greulich.  
pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-7918-6034-2

1. Standards, Engineering. I. Greulich, Owen R. II. Title.

TA368.J39 2014

620.002'18 --dc23

2014011164

*To those who seek excellence through their knowledge of standards*



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>PREFACE</b>	ix
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS</b>	xi
<b>1. Introduction</b>	1
1.1 Procedures and rules	2
1.2 Standards	3
1.2.1 History and purpose of standards	3
1.2.2 A few examples of standards throughout the ages	3
1.2.3 Classification	5
1.2.4 Limited consensus standards	5
1.2.5 General consensus standards	5
1.2.6 Governmental standards	6
1.2.6.1 Jurisdictional standards	6
1.2.6.2 Non-jurisdictional governmental standards	6
1.3 Application of standards	7
1.3.1 Permissible materials of construction, performance criteria, and pertinent data	9
1.3.2 Safe design rules	9
1.3.3 Guidance for construction details	10
1.3.4 Available methodologies for inspection and testing	10
1.3.5 Safe operating parameters	10
1.4 Engineering software applications	10
<b>2. General consensus standards and codes</b>	13
2.1 Purpose of standards	13
2.1.1 Standards for safety and reliability	13
2.1.2 Standards to reduce cost	15
2.1.3 Standards for increased flexibility	17
2.1.4 Standards for promotion of business	17
2.1.5 Help society to function	18
2.2 General consensus standards	18
2.3 American National Standards Institute (ANSI)	19
2.4 Codes	20
2.4.1 National codes	20
2.4.2 International codes	21
2.5 Some ANSI accredited organizations	21
2.5.1 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)	21
2.5.2 American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)	24
2.5.3 American Petroleum Institute (API)	25

2.5.4	Underwriters Laboratory (UL)	25
2.5.5	National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors (NBBI)	25
2.5.6	American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)	26
2.5.7	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)	26
<b>3.</b>	<b>Limited consensus standards</b>	27
3.1	Types of standards	27
3.2	Proprietary versus non-proprietary standards	29
3.2.1	Proprietary standards	29
3.2.2	Non-proprietary standards	30
3.3	Governmental and jurisdictional limited consensus standards	30
3.3.1	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)	30
3.3.2	Army Corp of Engineers	30
3.3.3	National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST)	30
3.3.4	National Science Foundation (NSF)	31
3.3.5	U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)— Forest Service	31
3.3.6	United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	31
3.3.7	Municipalities	31
<b>4.</b>	<b>Jurisdictional standards</b>	33
4.1	Regulations and jurisdictional requirements	33
4.2	Jurisdictional standards implementations	37
4.3	Sample jurisdictional standards: The OSHA regulations	37
4.4	OSHA general duty clause	39
4.5	Summary	40
<b>5.</b>	<b>Standards development process</b>	41
5.1	ANSI general consensus standards	41
5.2	Government non-jurisdictional standards: DOD, NASA, etc.	43
5.3	Corporate standards—public and proprietary	43
5.3.1	Corporate public standards	43
5.3.2	Corporate proprietary standards	43
5.4	Limited consensus standards	44
5.5	International analytical programs	44
<b>6.</b>	<b>Types of standards</b>	47
6.1	Introduction	47
6.2	Performance standards	47
6.3	Prescriptive standards	47
6.4	Component standards	48
6.5	Hybrid standards	48
6.6	Verification and validation process	51

<b>7. Standards interpretation and relief</b>	55
7.1 General discussion	55
7.2 Standards adoption	56
7.3 Effect of non-compliance with standards	56
7.3.1 New products	58
7.3.2 Post-manufacturing non-compliance	59
7.3.2.1 General discussion	59
7.3.2.2 Product degradation	60
7.3.2.3 Non-compliance due to changes in standards	61
7.3.2.4 Post-manufacturing compliance	62
7.4 Standards interpretations	62
7.4.1 Informal processes	62
7.4.2 Formal interpretations	63
7.4.2.1 Interpretations of national consensus standards	63
7.4.2.2 Interpretations of governmental regulations	64
7.5 Tailoring	64
7.5.1 Non-mandatory standards tailoring	65
7.5.2 Legislative tailoring	65
7.5.3 Governmental agency supplemental standards	65
7.6 Waivers and variances	65
7.6.1 Waivers of corporate standards	65
7.6.2 Code cases	66
7.6.3 Variances from jurisdictional standards	68
7.6.3.1 General industry variances from OSHA standards	69
7.6.3.2 Governmental agency alternate standards	69
7.7 Summary	69
<b>8. Characteristics of a good standard</b>	71
8.1 Introduction	71
8.2 Clarity and understanding	71
8.3 Scope	71
8.4 Terminology	72
8.5 Structure and organization	73
8.6 Consistency	73
8.7 References to other standards	74
8.8 Attention to details	74
8.9 Supplementing a standard	74
8.10 Timelines	74
8.11 Summary	75

<b>ACRONYMS</b>	77
<b>APPENDIX A: SOME AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATIONS DEVELOPING GENERAL CONSENSUS STANDARDS</b>	79
<b>APPENDIX B: SOME INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT PUBLISH LIMITED CONSENSUS STANDARDS</b>	83
<b>APPENDIX C: JURISDICTIONAL AGENCIES</b>	85
<b>REFERENCES</b>	87
<b>INDEX</b>	89
<b>BIOGRAPHY</b>	93



## PREFACE

Standards play an important role in the engineering world. They supplement the design process by guiding the designer or user to ensure consistent products with safe and reliable operation. Understanding and complying with pertinent standards helps to ensure successful design, fabrication, and operation of a product.

This book introduces the concept of standards and their impact and value. Chapter 1 gives a brief introduction to the general concepts of procedures, rules, standards, regulations, codes, and jurisdictional requirements. While these entities often overlap in subject coverage, the engineer needs to be cognizant of their existence, intent, and how their interrelationships affect the engineering at hand.

Chapter 2 discusses Engineering Standards developed by the consensus process. Limited consensus standards are presented in Chapter 3, and jurisdictional standards are presented in Chapter 4.

Development of Standards is briefly discussed in Chapter 5, and Chapter 6 discusses types of standards. In Chapter 7 the need and processes for exemptions from existing standards are explained. Chapter 8 identifies characteristics of a good standard.

There are tens, perhaps hundreds of thousands of engineering standards worldwide, covering every imaginable subject related to engineering. Listing them all would be a monumental undertaking and this book, by necessity, covers only a small portion of them. The appendices at the end of this book provide assistance in identifying a few of these engineering standards, who developed and maintains them, and contact information to help the reader obtain further information.

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April, 2014



## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The authors acknowledge Mark Jawad for providing background information on the USB standard and to Kevin Jawad for providing history regarding computer development.

Thanks are also extended to Nooter Construction Corporation for providing photographs for the front cover, and to Mike Hughes of CIC Corporation for coordinating photograph assembly.

A special thanks is extended to the manuscript reviewers Bill Berger, Douglas Fraser, and K. R. Rao. We also acknowledge Cathy Greulich and Dixie Jawad for their patience while the authors were writing the manuscript and special thanks are extended to Mary Grace Stefanchik, Tara Smith, Joe Brzuskiewicz, and other ASME staff for their valuable assistance and guidance on the book.

