

IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee 14

Quantities, Units, and Letter Symbols

Annual Report for 2009

1. Scope

SCC14 studies questions regarding quantities, units, and systems of measurement, with particular emphasis on the International System of Units (SI), and it prepares recommendations and standards on those matters. It is responsible for providing current information on quantities and units to all organizations preparing IEEE standards, and for assisting all IEEE organizational units, as requested, in implementing IEEE Policy 9.19, Metric Policy (formerly numbered 9.20).

It is also responsible for the development of standards in the areas of metric practice and letter symbols, for ensuring consistency in these areas in standards that are issued by IEEE, and for providing current information on letter symbols and metric practice to all organizations preparing IEEE standards.

SCC14 works with the committees responsible for generating IEEE standards to help them meet the requirements of the Standards Board Implementation Plan for IEEE Policy 9.20 [Metric Policy], adopted March 16, 1995. As part of the coordination process, it reviews requests for individual exceptions and reports its recommendations to the Standards Board.

2. Membership

The membership roster for SCC14 is attached.

Standards are prepared and maintained in the following six sub-committees, which are responsible for standards as indicated:

- 14.1 Metric Practice (Std 945; IEEE/ASTM SI 10)
- 14.2 Definitions (Std 270)
- 14.3 Unit Symbols (Std 260.1, Std 1541)
- 14.4 Quantity Symbols, electrical science and engineering (Std 280)
- 14.5 Quantity Symbols, acoustics (Std 260.4)
- 14.6 Mathematical Symbols (Std 260.3)

There are also three subcommittees that focus on coordination with other organizations:

- 14-Int Coordinates with IEC and ISO on matters of mutual interest; supports the U.S. Technical Advisory Committee for IEC TC 25 and the U.S. Advisory Group to ISO TC 12
- 14-Rev Reviews proposed IEEE standards and submits comments as part of the mandatory SCC14 coordination before they are submitted to RevCom
- 14-Leg Follows proposed legislative and regulatory actions that affect metrication, both nationally and internationally

3. Activity Report

Objectives and Goals for 2008/09

SCC14.1: Working with ASTM, prepare revision of IEEE/ASTM SI 10; ballot proposed revision in 2008. Submit Std 945 reaffirmation ballot results to RevCom. *Performance: Red-line draft is in circulation and comments are being received. IEEE Std 945 was reaffirmed until 2013.*

SCC14.2: Establish, by end 2009, a procedure for coordination with the IEEE Dictionary. *Performance: No progress made to date. This project will be dropped from the agenda for now. It may be re-initiated later.*

SCC14.3: Revise/reaffirm Std 260.1. *Performance: Invitation to Ballot process was initiated on 2009 August 29 via myBallot.*

SCC14.3: Revise/reaffirm Std 280. *Performance: IEEE Std 280 was extended in 2008, pending completion of P80000.*

SCC14-Rev: Reestablish SCC14 coordination activity by end 2008. *Performance: This is still a difficult area. One person volunteered to chair this committee but had to withdraw for personal reasons. Efforts continue to find another person to adopt this responsibility. Meanwhile, as time permits, others are doing occasional coordination reviews.*

SCC14-Int: Develop proposed "Modified" versions of ISO 80000-3 and 80000-4 for adoption as IEEE standards by end 2009. *Performance: Draft work is in progress, may continue into 2010..*

Objectives and Goals for 2009/10

SCC14.1: Working with ASTM, prepare revision of IEEE/ASTM SI 10; ballot proposed revision in 2009.

SCC14.3: Revise/reaffirm Std 260.1.

SCC14-Rev: Reestablish routine and full SCC14 coordination activity by the end of 2010.

SCC14-Int: Develop proposed "Modified" versions of ISO 80000-3 and 80000-4 for adoption as IEEE standards.

IEEE Staff Support Requirements

Michael Kipness provides administrative support to ensure that SCC14 standards development work conforms with approved IEEE standards practice, and serves as staff liaison between the Standards Board and SCC14.

Don Messina is principal liaison concerning standards publication.

Sue Vogel provides staff liaison with ASTM as required by the joint sponsorship of IEEE/ASTM SI 10.

Summary of Other Activities

SCC14 continues to maintain its close liaison with its counterparts in ISO and IEC. The US Technical Advisor for TC 25 and representative on ISO TC 12 (Dr. Thompson), and the US Technical Advisor for TC 1 (Prof. Showers) are members of SCC14. Dr. Thompson is also a member of the Consultative Committee on Units of the General Conference of Weights and Measures. James R. Frysinger, Chair of SCC14, maintains two websites for the committee -- (<http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/si10/index.html>, and <http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/260/1/>) with a portion that is open to the public.

Meeting Schedule

The committee meets annually in the Washington, DC area. It met last on 2009 April 18 at NIST Headquarters in Gaithersburg MD. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 2010 April 22 at NIST Headquarters in Gaithersburg MD. Between meetings the committee and its subcommittees work by means of electronic and telephonic correspondence.

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