

IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee 14 (Quantities, Units, and Letter Symbols)

2013 March 27, 14:00 (EDT)

Agenda and Minutes

Attending: Gordon Aubrecht, Al Censullo, Elizabeth Gentry, James Frysinger, Stan Jacuba, Mike Kipness, Terry Scott, Ambler Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 14:01.

Ambler discussed how to use Adobe Connect for the meeting.

1. Adoption of agenda

Jacuba said we should use year-day-month for all dates in our correspondence. The agenda was adopted by acclamation.

2. Secretary's minutes of last meeting

It was moved to adopt the minutes. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

3. Chairman's report

IEEE training presentation on patents (annual requirement)

Patent training was done. No questions on annual training on patents were received.

Annual report on 2012 August 10 (copy provided); next due 2013 September

Financial Report submitted; next due 2014 March 31

Frysinger was reappointed as SCC14 Chair on 2013 January 03

Summary Status of standards – These will be discussed as needed in the subcommittee reports.

See the provided spreadsheet for details.

– reaffirmed this past year

2012 Aug 30: Std 260.3-1993 (R2006), American National Standard Mathematical Signs and Symbols for Use in Physical Sciences and Technology

2012 Dec 05: Std 270-2006, IEEE Standard Definitions for Selected Quantities, Units,

and Related Terms, with Special Attention to the International System of Units (SI).

260.3 and 270 were reaffirmed. They were the last reaffirmed standards by IEEE. This will no longer be permitted.

– IEEE expiration dates

2018: 260.3, 260.4, 270, 280, 945, 1541

2020: 260.1, SI 10

– ANSI expiration dates in 2013

260.4, 945, 1541

– in development

P80000

There were no questions about these reports.

#### 5. Reports of subcommittees

ORPHAN: IEEE Std 945 It is about mathematical symbols. Do we want to maintain the standard, or ignore it. Scott suggested we should withdraw it, and everyone agreed that it should be withdrawn.

SCC14.1 (SI-10) – Barrow

Barrow asked headquarters for a copy, the title is “American National Standard for Metric Practice.”

SCC14.2 – IEEE Std 270-2006: Aubrecht — reaffirmed 2012 December 05, expires 2022.

SCC14.3 – IEEE Std 260.1-2004: Frysinger — expires 2020; ANSI expiration in 2015

Nothing needed for at least 2 years.

– IEEE Std 1541: Frysinger — expires 2018; ANSI expiration in 2013

Should we go through PAR and do a revision to retain ANSI status. It was agreed that we should do that. Kipness was informed about this development. Unless IEEE-SA changes position, there is no reason to continue. Frysinger will put the withdrawal in, and await IEEE-SA response. Thompson said that the agreement with IEC does not address ANSI requirements.

SCC14.4 – Quantity symbols (Std 280-1985): Barrow — PAR extended through 2013; tied to P80000; std expires 2018

We decided to move this down in the agenda.

SCC14.5 – Acoustics (Std 260.4-1996, reaff. 2008): Ehrlich — expires 2018; ANSI expiration in 2013

This standard is up for ANSI renewal this year. We need to do this, and Scott noted that the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) will be very helpful in the renewal. Thompson gave Frysinger contact information for the appropriate staff person at ASA. Scott said that there is a link to their standards office. They feel ownership of that standard. We should think seriously about a dual-logo standard.

SCC14.6 – IEEE Std 260.3-1993): Aubrecht — reaffirmed 2012 August 30, expires 2022

We continue to want ANSI support, so this will be addressed in five years.

SCC14.7 – International System of Quantities: Thompson — PAR80000 approved 2009 March; PAR80000-3 superseded; PAR80000-4 withdrawn; sample based on ISO 80000-3 drafted

— Do we want to proceed?

—

Thompson and Frysinger discussed this. We would do a modified adoption according to ANSI standards. IEEE, however, has changed policies, and we cannot do that. It is an agreement between IEEE and IEC, which does not really reflect what we're doing. The problem is because ISO and IEC work together.

We can add a normative annex, which would list any differences. Can we use hotlinks to make the connections, Aubrecht asked. But Frysinger said it would be a huge ball of wax.

ANSI allows three methods for adoption of standards. Adoption of adaptation: this was our choice. We revise contents of the document. But IEEE staff through the agreement with IEC is frustrating adoption by adaptation. Can't we slim it down? Apparently. The Standards Board said we could do what we want. So, we will withdraw the PAR on P-80000 and cease work on it due to lack of support from IEEE staff. This was agreed to unanimously.

SCC14-Int – International report: Thompson

— IEC TC25, ISO TC12, IEC/TC 1

Frysinger and Thompson reported that the ISO biometrics committee joined the 80000

with physiological units, 80000-3. Most recent work has been on 80000-3. IEC 25 and ISO TC 12 have been working together. There have been updates, cites were updated. The major portion of work is the 80000 series. Frysinger went to Sweden and Switzerland to work on this. There is to be a meeting in Prague on 29 April 2013, but Frysinger has no funding to go.

There was a proposal to merge the work of IEC 15 with IEC TC 25 working group were thinking the others were interlopers. We missed the vote due to personal family problems. Dr. Ralph Showers has been ill and not accessible at all.

ANSI staff asked Frysinger to DTA TAGs for TC 1 and TC12. TC 1 maintains the IECV, and Frysinger has sat in on the meetings; progress made on updating vocabulary.

80000-3 is up to 11 chapters now. They split diagnosis and prognosis. There is a standard on insurance companies, but Frysinger wondered about standards involving insurance companies.

TC 215 (?), Thompson said, is of interest and NIST under mandate from Congress is strong on this in bioinformatics. The US is the secretariat for this, meaning the chair is American.

There is another finger in the pie. IEEE has a standard on health informatics, 11073-10102 , basically doing what 80000-3 is trying to do. We don't know about whether there is cooperation on this.

There are about a dozen programs for electronic medical records, but the problem is that programs are proprietary and cannot interact! The effort is to develop a universal way to allow transmission of information from one doctor anywhere to another anywhere else. This what the reason for 80000-3.

SCC14 should step back. Frysinger changed his mind on our committee dealing with 80000-3. Thompson suggests we lay low; if they need us, they will contact us.

— CCU

This committee is meeting in June to look over the status on the Planck constant. Thompson does not expect a resolution within a year. The Europeans are building machines to measure this, providing greater redundancy. There will also be a delay in going through CGPM.

SCC14-Rev – Review: Barrow — See New Business item; volunteers needed!!!

Barrow has not been able to do anything. His schedule is completely full until June. He has not had the time to work hard on this. He thinks he should be replaced, and suggests that Piscataway be editors using SI-10 and refer problems to the Review Committee. Frysinger reports that there has been scant cooperation; IEEE said that the locals in

Piscataway has been “brought up to speed” on SI-10, which seems to be contradicted by experience.

Frysinger suggests that Barrow, when he has time, find problems in newly approved standards. Then he and Frysinger would write a letter to IEEE headquarters.

We have problems with personnel. Stan Jacuba volunteered to help on this project. Kipness said SI-10 was available to editors. Frysinger welcomed IEEE taking a role in supporting its standards. Barrow is bothered that SI-10 is not available free to the world; at least it should be available for IEEE members!

We had intended petitioning the IEEE Foundation to give the IEEE Standards Association to make it available. Barrow is dismayed that IEEE Standards won't support this. Everyone agreed. Kipness said SI-10 is addressed in the MAC period (editorial review). In September, Frysinger was told during a phone meeting that IEEE editors are doing this, but things are slipping through. Frysinger said that it should be a note to a chair giving them SI-10 and saying it needs to be followed. Kipness said that their policy is to allow access only when terms of use are met.

Frysinger said that procedures need revision, the author's guide should include SI-10. Kipness noted that ASTM is also involved. Barrow thinks ASTM would be okay with this. SCC14, the entire committee, continues to feel frustrated about the use of SI-10 in writing standards.

Kipness was asked about how the association responded to his letters, and what would be a result. Kipness said he wanted to arrange another phone meeting to try to resolve the SI-10 matter. He indicated that it would help if ASTM said it was okay with the change. Frysinger asked Kipness to arrange the meeting.

Jacuba suggested he could train IEEE editors.

Chemical education may be affected by the change in definition of the kilogram, Censullo said. He was advised to reach out to NIST, IUPAC, and IUPAP. Aubrecht said that he'd written an article about this published in the Physics Teacher last October. The CGPM will meet in 2015, and may decide then on the changes. BIPM is so small, there is concern about their ability to work on these matters.

SCC14-Leg – Legislative

— NIST report: Gentry

Elizabeth Gentry reported that the NIST metric program. No major organizational changes, except for Dr. Dehmer was named as director. He was in radiometric physics in the past. He still needs official approval. They will publish an online course for managers. There will be an online guide that has both US customary and metric unit pricing. Many stores carry metric products, especially spirits, and may quote unit prices

in customary units. The idea is to remove barriers to allow a smooth transition. NIST-376 300 mm ruler has been reprinted and put in teacher kits. So far, many have been distributed to teachers. It seems very popular. Alignment with STEM careers is great.

The unit packaging-labeling work (FPLA). Alabama is considering the adoption of NIST handbook 130. Frysinger said that Lorelle Young had a call from Kansas about that state putting up a lot of metric signs. Given NAFTA, such signage is appropriate. In NM they did not want to go back from metric, Gentry said.

Gentry noted that states are allowed to use standards, New York is the last state to adopt the handbook 130.

We the People website had a metric petition that had over 40,000 signatures. There has been a lot in the media about the website. Now, 100,000 signatures is necessary to get into the queue. There is just a small staff working on this, but a response to this petition is expected.

— USMA report: Young

No report. Young has had health problems, but continues in her leadership role.

#### 6. Other old business

Resignation of Bruce Barrow as chair of SCC14-Rev; replacement needed.

New structure for standards maintenance (<http://standards.ieee.org/faqs/reaff.html>):

10 year “lifetime” except still 5 years for ANSI unless delay justified

no more reaffirmations – revise or withdraw only

one-third balance rule

no more invited experts

comment resolutions may now be only reject, accept, or revise ('accept in principle')

match rule eliminated – balloters determine if scope of standard exceeds that of PAR

#### 7. New business

Barrow: Resolution regarding public release of SI 10

#### 8. Review of action items: Aubrecht

### **Work to do: Action Items**

Submit withdrawal for 945-Frysinger  
Revise 1541 this year-Frysinger  
Check with ASA for dual-logo status for 260.4-Barrow  
SCC14 needs to track down Stan Ehrlich about 260.4-Barrow  
Letter on 80000 to IEEE-Frysinger  
Contact Lorelle Young for USMA report-Frysinger

9. Date for 2014 meeting — March in Gaithersburg? Tele/Web/Videoconference?

It was suggested that we arrange the date for meeting as we did last year.

Frysinger was commended by the membership impressed by his efforts .

The meeting adjourned at 15:47.