

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

Agenda and Minutes

March 15, 2012, 2:00 pm (EDT)

By teleconference (details TBA)

1. Adoption of agenda

no changes

2. Secretary's [minutes of last meeting](#)

approved

3. Approval of minutes of meeting of April 26, 2011

approved

4. Chairman's report

IEEE training presentation on patents (annual requirement)

Annual training has been accomplished.

Annual report on 2011 August 26 (copy provided); next due 2011 September

No finances

Financial Report submitted; next due 2012 March 31

Status of standards, reaffirmations and revisions due at this time

Std 280-1982 (R2003) held in abeyance during development of P80000

Std 260.3-1993 (R2006), American National Standard Mathematical Signs and Symbols for Use in Physical Sciences and Technology — passed 1st ballot for reaffirmation.

Std 270-2006, IEEE Standard Definitions for Selected Quantities, Units, and Related Terms, with Special Attention to the International System of Units (SI) — passed 1st ballot for reaffirmation.

In process of reaffirmation; 1st some responses ballot

5. Reports of subcommittees

SCC14.1 – **Barrow**

SI-10 just came out last year, no changes needed now.

SCC14.2 – Definitions (Std 270-2006): **Aubrecht** — due 2012; reaffirmation in progress.

In progress; ready to revote.

SCC14.3 – Unit symbols (Std 260.1-2004, reaff. 2010): **Frysinger** — It is an American National Standard. The cover page has not been changed since the last revision.

Has been accepted by ANSI

SCC14.4 – Quantity symbols (Std 280-1985): **Barrow** — PAR extended; tied to P80000

Waiting for 80000.

SCC14.5 – Acoustics (Std 260.4-1996, reaff. 2008): **Ehrlich** — action due 2013; will require a “revision”, even if only a change in the date, but probably more (esp. front matter).

Stan not in attendance. Barrow will contact Stan Ehrlich.

SCC14.6 – Mathematical Symbols (Std 260.3-1993): **Aubrecht** — due 2012; reaffirmation in progress.

In progress; ready to revote.

SCC14.7 – International System of Quantities: **Thompson** — PAR80000 approved 2009 March; PAR80000-3 superseded; PAR80000-4 withdrawn; sample based on ISO 80000-3 drafted.

3 docs up on the website. Translated ISO/IEC going up. Frysinger said our 80000 up by end of 2013. Each must have its own ballot, Frysinger. Thompson says that this is all up as one. This will be looked into for a final decision. It would be more elegant to do it as a whole. Frysinger and Barrow offered to help Thompson.

SCC14-Int – International report: **Thompson**
— IEC TC25, ISO TC12
— CCU

80003 series is what is being worked on. Started off with five parts—general, physical, chemical biological, psychological. Split into two parts, diagnosis and prognosis, on all but general. There will be a cultural part added—a total of eleven parts. Some will become an IEEE Standard. American National Standards for telemedicine or telehealth. Looking for global communications capabilities. XML coding translates this intercommunication. Units must stay the same. ICU stdzd formats, ISO/IEC is coming up with stdzd units. There is global communications.

Developing 80003 draws heavily on 80000. Next WG meetings are 25 and 12 in Zürich, Switzerland the last week of April.

What’s happening with the millimeter of mercury? We are still working on that. There is a similar thing for diabetics—mL/dL and millimoles per deciliter. There are problems with writing things in awkward English; Frysinger was at a meeting at which he was the sole native English speaker. Frysinger is deputy advisor.

80000-4 (mechanics) was withdrawn. We had separate PARs for each section, combined into one with

the notation that the standard would be delivered by parts.

CCU: We drafted recommendations for redefinitions, so people will know what the “new SI” will look like. CGPM adopted the resolutions. They will eventually go into effect when the metrology is acceptable and the data are fixed by CODATA. Barry Taylor is busy publishing the new CODATA values. CCU meets again in 2013.

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

Barrow tendered his resignation. The work has been overwhelming because it is so time-consuming. As Terry Scott noted, the work wasn't appreciated. It was meant to be mandatory, but people treated it as advisory. It would be best if the staff at Piscataway could fix most things and just send on the problems.

Do we need to raise this issue with SASB? Frysinger volunteered to write a letter. Perhaps Barrow and Frysinger could go to Piscataway together and have an effect.

Terry Scott could do some of the work, but could not be a chair.

We need to redefine the job. We lost enthusiasm and have no younger volunteers.

Barrow and Frysinger are going to work to accomplish changes.

SCC14-Leg – Legislative
— NIST report: **Gentry**

Elizabeth Gentry will send a written report. Did some reorganizations at NIST. Her office has been renamed the Office of Weights and Measures. Now her office is in the sLaws and Metric Program.

A couple of pubs NIST-SP 1038, conversion factors for everyday use. Including basic education concepts.

Also, they're publishing a metric guide for small business.

Contact management system. Can register for training and bimonthly newsletter. You can request publications through the system as well. There are new instructions on the website as to how to navigate the system.

She highlighted education outreach. They still send these out. She accepts email requests for the materials. They also send materials to conferences. She may do workshops at meetings, but “unnecessary” travel is being curtailed. She is busy with STEM efforts. She takes an “metric estimation game” to schools. She's involved with metrologycareers.com.

NY and AL are doing things. In Alabama, legislation got sidetracked after the tornadoes.

Gentry will meet with Lorelle Young on a trip to California next week.

FTC and FDA will seek comment on FPLA in 2013.

— USMA report: **Young**

Young is not attending.

6. Other old business

none

7. New business

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

Above

New structure for standards maintenance (<http://standards.ieee.org/faqs/reaff.html>):
10 year “lifetime” except still 5 years for ANS 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

This new structure is a Board-generated change. We can make a trivial revision to ballot. They were probably getting reaffirmations from “dead” committees. Barrow worries about the mathematics standard; he’s not sure we can do anything with it.

Frysinger’s phone dropped out. Thompson took over for him temporarily. No group can be more than one-third of the committee. We can create other interest groups.

No more invited experts to ballot; but you can be a member of IEEE-SA without being in IEEE. Barrow says it hurts committees such as ours. They are grubbing money by forcing people to join. No one pays us to do the work on this committee. Most groups are made up of employees of companies and do it as part of their jobs.

Frysinger will bring this up in his letter.

Aggressive plan needed for revisions to standards? Map out a schedule of work?

260.4 last ANSI date 2008
1541 last ANSI date 2008 – needs extension of prefix table.
945 last ANSI date 2009
260.1 last ANSI date 2010
260.3 in reaffirmation process
270 in reaffirmation process
280 in abeyance (for IEEE P80000)

SCC 14 maintained by Frysinger. There are other formatted spreadsheets. He pulled the data from there. Are we going to meet ANSI dates?

Do we just resubmit to ANSI in the middle of the cycle? We don’t know.

ANS standards will need to explain whether revision is in progress or to be set up within five years. SASB sends things to ANSI. The IEEE plan has not been approved by ANSI as of now. We are doing acoustics and binary multiple prefixes already this year for 2013. Someone needs to shepherd the thing through the balloting process. Frysinger volunteers for doing 1541. We hope Ehrlich will take the lead here.

Do we still need 945? Preferred electrical units for science. Barrow wants to look at this one. Frysinger said it looks like parallels to an ISO publication. Maybe we should consider folding it.

Invitation to work on (take responsibility for?) IEEE Std 315-1975 and Std 315A-1986.

Frysinger got an email from someone wanting to incorporate new symbols. SCC 11 is inactive. We were asked whether we would like to take this over.

There were questions as to whether there was a need for the change. Does it need to be done? Do we want to take this over? We are letter symbols. We have never done this in the past. We have no competence in this area. Barrow moves turn this down, Aubrecht seconded. We decline the invitation.

Comments to IEEE-SA on ANSI notice regarding “Incorporation By Reference”?

It came in over the transom. IEEE-SA is in the process of drafting a reply. This says things will make standards according to IEEE-x (whatever that is). IEEE does not want to pass on standards for free. Homeland Security paid NIST to make standards, which were then distributed free.

They try to have common references for all federal agencies. Do we have any comments we want them to include? No.

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

Frysinger to write letter to SASB.

Aubrecht reaffirming.

Barrow to contact Ehrlich.

Fry & Barrow are going to try to help IEEE understand S-14 rev problems by perhaps a visit to Piscataway.

Frysinger to get back to proposers of 315 and 315a with a no.

9. Date for 2013 meeting — March in Gaithersburg? Tele/Web/Videoconference?

March 21, 2013 was suggested but it conflicts with a metric science conference for Elizabeth Gentry.

March 14, 2013 was suggested and accepted. The format was as this year.

We are adjourned.