

IEEE Transformers Committee Coordination of Standards with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)

1. Overview

The IEEE Transformers Committee has developed this paper to assist its subcommittees/working groups in their efforts to possibly coordinate technical content with relevant IEC standards. The main objective of this coordination effort is to strive for consistency where possible, with the understanding that there will be specific differences due to accepted industry practices that are unique to each geographical region. As a result, it is not intended to eliminate those differences; rather, this coordination effort is an attempt to streamline standards in both organizations, where possible.

This paper identifies three different scenarios to consider when determining the best approach for coordinating IEEE standards with IEC:

- A new technical standard that has not yet been developed by either IEEE or IEC
- An active standard that exists in both IEC and IEEE, covering similar content
- A standard that exists in one of the organizations but not in the other

NOTE—Annex A contains a list of IEC Technical Committees that develop standards that may fall under the scope of the IEEE Transformers Committee.

It is important to mention that this paper does not mandate coordinating standards with IEC; rather, it is a path that can be explored during standards development.¹

2. Coordination

When beginning a new standards project or revising an existing standard in either IEEE or IEC, due consideration should be given to review existing standards in both organizations to determine the extent to which coordination can be achieved.

2.1 New Technical Standard

When developing a new technical standard, IEEE and IEC may decide to discuss the potential for developing a new standard together (a joint standard).

For example, the IEEE Transformers Committee may be interested in developing a new technical standard. They may decide to contact IEC TC 14 to determine if there is interest between the two groups in jointly developing the standard. If so, IEEE has an agreement with IEC to develop joint standards between both organizations.

¹ The IEEE/IEC Cross Reference Task Force under the Standards Subcommittee developed a document entitled “Comparison of Standards – ANSI/IEEE and IEC” (available on the Transformers Committee website at <http://www.transformerscommittee.org/subcommittees/standardsc/IEEE-IEC-CrossRef/S11-IEEE-IEC-ComparisonDocument.pdf>). This document may be a useful tool when exploring a potential coordination activity.

2.2 Existing Standards in both organizations

When technically equivalent or similar standards exist in both IEEE and IEC, there may be interest in reviewing the technical content of both organizations' documents to determine if technical differences can become better aligned or even eliminated. If there is an interest in pursuing this effort, the following potential paths may be considered:

- Combine the two standards into one joint standard. IEEE has an agreement with IEC to develop joint standards between both organizations.
- Maintain separate standards but decide to:
 - Coordinate the content of the standards if possible.
 - Add material to the standards that outlines the differences between the standards

2.3 Existing Standard in IEC

IEC may have an existing technical standard that does not yet exist in IEEE. IEEE can review the IEC standard and, if it suits their needs, decide to adopt that standard as an IEEE standard.

For example, if IEC TC 14 has already developed a standard in a specific technical area, the IEEE Transformers Committee can obtain a copy of the standard (through their IEEE-SA staff liaison) for review. If, after review, the standard suits the needs of the IEEE Transformers Committee, the standard can be adopted by the IEEE Transformers Committee by submitting a Project Authorization Request (PAR) for the Adoption of a non-IEEE Standard to the IEEE-SA Standards Board (through the IEEE-SA Standards Board New Standards Committee).²

Note – For IEEE to adopt an IEC standard, permission must be received from ANSI. Please contact the IEEE-SA Transformers Committee staff liaison for this request.

In the example mentioned above, if the IEC TC 14 standard is basically satisfactory to the IEEE Transformers Committee but changes need to be made, modifications can be included in the front matter or in a normative annex to the standard, and development of the adopted standard follows the same process for the adoption of a non-IEEE standard. The IEEE Transformers Committee may also decide to contact IEC TC 14 to discuss their proposed changes. As a result of the discussion, both groups may decide to jointly revise the standard under the IEC/IEEE Dual Logo Agreement – Joint Development Procedure.

Conversely, as it applies to this example, IEC TC 14 may decide to adopt an existing IEEE Transformers Committee standard intact, with no change. This can be done under the IEC/IEEE Dual Logo Agreement – Adoption Procedure.

If IEC TC 14 is interested in the standard but believes modifications need to be made, IEC TC 14 may contact the IEEE Transformers Committee to discuss these changes. If the IEEE Transformers Committee is willing to revise the standard, they could do so and

² An explanation of this process can be found in 5.6.2 of the IEEE-SA Standards Board Operations Manual (<http://standards.ieee.org/develop/policies/opman/sect5.html#5.6.2>).

IEC TC 14 could then decide to adopt the revised standard intact. Another option is that the IEEE Transformers Committee can decide to invite IEC TC 14 to jointly revise the standard under IEC/IEEE Dual Logo Agreement – Joint Development Procedure.

3. Items to Consider for Coordination

When embarking on a coordination effort (includes creating a new standard, revising an existing standard or adopting a standard), the following additional items should be taken into consideration:

— *Joint Meetings*

If the IEEE Transformers Committee would like to jointly develop new standards or revise existing standards with IEC, this development process takes place through a joint working group, consisting of members from both IEEE and IEC. Consideration needs to be given as to how (face-to-face, teleconferences, web meetings, etc.) and where these meetings will take place.

— *Balloting Timeline*

It is important to note that the entire balloting process in IEEE can take as little as three months. This process can take longer when working jointly with IEC.

— *Addressing Technical Differences*

If the IEEE Transformers Committee would like to jointly work with IEC on a standard (whether it is a new standard or an existing standard in either the IEEE Transformers Committee or in IEC), it may be possible to address the technical differences through the use of an “In Some Countries” clause(s) in the standard.³

4. Requesting Copyright Permission

There may be times when coordinating IEEE and IEC standards is not feasible. However, the IEEE Transformers Committee Working Group may desire to use “parts” (e.g., figures, tables, text) of an IEC Standard. In this case, copyright permission can be obtained from the IEC Central Office. The Working Group Chair simply sends a copyright permission request letter to the IEC Central Office (info@iec.ch). A sample letter can be found in Annex B.

³ Information about the use of an “In some countries” clause can be found in the ISO/IEC Directives Supplement; Procedures Specific to IEC (Ed. 6.0 2011-04), Clause 4 (http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs/iec/isoiecdirectives-supplement-6.0-2011-04-clause-4.pdf).

Annex A

IEC Technical Committees

The following is a list of IEC Technical Committees, with links to the relevant IEC web pages, whose standards may fall under the scope of the IEEE Transformers Committee:

IEC TC 10 – Fluids for Electrotechnical Applications

http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:7:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1246,25

- Officers -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:29:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1246,25#3
- Publications -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:22:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1246,25
- Work Programme (documents under development) -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:23:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1246,25

IEC TC 14 – Power Transformers

http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:7:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1224,25

- Officers -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:29:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1224,25#3
- Publications -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:22:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1224,25
- Work Programme (documents under development) -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:23:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1224,25

IEC TC 36 – Insulators

http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:7:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1238,25

- Officers -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:29:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1238,25#3
- Publications -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:22:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1238,25
- Work Programme (documents under development) -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:23:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1238,25

IEC TC 112 – Evaluation and qualification of Electrical Insulating Materials and Systems

(http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:7:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1310,25)

- Officers -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:29:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1310,25#3
- Publications -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:22:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1310,25
- Work Programme (documents under development) -
http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:23:0::::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1310,25

Annex B

Sample Copyright Permission Request Letter

<Date>

Head of Marketing and Communications
IEC Central Office
3, rue de Varembeé
PO Box 131
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Dear Sir:

The <Name of Working Group> of the IEEE <Name of Society> is in the process of developing the standard document listed below:

<Number and title of draft document>

We would like to request permission to reprint the following material from your copyrighted text:

<Document number and title>

<Sections of IEC document to be adopted and reason for adoption>

IEEE requests non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free permission to use this material for world rights distribution, with permission to modify and reprint in all future revisions and editions of the resulting draft and approved IEEE standard, and in derivative works based on the standard, in all media known or hereinafter known. Please let us know what permissions credit line and placement you may require. If you do not hold the copyright for this material, please inform us of this and, if possible, the name of the actual copyright holder.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

<Your Name>

cc: Contracts Licensing Manager (stds.ipr@ieee.org)