

Standards Actions

Technical Standards Program Newsletter

February 2024



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
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TECHNICAL STANDARDS ACTIVITIES

February 2024 Manager's Note

As we begin calendar year 2024, I would like to report that the DOE Technical Standards Program continues to thrive and meet DOE mission goals. Before I talk about the year ahead, I'd like to start by looking at some of the accomplishments of 2023. As many of you are aware, the Technical Standards Program (TSP) underwent an independent assessment in late 2022. Many programs are now agreeing to have independent assessments to monitor performance. The TSP welcomed this activity to identify possible areas where improvement might be needed, as well as highlight areas in which the program is doing well. One of the tools the assessment team used to generate their findings was to conduct interviews with TSP stakeholders. Interviewees consisted of Standards writers, Standards reviewers, and Technical Standards Managers among others. The report findings have not been made public yet, however, the TSP has already addressed those findings and established a draft plan to implement resolutions.

The TSP also made significant strides in the area of TSP training. In 2023, we developed and implemented a series of RevCom training courses. Each of the courses had a specific target audience; Technical Standards Managers (TSMs), Preparing Activities (PAs), and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). Each course was offered 6 times during the year, giving stakeholders plenty of opportunity to fine-tune their RevCom skillset and ask questions that could potentially lead to a better understanding of how the RevCom process works. These training sessions were quite successful. During one of our Technical Standards Managers Committee (TSMC) Meetings, an individual suggested that we also provide training on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) data call and reporting process.

Each year, as part of an OMB Data Call (OMB A-119) mandate, the TSP asks TSMs to collect information about voluntary consensus standards (VCS) use, and Standards Developing Organization (SDO) committee participation within the Department. TSMs and their organizational SMEs take part in this activity but have a limited understanding of what it's all about. In response, the TSP developed and implemented a course designed to explain the details of this annual requirement, how the collected data is used, and the agency specific report that's developed and submitted to the OMB using that information. The course was offered twice in 2023. Based on the high level of participation, the course will likely be offered again in 2024.

In the year ahead the TSP faces several challenges. First and foremost, maintaining a successfully run program is at the top of the list. The day-to-day operations continue to run

smoothly because of our knowledgeable and attentive staff. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them for their hard work as we look forward to a successful 2024. One of the biggest tasks that I have as Program Manager, is to continue to work on, and complete the DOE Order 252.1A (*Technical Standards Program*) update and the revision of the Technical Standards Program Procedures (TSPPs). I will be spending much of my time on those efforts during 2024.

On a final note, I would like to mention that RevCom Specialist, Patricia Greeson, retired at the end of December 2023. She had been working with the TSP for many years, providing her vast experience to all those using the RevCom platform. I would like to thank her for her dedication, hard work, and wish her the very best of luck as she embarks on the next phase of her life.

Written by Jeff Feit, Manager of the Technical Standards Program, Office of Quality Assurance and Nuclear Facility Safety Programs

New Technical Support Staff for Technical Standards Program RevCom and Portal

After 30-plus years of work for the Department of Energy round the Oak Ridge Reservation, Patricia Greeson has retired from Doxcelerate Corporation so that she can spend more time with her family and her grandchild. She's hoping to have some time to relax and do some writing now with all her spare time. Patricia wants everyone to know that it has been her great pleasure to work with you and to support the Technical Standards Program. She will always appreciate the support she's had from Jeff, Kathy, and the Technical Standards Program.

Flannery Davis will be taking over Patricia's editing and formatting support duties. Flannery has been a technical writer/editor for many years working on publications for organizations such as Chesapeake Bay Foundation, National Audubon Foundation, School for Advanced Research, etc. She is coming up to speed quickly with the Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration styles and protocols for Standards and Directives and she is a welcome addition to the Doxcelerate Tech Support team.

To Reach the Doxcelerate Tech Support Team:

1. Dial 505-663-1302 during regular business hours (8am to 6pm Eastern, Monday through Friday), leave a message and the Tech Support Team will return your call within 15-20 minutes;
2. Individual, hands-on training by phone or video is always available upon request for all users; or
3. Email: support@doxcelerate.com [this email goes to the entire tech support team]

Written by Jim McDonald, Doxcelerate Corporation

DOE Nuclear Facility Safety Programs (NFSP) Workshop



Save the Date for the Annual DOE NFSP Workshop!

Dates: May 19-23, 2024

Location: New Orleans Marriott, New Orleans, LA

More details coming soon: nfspworkshop.projectenhancement.com

The 2024 Nuclear and Facility Safety Programs Workshop will be returning to New Orleans from Sunday, May 19 - Thursday, May 23, but this time at the New Orleans Marriott. The workshop, which is only for DOE federal personnel, will be similar to the 2023 workshop and include training opportunities, plenary sessions, breakout sessions, and community of practice meetings. More details will be coming soon at: nfspworkshop.projectenhancement.com. So, save the week of May 19, 2024 and we hope to see you again in NOLA!

Written by Andy De La Paz, Office of Nuclear Safety, Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security

DOE Technical Standards Updates

The following is an overview of recent Technical Standards actions for December 2023 and January 2024. A complete list of DOE Technical Standards actions can be found on the “Monthly Status Reports” posted on the Technical Standards Program website: www.standards.doe.gov and in the Monthly TSMC Minutes posted on [Organizational Excellence \(energy.gov\)](http://Organizational Excellence (energy.gov)).

Project Justification Statement (PJS) Posted in RevCom for 15-day Review:

Proposed Revision of DOE-STD-1628-2013, *Development of Probabilistic Risk Assessments for Nuclear Safety Applications*

POC: Lyndsey Fyffe, EHSS-31, Office of Nuclear Safety Basis & Facility Design, Phone: 919-672-1450

In RevCom for 60 Day Review:

Proposed Revision of DOE-HDBK-1221-2016, *Suspect/Counterfeit Items Resource Handbook*

POC: Gabrielle Holcomb, EHSS-23, Office of Environmental Protection and ES&H Reporting, Phone: 240-255-8299

Proposed Revision of DOE-STD-1111-2018, *Department of Energy Laboratory Accreditation Program Administration*

POC: David Pugh, EH-11, Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy, Phone: 301-903-7339

Proposed New Document DOE-HDBK-1243-YR, *DOE Laser Safety Handbook*

POC: Joseph Dobbins, EH-11, Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy, Phone: 301-903-5638

Proposed Revision of DOE-STD-3013-2018, *Stabilization, Packaging and Storage of Plutonium-Bearing Materials*

POC: Curt Gardner, NA, Office of Nuclear Materials, Phone: 803-761-2578

In RevCom for 90 Day Review:

Proposed Reaffirmation DOE-STD-1136-2017, Chg Notice 1, *Good Practices for Occupational Radiological Protection in Uranium Facilities*

POC: George Chiu, EHSS-11, Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy, Phone: 301-903-8483

Final Concurrence:

DOE-HDBK-1244-YR, *Biokinetic and Dosimetric Models Used in DOE-STD-1196-2022, Derived Concentration Technical Standard*

POC: Mike Stewart, EHSS-22, Office of Public Radiation Protection, Phone: 202-586-6444

DOE-HDBK-1224-2018, *Hazard and Accident Analysis Handbook*

POC: Lyndsey Fyffe, EHSS-31, Office of Nuclear Safety Basis & Facility Design, Phone: 919-672-1450

Publications:

DOE-STD-8001-2023, *Environmental Protection Oversight Functional Area Qualification Standard*

POC: Melissa Otero, National Training Center, 505-845-6651

DOE-STD-8002-2023, *Explosives Safety Functional Area Qualification Standard*

POC: Gabriel Pugh, National Training Center, 505-845-6444

Cancellations:

Nothing to report

Upcoming Events and Workshops

ANS 2024 International Topical Meeting on Nuclear Applications of Accelerators

When: March 17-21, 2024

Where: Sheraton Norfolk Waterside, Norfolk, VA

ASME Mechanical Engineering Educational Summit (MEED 2024)

When: March 18-21, 2024

Where: Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel & Convention Enter, Atlanta, GA

ASME Robotics for Inspection Maintenance Summit (RFIM 2024)

When: March 19-21, 2024

Where: PRCI Technology Development Center, Houston, TX

ASME Conference for Advanced Reactor Deployment

When: March 26-28, 2024

Where: EPRI, Charlotte, NC

ANS International Conference on Physics of Reactors (PHYSOR 2024)

Beyond the Blueprint: Pioneering Reactor Physics for Real-World Implementation

When: April 21-24, 2024

Where: San Francisco, CA/Hilton San Francisco

ASME Aerospace Structures, Structural Dynamics, and Material Conferences (SSDM 2024)

When: April 29-May 1, 2024

Where: Hyatt Regency Lake Washington Reston, WA

ANS Nuclear and Emerging Technologies for Space (NETS 2024)

When: May 6-10, 2024

Where: Santa FE, NM

For more information on the listed meetings or events, please see the organization's website listed below:

<http://www.ans.org/>

<https://www.ansi.org/>

<https://www.nfpa.org/>

<https://www.asme.org>

To learn more about the DOE Technical Standards Program or to view
the *Standards Actions* newsletters,
visit the website:
www.standards.doe.gov