

## Industry Trade Association Policy

Approved by ANSI on July 31, 2006 as Part of MTS' Accreditation as an ANSI Standards Developer, and Subsequent & Current Reaccreditations

**1.** Industry Trade Associations<sup>1</sup> (ITA) are encouraged to officially join MTS National Consensus Committees through one or more of their Members. In this manner, trade associations can be official voting members.

This Policy is only in effect for MTS National Consensus Standards in its ANSI Accredited Process, that are not submitted for approval as ANSI Standards, and this decision will be made by MTS at the organizational meeting for each standards' activity.

In this manner, ITAs may also participate in all Official MTS votes including Ballot votes. Such ITA Members are lawfully empowered to represent their trade association.

Where an ITA Member Company or more than one Member accepts this role, it may cast one vote for the trade association and one vote for the Company.

Any ITA Member Company may individually join MTS as an official MTS Committee Member.

**2.** All MTS National Consensus Committees are required to be balanced among users, producers and general interest Members, and Membership is by organization, and producers may not dominate the Committee. Generally, producers have a vested financial interest in the outcome of a standard, users specify the standard, and general interest is government or universities.

**3.** Written comments from ITAs who elect to participate in the manner defined in Section 1 above, will be considered and responded to. They also may send in official Ballot votes. If the vote is negative, it will be resolved along with any other negative vote. However, such votes not from an official trade association Member pursuant to Section 1 above, will not count in the Committee or Member and Interested Party Ballot Vote as to whether the Vote is approved or a successful Ballot vote, and any participation in Meetings, hearings, inquiries, and appeals must be in compliance with Sections 1 & 2 above.

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<sup>1</sup> An Industry Trade Association, also known as an industry trade group, sector association or industry body, is an organization founded and funded primarily by businesses that operate on behalf of a specific industry. Its primary mission is oriented to the financial and operational success of its members, with leadership social and environmental concerns secondary. The ITA's Board of Directors may be dominated by producers from the industry that is covered by the Standard. It may engage in significant political lobbying. Determination that an organization fully fits within the above definition of Industry Trade Association is determined on a case by case basis.