

ASME ACTIVITY RELATED TO QUALITY ASSURANCE

NQA Committee

1. The 2009 Addenda was officially issued August 31, 2009. The 2010 Addenda will be published later this year. NQA will transition to an edition only publication schedule in 2011 edition with new editions every 2-3 years based on the significance of the changes.
2. The NQA Committee continues to review the Part II work practice subparts that were formerly part of the ANSI N45.2 series – developing revisions to provide current practices for supporting the new generation efforts and usage of the subparts. Subpart 2.5, Quality Assurance Requirement for Installation, Inspection, and Testing of Structural Concrete, Structural Steel, Soils, and Foundations for Nuclear Power Plants has been revised by the Committee, is currently being reviewed by the BNCS and should be completed in the 2nd quarter of 2010. The future revision, location and ownership of requirements within Subpart 2.5 will be determined by a joint working group formed from the primary affected standards committees, including Section III, Division 2 that has ACI representation.
3. Members of NQA, IAEA, and representatives from IAEA Member States have completed the collaborative effort to develop an NQA-1 Guide comparing NQA-1 and IAEA GS-R-3. The NQA Part IV Guide is in the final approval process. The IAEA is developing a companion report for IAEA publication.
4. The NQA-1-2008 edition and the 2009 addenda have been approved by BPVC Section III and the BNCS and these latest NQA standards will be in the 2010 publication of Section III (Scheduled for June, 2010).
5. The NQA Committee is continuing to support efforts related to the NRC's revision of Regulatory Guide 1.28 for endorsing NQA-1-2008 with NQA-1a-2009 Addenda. The revision is currently under final internal NRC review for approval. The public review draft included endorsement of NQA-1-2008 and NQA-1a-2009 Parts I and II, but contained additional NRC positions. It also excluded operations. NQA has an approved task to address NRC positions taken by RG 1.28 (per NRC's final approval) and resolve differences per the consensus process.
6. With the pending endorsement of NQA-1 by NRC, the Committee is reviewing processes to assure the continued endorsement of later editions and to facilitate users updating their commitment to later NQA editions. Topics being considered are standard ballot formats that would facilitate the development of side-by-side comparisons of the changes developed by the committee and available to the Standard users. By having the changes identified and available, the users can readily evaluate the impact of the changes to facilitate changing to later editions of NQA. The first possible application of this effort would be a 2008 to 2011 edition comparison.

7. DOE Order O 414.1C for quality assurance is under revision and the draft includes mandatory application of NQA-1-2008 and NQA-1a-2009.
8. The next NQA meeting will be held in April 20 – 22, 2010, in Charlotte, North Carolina, at:

MARRIOTT EXEC. PARK
5700 WESTPARK DR
CHARLOTTE NC 28217

Visitors are welcome and should consider attending a Subcommittee meeting on April 21 and the Main Committee meeting on April 22.

Contact the ASME NQA Secretary, Oliver Martinez at martinezo@asme.org for additional information.

The fall 2010 meeting is scheduled for Seattle, Washington (primary proposed dates: 10/19 – 21/2010; back-up/secondary dates: 10/12 – 14/2010).

ASME Board of Nuclear Codes and Standards (BNCS)

1. The BNCS has approved an ASME Staff proposal to proceed with the planning activities to develop an ASME NQA Certification program for suppliers and an ASME Auditor Certification program. The NQA Certification program would consist of both a QA program evaluation and an implementation audit. The NQA certification program would not be applicable to suppliers within the scope of BPV Section III or to licensed or regulated facilities.
2. ASME is proceeding with the development of an ASME NDE Certification program that would reside within BPV Code.

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