



National Safety Council

Position/Policy Statement

Voluntary Consensus Standards

The National Safety Council believes that voluntary consensus standards and certification systems, when effectively implemented, unquestionably contribute to safety and occupational and environmental health throughout the nation.

The Council supports, consistent with its resources and priorities, the development, adoption and use of voluntary consensus standards concerned with safety and occupational and environmental health.

The Council does not develop voluntary consensus standards, but participates in the development of such standards by:

1. appointing capable individuals to represent the Council on the standards committees of other organizations, and
2. serving as secretariat to selected standards committees.

The Council's "Code of Ethics for National Safety Council Representatives on Standards Committees" shall govern the actions of Council representatives.

For developing evidence of consensus, the Council shall adopt the American National Standards Institute's "Accredited Standards Committee method" for standards committees which the Council serves as secretariat and the "Accredited Sponsor Using the Canvass method" for those standards which the Council sponsors. The procedures for both methods must meet the requirements for due process as provided in the latest edition of ANSI's "Procedures for the Development and Coordination of American National Standards."

This position statement reflects the opinions of the National Safety Council but not necessarily those of each member organization.

Approved by the Board of Directors, October 18, 1983