



The Open Group Standards Process Refresher Part 2



Topics

- Recap: The Standards Process – What and Why?
- The Standards Development Process Cycle
- The Company Review Process







- *The Standards Process is the essential scaffolding used across The Open Group Forums and Work Groups, including across industry and domains*
- Scaffolding is always the same
- The project is always different



What?





Why?

- Repeatable implementation
- Quality
- Legal compliance





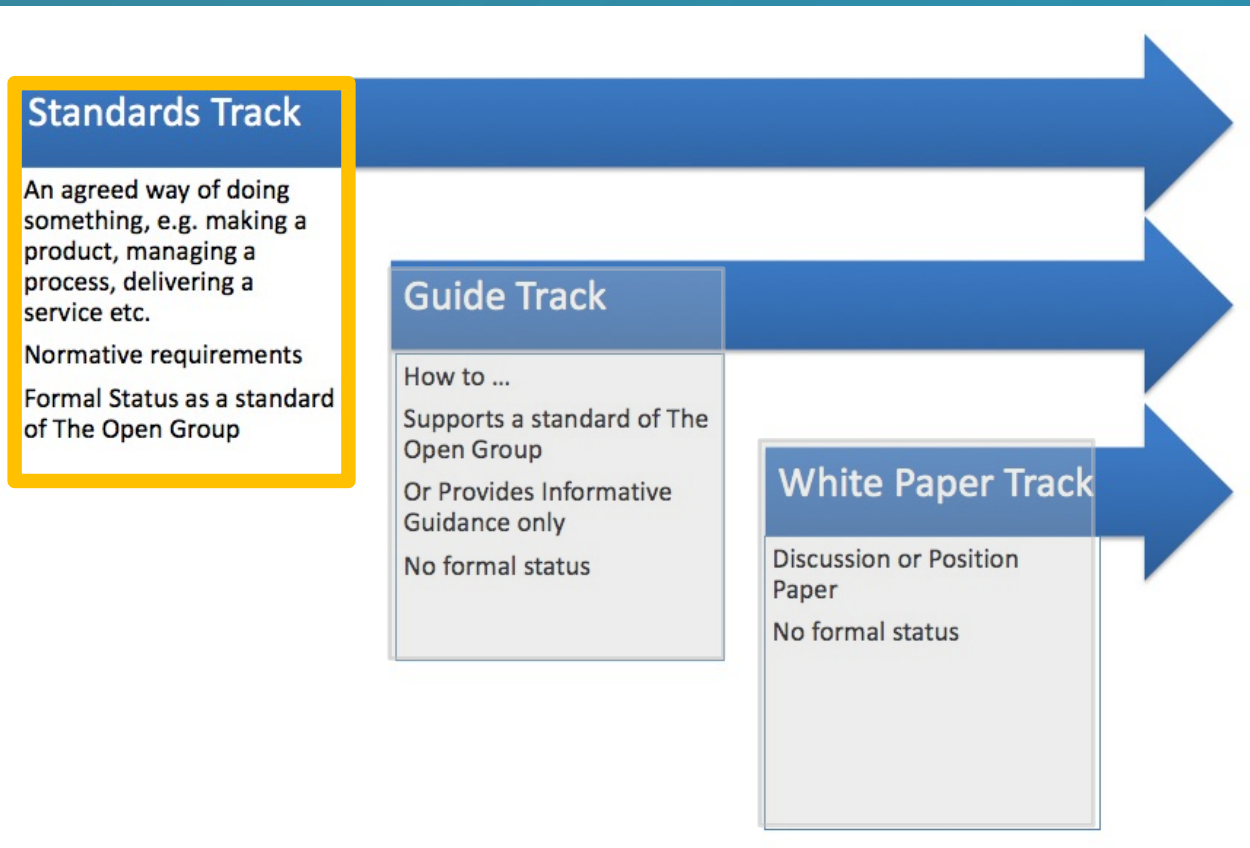
Applied To?

- Standards
- Guides
- White Papers
- All deliverables...





Scope of this Presentation





Definition: A Standard of The Open Group

- A Standard of The Open Group is:
 - 'A document established by consensus and approved through The Open Group Company Review Process that provides for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results'.



The Open Group Principles



1. Openness
2. Consensus
3. Timely and Deterministic Process
4. Public Availability of Published Specifications
5. No Legal Impediment to Implementation or Adoption
6. Confidentiality
7. Executable Standards



The Standards Development Lifecycle





Initiation Phase

- Any Member of The Open Group is entitled to:
 - Request the initiation of a standard activity
 - Participate in the development process if they are a member of the developing Forum or Work Group
- The staff of The Open Group will configure the infrastructure and facilitate the standards process





Draft Development Phase

- During this phase, the standard is developed in The Open Group house style and consensus is sought within the Forum or Work Group



- Any member may contribute to the standard
- The Forum or Work Group can choose to open the standard for comments to:
 - All members, invited third parties
 - Non-members (e.g. the open source community)
- All contributions to the development process become the property of The Open Group
- At the conclusion of the development phase, the standard becomes a draft Standard ready for Company Review



Draft Development Process

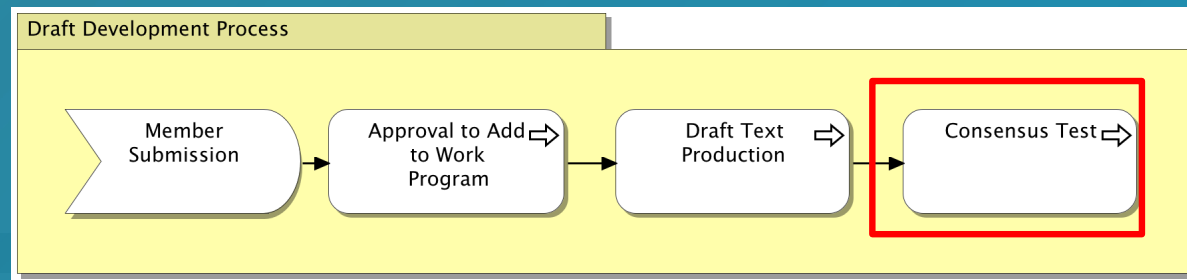
- Exact Process depends on whether a project is developing a new standard or revising an existing standard
- A revision to an Existing Standard, could be either
 - A minor revision, by a technical corrigendum
 - A major revision





Draft Development Process

- To exit the Draft Development Process there must be a consensus test
- A Forum/Work Group Review
- See the *Handbook on Publications Development*





Company Review

- Company Review is conducted by the appropriate Forum or Work Group developing the standard (the Sponsor)
- All Members can submit “Change Requests”
- Non-Members may be invited to submit “Change Requests” as part of the Company Review process
- The Forum or Work Group is responsible for resolving all Change Requests submitted during Company Review
 - Resolving change requests can include accepting, declining or accepting with modification
 - The defined level of consensus (75% of those voting) is required to resolve change requests





Approval

- The developing group must achieve the defined level of consensus during Company Review in order for the draft Standard to be submitted to the Governing Board for final approval
- The Governing Board approval is then required (simple majority of those entitled to vote)
 - This is primarily a check on the integrity of process – not of content
 - Governing Board members owe a duty to The Open Group to act in its best interests and to protect its assets
 - If a Governing Board member believes that approval of a standard is contrary to this duty, he/she may vote against and request that a super-majority be required for approval
- After Board Approval the draft standard enters the Publication Process





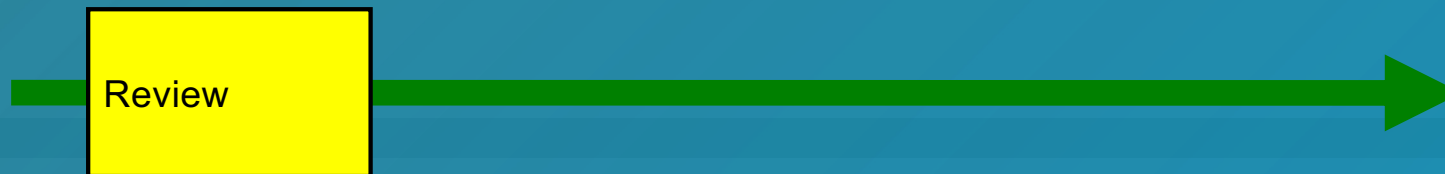
Non-Member Participation

- Non-Members may be invited to participate at any stage in the development process
- For example, draft documents may be made available for public comment, or technical experts may be invited to present to or participate in meetings of the group developing the document
- Non-Members may also provide comments and change requests to the Company Review process but have no vote on their resolution



Company Review

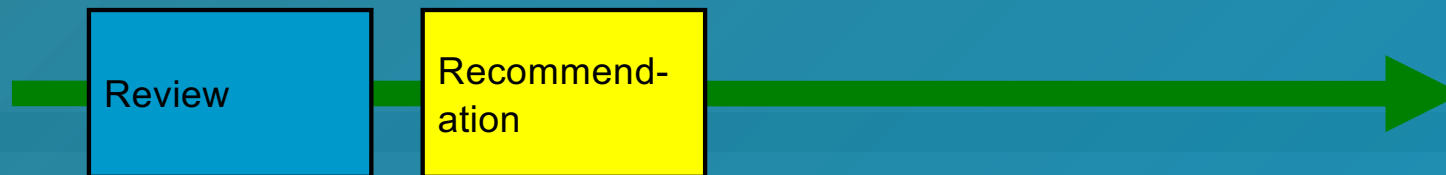
- Review Group
 - Total membership of The Open Group
 - Other relevant groups/experts
- “Yes if” review
 - Specific change proposals needed
 - Typical review period is between 2 and 4 weeks





Company Review

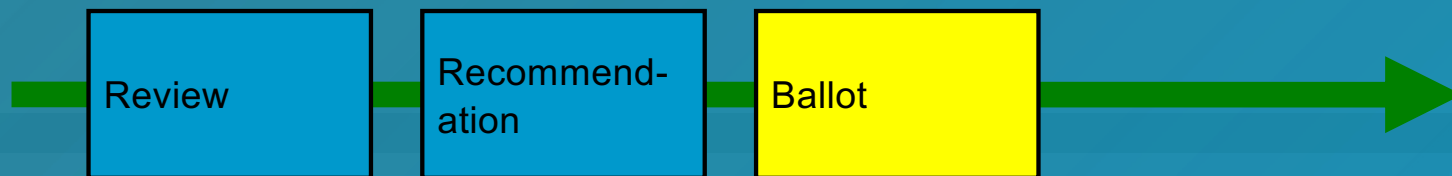
- ❑ Each specification has a Sponsor, either
 - A Forum or Work Group
 - A Governing Board Work Group
 - The Open Group Staff
- ❑ The Sponsor reviews all Change Requests and recommends dispositions





Company Review

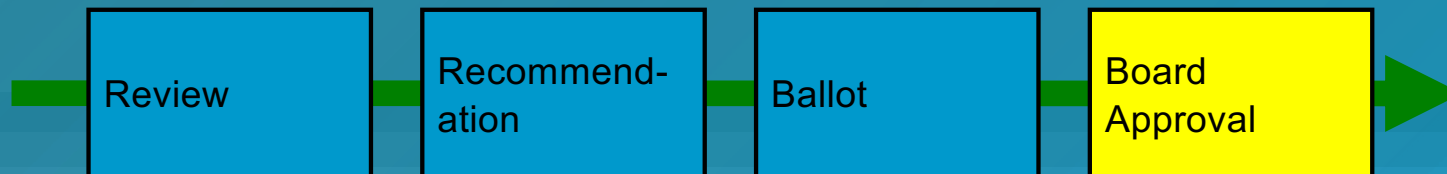
- ❑ The sponsor votes on recommended resolution of Change Proposals
 - 75% either way is decisive
 - Meeting to resolve residual issues
- ❑ If volume of changes is high, short re-circulation review is permitted





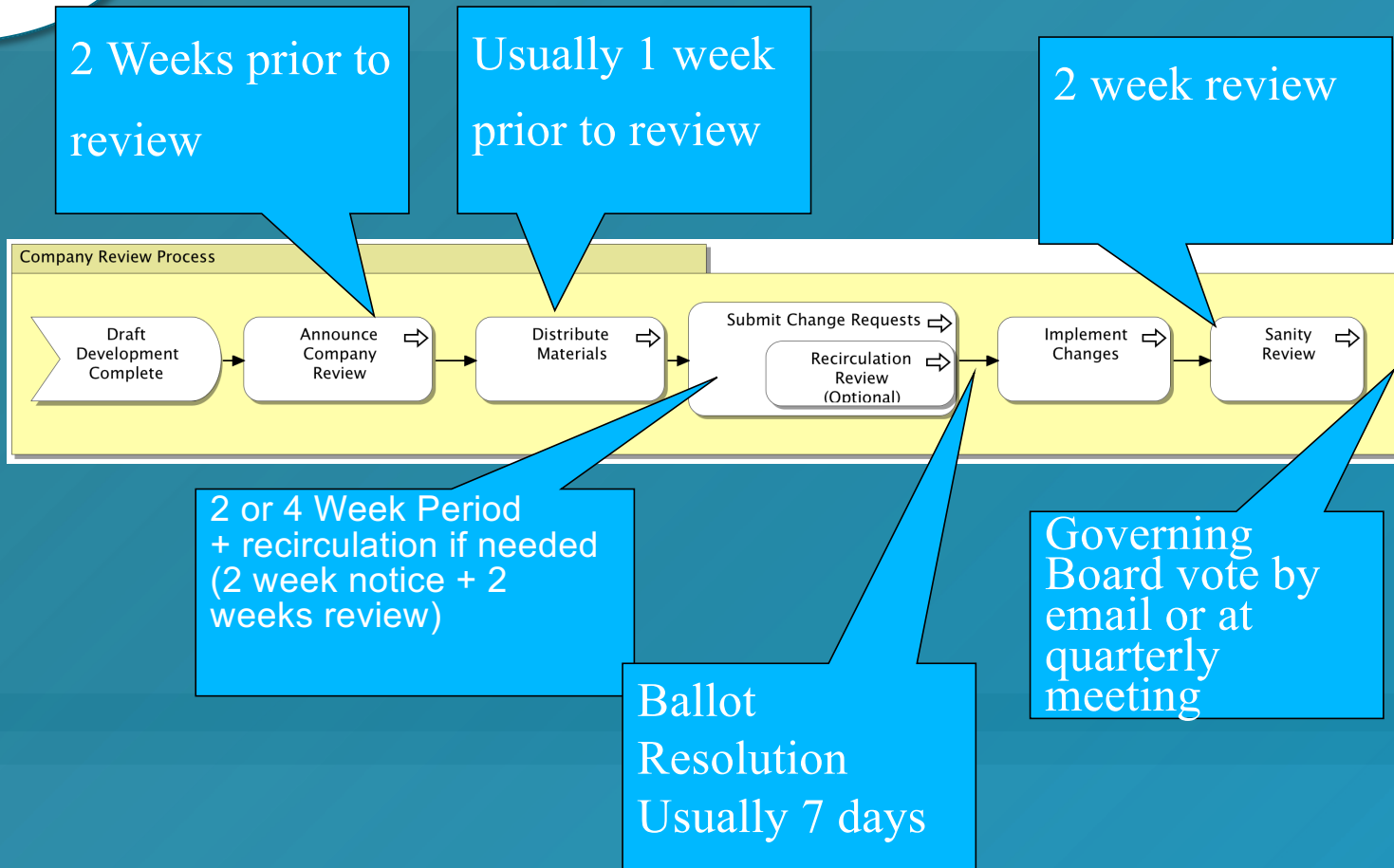
Company Review

- Approval by the Governing Board
 - This is primarily a check on the integrity of process – not of content
 - Governing Board members owe a duty to The Open Group to act in its best interests and to protect its assets
 - If a Governing Board member believes that approval of a standard is contrary to this duty, he/she may vote against and request that a super-majority be required for approval



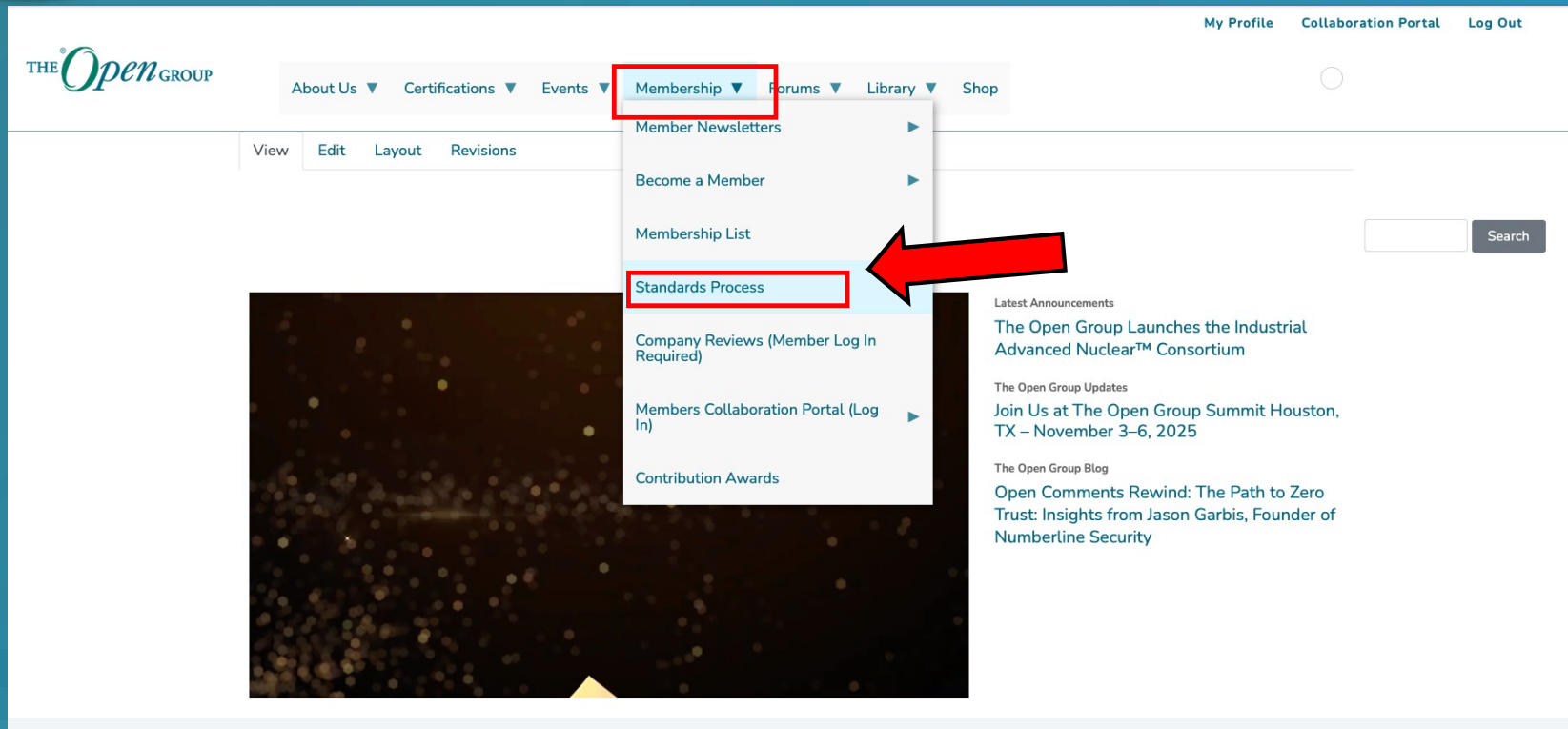


Company Review Process





The Standards Process Online

A screenshot of the The Open Group website's navigation menu. The "Membership" menu item is highlighted with a red box, and its dropdown menu is open. The "Standards Process" option within the dropdown is also highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points from the "Standards Process" option to the right. The website header includes "My Profile", "Collaboration Portal", and "Log Out" links. The navigation bar contains "About Us", "Certifications", "Events", "Membership", "Forums", "Library", and "Shop". Below the navigation bar, there are "View", "Edit", "Layout", and "Revisions" options. A search bar with a "Search" button is visible on the right. The main content area features a dark background with a bokeh effect and a list of "Latest Announcements" including "The Open Group Launches the Industrial Advanced Nuclear™ Consortium", "Join Us at The Open Group Summit Houston, TX – November 3–6, 2025", and "Open Comments Rewind: The Path to Zero Trust: Insights from Jason Garbis, Founder of Numberline Security".

The Open Group Standards Process



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The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL opengroup.org/standardsprocess/. The page features the Open Group logo at the top left and a navigation menu at the top right. The main heading is "The Open Group Standards Process" with a sub-heading: "This is where we begin to visualize your requirements and make them into Standards." Below this, there are nine numbered sections, each with an icon, a title, a brief description, and a "LEARN MORE" link.

- 1. Introduction** (Book icon): This section provides an introduction to The Open Group Standards Process describing its purpose and the principles upon which it is founded. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 2. Definitions and Glossary** (Magnifying glass icon): This section provides the definitions and glossary for terminology used in The Open Group Standards Process. It is organized in terms of the human actors (participants), processes, documents, and tools used within the Standards Process. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 3. The Standards Development Process** (Document icon): This section describes the procedures to be followed for the development of Open Group Standards. It includes the Core Processes, together with Supporting Processes. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 4. The Certification Development Process** (Document icon): The Open Group provides Certification Programs for The Open Group Standards in the areas of people, products, and services. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 5. Confidentiality** (Lock icon): This section describes the procedures to be followed when handling confidential material within The Open Group and within member companies when working with The Open Group. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 6. Standards Adoption Criteria** (Checklist icon): This procedure describes the criteria of openness which must be considered before any specification may be adopted by The Open Group as the basis for the development and possible publication as a standard of The Open Group or inclusion in the Standards Information Base. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 7. Patent Policy** (Document icon): This section documents The Open Group Patent Policy. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 8. Liaisons** (People icon): This section describes procedures for individuals who are elected to serve as The Open Group liaisons to other organizations. It defines the process for establishing liaisons, appointing Liaison Representatives, and approving Liaison Statements. [LEARN MORE](#)
- 9. Invited Guests and Invited Experts** (Head icon): This section describes the process for managing individuals who participate in a Forum or Work Group as Invited Guests or Invited Experts. It defines the criteria for an individual to be an Invited Guest or Invited Expert, and the process for invitation and appointment. [LEARN MORE](#)



Standards Process Guides: Downloads



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THE *Open* GROUP Library

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Standards Process Guides

7 items Sort By Published

-  **The Open Group Technical Publications Style Guide**
This document is The Open Group Style Guide for technical publications. [Learn More](#)
-  **A Handbook for Publications Development using GitLab®**
This document provides a Handbook for individuals who are participating in Forums or Work Groups within The Open Group. It includes guidance on the development of The Open Group publications using AsciiDoc in a GitLab environment. [Learn More](#)
-  **The Open Group Standards Process**
This document defines The Open Group Standards Process, the procedures for key tasks within The Open Group standards development activities. [Refreshed September 2018]
[Read The Open Group Standards Process online here.](#)
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The Open Group Standards Process Guide



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Standards Process Guide

What are you looking for? Topics About Us Membership Library

Standards Process Guide Standards Process Guide / Home

Home

- Guiding Principles for Forums and Work Groups
- Code of Conduct
- Publications Development
- Consensus Decision-Making
- Guidance for Liaisons
- Guidance for Elected Officers

Links

- The Standards Process
- Downloads

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- Purpose
- Summary
- How to use this Guide

The Open Group Standards Process Guide

Welcome to the Standards Process Guide.

Purpose

The work of The Open Group relies on cooperation between a broad cultural diversity of organizations, peoples, ideas, and communication styles.

The Open Group Standards Process Guide is a set of resources to guide development of The Open Group standards and supporting deliverables. It provides guidance for individuals participating in The Open Group Forums and Work Groups as we work together to develop multiple, interoperable technologies for Boundaryless Information Flow™.

Summary

The following topics are described in this guide:

- [Guiding Principles for Forums and Work Groups](#): This set of principles guides the operations of Forums and Work Groups and are usually contained within the Forum/Work Group charter. They supplement The Open Group Principles.
- The [Code of Conduct](#): This contains practical guidance for the conduct of business and work in the Forums and Work Groups.
- Guidance for [Publications Development](#): An overview of the different tracks for document deliverables, including standards, guides, and white papers. This includes a detailed commentary on the standards process, how to develop standards text, as well as managing reviews.
- Guidance on the [Consensus Decision-Making Process](#): An overview of the process for consensus decision-making, the roles within the process, and guidance on how to manage situations where there is lack of consensus.
- Guidance for [Individuals Acting as The Open Group Liaison to Another Organization](#): This includes the roles involved in a liaison to another organization, how liaisons are established, including the selection and appointment of liaison representatives. It includes the responsibilities and tasks for appointed liaison representatives.
- Guidance for [Elected Officers of The Open Group Forums and Work Groups](#): This is written for individuals elected to serve as Chairs, Co-Chairs, or Vice-Chairs of a Forum or Work Group within The Open Group. It includes descriptions of the responsibilities for Elected Officers and guidance on leading meetings and the consensus decision-making process.

How to use this Guide

You can navigate various topics within this guide either using links on the left, the **Topics** pulldown in the top bar, or using the full-text search (also in the top bar). An explanation of how to use the full-text search is provided with the [Help page](#) for the guide.

Standards Process Guide v1.0

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Interactive Guide Search



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Standards Guide Home

Guiding Principles for Forums and Work Groups
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Guidance for Elected Officers
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The Open Group

Welcome to the Standards Process Guide

Purpose

The work of The Open Group is to develop and maintain standards and communication styles.

The Open Group Standards Process is designed to support the development of supporting deliverables. It provides a framework for how we work together to develop our standards.

Summary

The following topics are described in this guide:

- Guiding Principles for Forums and Work Groups
- The Code of Conduct
- Publications Development
- Consensus Decision-Making
- Guidance for Liaisons
- Guidance for Elected Officers
- Publications development using the GitLab and AsciiDoc toolchain
- The Standards Process
- Downloads

Standards Guide v1.0

Guidance for Elected Officers of The Open Group Forums and Work Groups 2023

Guidance on Decision-Making	Consensus In general, Forums and Work Groups are encouraged to use the consensus decision-making process. The consensus decision-making process is a decision-making process that not only seeks the agreement of ...
Managing Lack of Consensus	A healthy consensus decision-making process usually encourages and outs dissent early, maximizing the chance of accommodating the views of all minorities. Since unanimity may be difficult to achieve, especially in large...
Roles in the Consensus Process	As the name implies, the role of the facilitator is to help make the process of reaching a consensus decision easier. Facilitators accept responsibility for moving through the agenda on time; ensuring that the Forum/Work Group adheres to the mutually-agreed mechanics of the consensus process; and, l...
The Consensus Decision-Making Process	Call for Consensus Since the consensus decision-making process is not as formalized as others, such as Robert's Rules of Order, the practical details of its implementation vary from group to group. However, there is a c...
Managing Lack of Consensus When Consensus Cannot be Reached	

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Any Questions?