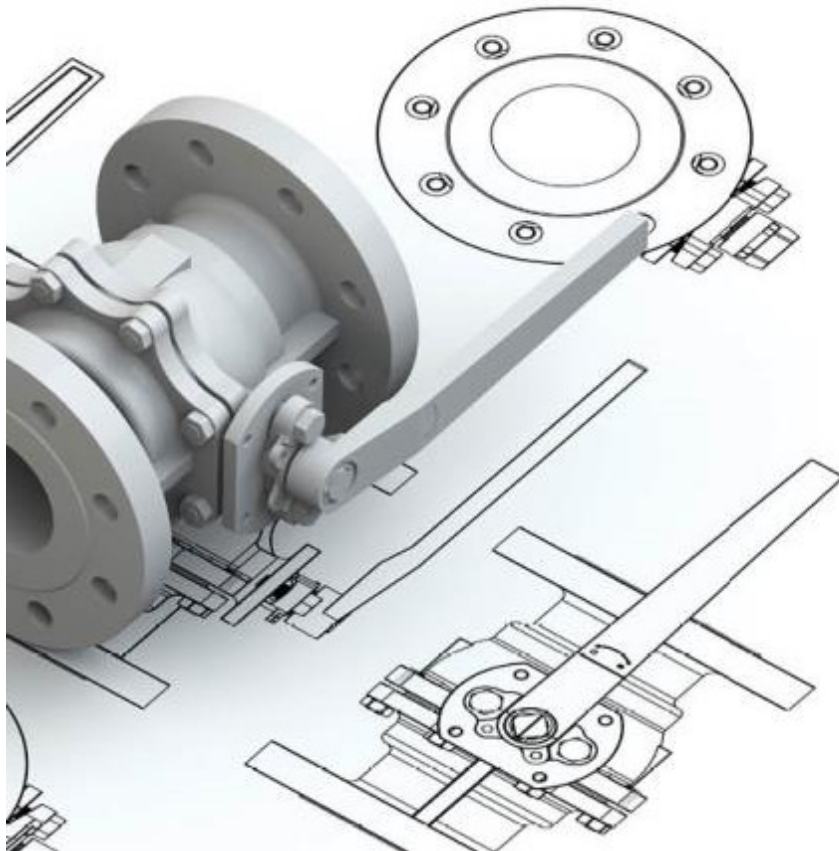




SABS

SABS STANDARDS DIVISION
Standards Development



CORPORATE VISION AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

SABS



VISION

to be the trusted
standardisation and
quality assurance
service provider
of choice



GROWTH

increase the use of
standardisation
services
in South African
economy

customer centricity:
improve the
relationships
with customers



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

improve the
operational
performance of the
sabs to deliver quality
outputs for customers
and other
stakeholders



EMPOWERED EMPLOYEES

develop and maintain
a pool of competent
employees who are
customer centric

ROLE OF THE STANDARDS DIVISION

SABS

- Develop and maintain standards and other normative documents
- Develop relationships with stakeholders
- Provide current and accurate information on international, regional and national standards



CONCEPT OF STANDARDIZATION



- National standards are developed through the work of technical committees
- The intention is that the technical committees represent the major role players in a particular field to achieve maximum buy-in
- Development of standards can be initiated by an individual, an organization/institution or a government department by submitting a proposal form available on the SABS Website

NATIONAL STANDARDS ARE DEVELOPED ACCORDING TO:

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Consensus

- “General agreement, characterized by the absence of sustained opposition to substantial issues by any important part of the concerned interest, and by a process that involves seeking to take into account the views of all parties concerned and to reconcile any conflicting arguments”

Voluntary

- National standardization is market driven and therefore based on voluntary involvement of all interests in the market
- Compliance with a standard is voluntary



STANDARDS AND LEGISLATION



- The SABS Standards Division is responsible for the development and maintenance of standards, it does not function as a regulator and does not make compliance with the standards mandatory
- The SABS is a member body of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and actively participates in their activities, as required by the WTO/TBT agreement
- Standards prepared and maintained to align with international standards

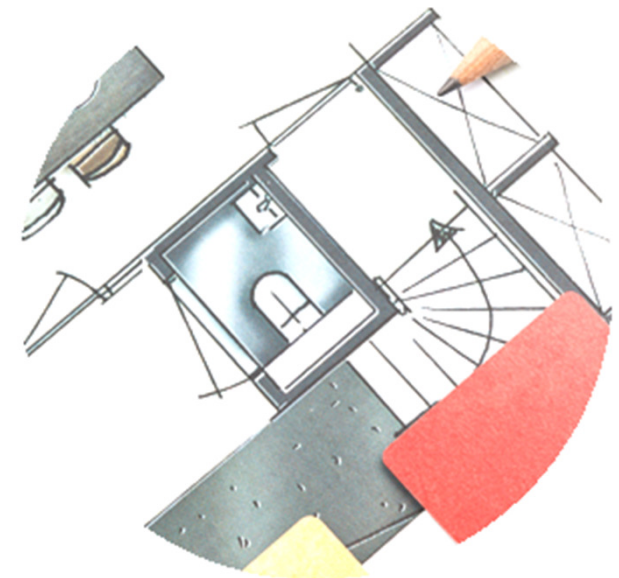
Standards Act

- Comply with the requirements as set out in the Standards Act of 2008 (Act No.8 of 2008)
- World Trade Organization's Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO/TBT) – Annex 3 signed by South Africa in 2000
- Standards development procedures based on ISO/IEC Guidelines with national deviations
- Develop national standards and other normative documents in accordance with SANS 1-1:2012

WTO/TBT AGREEMENT

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- Agreement that prohibits the use of Technical Regulations, compulsory specifications or standards to create technical obstacles to international trade
- SABS provides national enquiry point and maintains national notification system in terms of the WTO/TBT agreement
- SABS required to publish its programme of work at least twice per year



TYPES OF STANDARDS

Voluntary standards

- In contracts, by commercial or public pressure
- In absence of legislation, can be used as a reference

Standards referenced in legislation

- By sanctions under the appropriate legislation
- Can be amended via the standards process (quicker)
- Prepared by consensus of representative committee

Compulsory Specifications (VC)

- Supported in most cases by a voluntary SANS standards developed by the SABS Standard Division
- Then converted to regulations and published by the Regulatory Body (NRCS)

TYPES OF STANDARDS

Product standard

- Requirements for fitness for purpose (could include, dimensions, style and performance)

System standard

- e.g. Quality management system

Standard test method

- Repeatability, reproducibility, assurance of meaningful result

Code of practice

- Good practice as carried out by competent professionals (“how to” standards)

DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS

How are national standards developed?

- Developed by national technical committees
- Balanced representation of needs of local stakeholders:
 - Users (groups)
 - Manufacturers (groups-various levels)
 - Regulators
 - Other interest parties
 - Government
 - Academia
 - Organized labour (if relevant)
 - SMMEs and NGOs
- Consensus-based
- Funded by government
- Project-based approach
- Voluntary – unless called up into legislation



STANDARD DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- The standards development process is largely paper driven and goes through various stages identified by stage codes
- At certain stages the relevant technical committee is required to vote and the standard can only move to the next stage once a majority vote in favour of a particular stage is received from the committee
- All new standards commence with a New Work Item proposal (NWIP) which describes the scope of the proposed standard, the purpose and justification for the standard. The NWIP has to be voted in by the technical committee before work can commence
- Once the project is approved, a group of experts under the leadership of a convenor/chairperson will develop a proposal for presentation to the committee for comment/voting

COMMITTEES

- Technical Committees (TC) and Subcommittees (SC)
- Group of representatives that is concerned with standardization
- Responsible for identifying the need for, and preparation of South African national standards, in a defined field and that reflects valid national interests within that field
- Must be balanced representation of users, manufacturers, suppliers (industry), government departments, academia, consumers, associations and representative bodies, and other interested parties
- Working Group (WG) is a group of experts appointed by a TC to deal with a particular project or with a particular aspect of a project

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

TC - Technical Committee

SC - Sub Committee

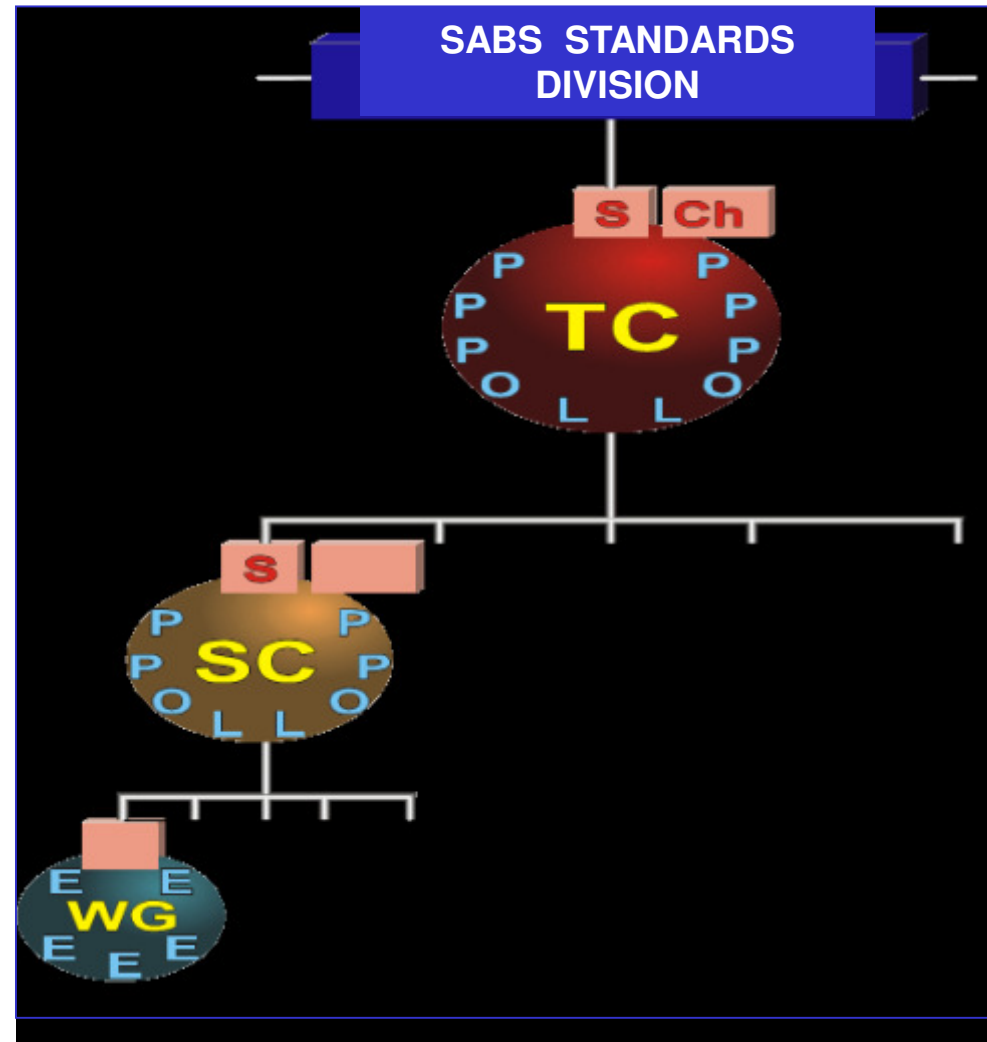
WG - Work Groups

E - Expert (Individual)

P - Participating Member

O - Observer Member

L - Liaison to other committees or organization



MEMBERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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- Members of committees can choose to be **P**articipating or **O**bserving members
- **P-member:** Participating member, with an obligation to attend meetings, comment and vote
- **O-member: Observer,** receives all the documentation, may attend meetings and submit comments if they like, but **do not have to vote**
- Membership of a TC does not imply automatic membership of an SC
- A member of a TC may at any time elect in writing to:
 - Change membership status or end membership of any committee, or
 - Begin membership of a subcommittee

EXPECTATION OF NOMINATING ORGANIZATION

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- Continuous representation of organization
- Inform the Standards body of any change of nominee
- Ensure that the organizations representative is:
 - familiar with relevant technical matters,
 - able to effectively represent the organization's views,
 - able to participate competently and actively
- Brief representative on collective view of organization
- Encourage use of standards it has helped to prepare



EXPECTATION OF REPRESENTATIVES

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- Attend meetings
- Participate fully (vote, comment)
- Consult with nominated organization
- Thoroughly and objectively consider comments on drafts
- Use the rights of membership for the good of the organization and the area of interest represented
- Be impartial and broadly represent national interests
- Work towards alignment with existing international standards
- Follow international principles- consensus and transparency



MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS

- The Maintenance of Standards is a very important aspect of the Standardization process
- 5 yearly scheduled reviews (Reaffirmations)
- Amendments
- Revisions
- A standard may be revised or amended at any time to keep abreast with the technology and market needs or demands
- Withdrawals



STANDARDS INFORMATION



Information regarding specific standards can be obtained from Standards Information Services at info@sabs.co.za or tel: (012) 428 6666 or from the SABS website at www.sabs.co.za going to “Standards” under “SABS Products and Services”





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THANK YOU

