



American  
Gear Manufacturers  
Association

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# AGMA Technical Division

Overview for Prospective Technical  
Committee Members

February 2021

# What is a Technical Committee?

- AGMA's 23 Technical Committees develop and maintain Gear Industry Standards and Information sheets.
  - 63 Standards
  - 37 Information Sheets
- AGMA Technical Committees are composed of industry experts from AGMA member companies
  - 335 unique individuals participating on AGMA committees
  - 197 unique companies participating on AGMA committees

# What are Industry Standards?

- The documented set of generally accepted rules, guidelines, and requirements within an industry
- They are based on proven & verified practices, to assist the industry deliver state-of-the-art products and services in an even and fair manner.
- Standards also provide the common language needed for effective and efficient communication between ALL interested / involved parties, such as manufacturers, vendors, customers, certification bodies, consultants, etc.



# Standards vs. Information sheets

## Standards

- Normative
- Based on proven industry experience and have been verified by industry experts
- Governed by ANSI development guidelines
- Balloted and approved by all AGMA members and general public
- Approved by TDEC and Board before publication

## Information Sheets

- Informative
- Based on material that is still being tested and has yet to be fully examined by the industry
- Reviewed & approved by committee only
- Approved by TDEC and Board before publication

# Why are Industry Standards Important?

- They provide the rules of the game to create a level playing field regardless of who is playing and where.
- They ensure interchangeability of parts across the industry, making it easier to analyze and compare products
- They facilitate market penetration
- They save companies money in a variety of ways (improved quality, safety, reduction of redundancy, R&D, etc.)
- The application of standards lend credibility to new products
- If voluntary standards aren't developed, the government will step in to create regulations

# Benefits of Technical Committee Membership to the Individual

- Meet, interact, and network with experts from many different fields of gear design and manufacturing
  - You do not need to be an expert to join a committee!
- Broaden your knowledge base of the gear industry
- Advance the body of gear manufacturing knowledge by contributing your experiences to the discussion
- Shape the next revision of the standards you use everyday
- Develop new standards for cutting edge applications and processes
- See the work you do on standards used throughout America and around the world

# How to Join a Technical Committee

- Joining a Technical Committee is easy!
  - Step 1: Be an AGMA member
  - Step 2: Send an email expressing interest in joining a committee to: [tech@agma.org](mailto:tech@agma.org)

To learn more about the work of our 23 committees, below, please visit: <https://www.agma.org/standards/technical-committees>

- Nomenclature
- Fine-Pitch Gearing
- Plastics Gearing
- Powder Metallurgy Gearing
- Spline
- Cutting Tools
- Gear Accuracy
- Sound & Vibration
- Helical Gear Rating
- Bevel Gearing
- Metallurgy and Materials
- Lubrication
- Wormgearing
- Enclosed Drives for Industrial Applications
- Epicyclic Enclosed Drives
- Flexible Couplings
- Helical Enclosed Drives Marine Units
- Helical Enclosed Drives High Speed Units
- Aerospace Gearing
- Mill Gearing
- Vehicle Gearing
- Wind Turbine Gear

# Committee Operations

- Committee structure
  - Chairperson; selected by the committee members
  - Vice Chairperson; selected by the committee members
  - Members; either Active or Observer
- Two types of meetings: Virtual or Face-to-Face
  - Virtual meetings, held via WebEx, last about two hours and typically start at 10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m. Eastern
    - Expect between 3 and 10 WebEx meetings per committee per year
  - Face-to-face meetings are typically two-days long and are hosted by AGMA in one of the pre-approved cities, with direct flights from most locations, or at member facilities
    - Expect between 0 and 2 face-to-face meetings per committee per year



# Active Member

- An active member has the following obligations:
  - Participates actively in the work of the committee through attendance at, and contributions to, meetings;
    - Attends 75% of scheduled meetings per calendar year;
    - Active members who miss 50% of scheduled meetings in a calendar year will be reclassified as an observer member;
    - Responds to all Committee Comment and General Ballots. An active member who fails to respond to a General Ballot conducted by the respective committee will be re-designated as an observer member;
    - Votes on all formally submitted questions.

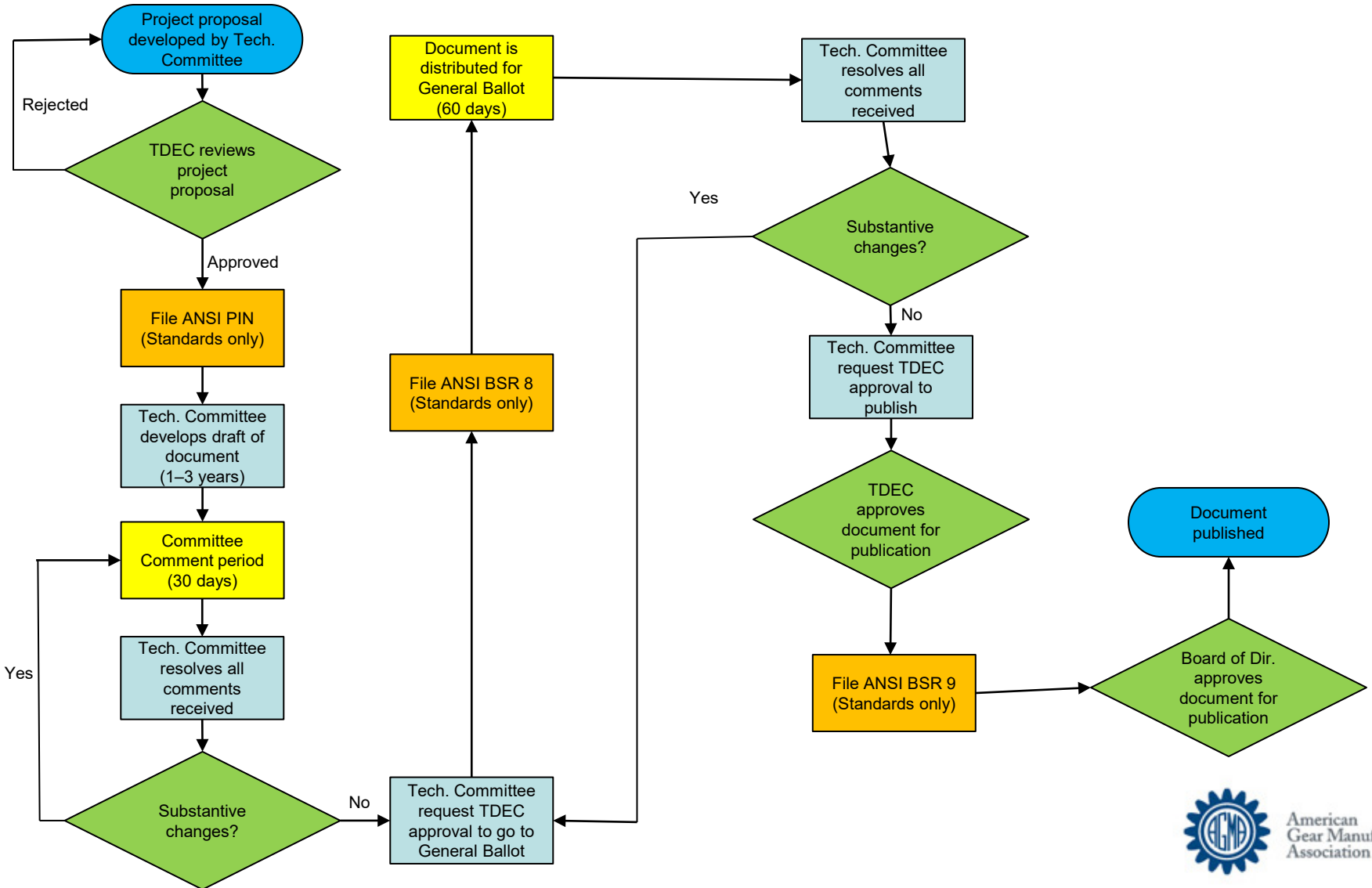
# Observer Member

- All new committee members start as an observer member
- An observer member is not a voting member, but may participate in all other committee activities
- An Observer Member is required to respond to all General Ballots
- After a pattern of consistent attendance and increased levels of contribution to the committee's activity an Observer member will be considered Active

# Document Development Process

- New projects begin with debate and approval of a project proposal within a Technical Committee.
- Reaffirmation projects happen every 5 years from when the document was first published.
- Document Stages:
  - **Working Draft:** Many document edits at and between meetings
  - **Committee Review and Comment:** Committee members formally submit edits to the latest draft, and decide whether to accept them
  - **General Ballot:** All AGMA members, and the general public, are able to submit edits, and the committee formally decides whether to accept them
- Final approval for publication is by the AGMA Technical Division Executive Committee (TDEC) and the AGMA board.

# Document Development Process Map



# AGMA Connect

- All committees have an online portal that provides committees a convenient, central location for the storage of all of their documents
- In addition to around the clock access to all committee documents, committee members are able to interact with each other between meetings through discussion pages
- AGMA Connect can be found at:  
<http://connect.agma.org>

# AGMA and ISO

- Many of the Technical Division committees have the responsibility to serve as the United States Technical Advisory Groups (TAG) to programs within ISO TC 60. Serving here gives way to opportunity to stay abreast of developments on an international level that can impact your company.
- AGMA is the Secretary (Chair) of ISO TC 60 and procedurally oversees all the standards programs which are undertaken.
- Many ISO standards get their roots from AGMA standards, and ISO standards can be adopted as AGMA standards

# AGMA Technical Division: Staff



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Phillip Olson  
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*Technical Project  
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Joining a AGMA Technical Committee is easy!

Step 1: Be an AGMA member

Step 2: Email [tech@agma.org](mailto:tech@agma.org) which committee you want to join

Email [tech@agma.org](mailto:tech@agma.org) if you have further questions!

