

IEEE IN THE GLOBAL STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT LANDSCAPE

Technical standards are developed by several types of standards developing bodies from around the globe. From a geographic designation, these include international, regional, and national standards bodies that typically function under a nation-centric standardization approach where governments, or bodies closely coupled to government, set or mandate standards. Another set of standardization bodies stems from a technical or industry designation and includes independent global standards developing bodies, such as professional and technical organizations. These bodies function in a decentralized, pluralistic, and industry-led manner and do not involve national representation.

The standardization system has evolved over time. More than one hundred years ago National Standards Bodies (NSBs) facilitated the industrialization of national economies. Later the international system was built on top, with NSBs being vertically integrated as members of international standardization bodies, such as International Standardization Organization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). The advent of Global Standards Developing Organizations, including IEEE, IETF and W3C, facilitated the globalization of industrialized economies through a market-driven, decentralized direct participation model. This model leverages and expands knowledge by allowing for diversity of opinions and approaches and providing flexibility to acknowledge and address change and varying needs.

As a global standards development organization built around consensus and collaboration, IEEE SA coordinates with various standards bodies and organizations from around the world. Our engagement is through membership and technical group liaisons, as

well as through formal agreements. These relationships have many purposes, including to facilitate partnering on joint efforts, promote adoption and/or distribution of standards in different regions or countries, encourage closer cooperation between organizations, and facilitate coordination and collaboration between technical communities. This all helps to ensure the coordination of standardization work and the harmonization of standards—reducing unnecessary duplication, and assisting with improved technology transfers, interoperability and global marketability, thus supporting import/export.

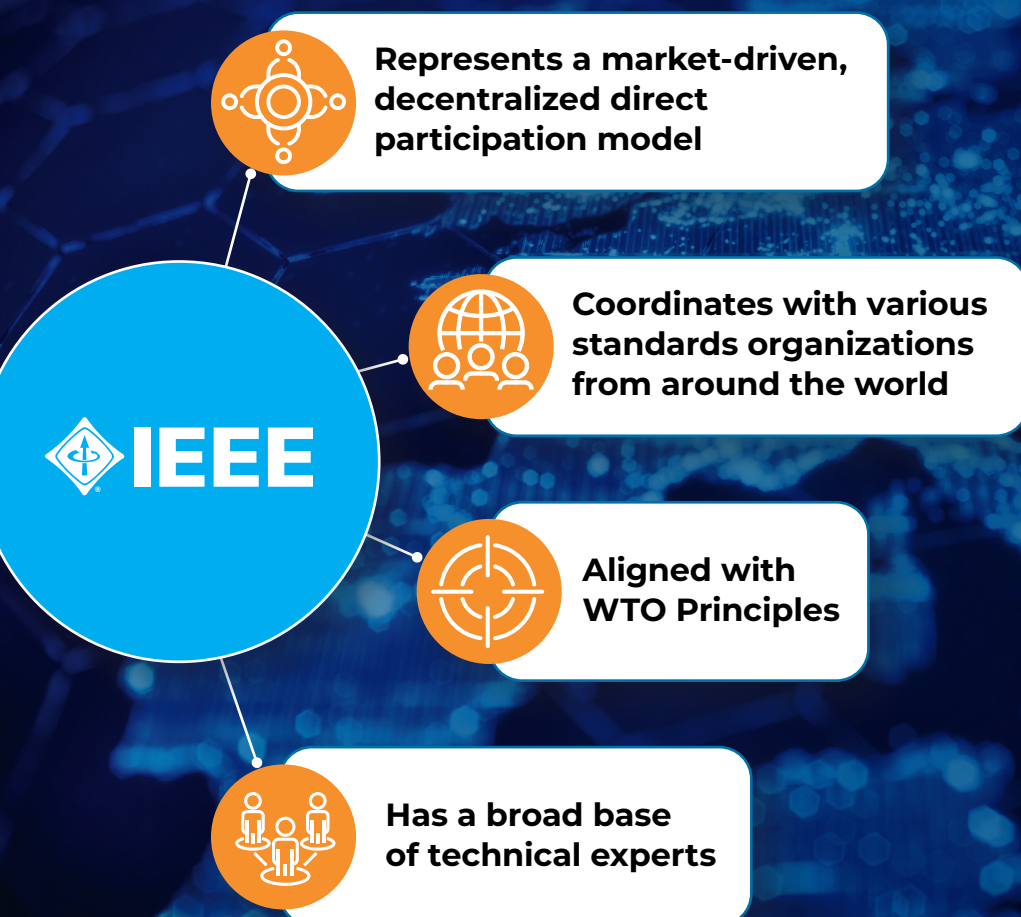
IEEE standards development principles and processes align with the principles articulated in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO TBT), which should be followed when developing international standards. As a non-governmental organization and a key leader in developing market-relevant international standards, IEEE adheres to the principles of Transparency, Openness, Impartiality and Consensus, Effectiveness and Relevance, Coherence, and Development Dimensions. In particular, IEEE operates in active agreement with the WTO 2 principle that standards should not create unnecessary obstacles to trade, and whenever appropriate, should specify requirements in terms of performance rather than design or descriptive characteristics.

IEEE SA is well equipped to convene a broad array of stakeholders around any given standard, as it is grounded in IEEE's member base of over 400,000 technical experts from around the world, representing deep experience across a broad spectrum of industry sectors.

ABOUT THE IEEE STANDARDS ASSOCIATION

The IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) is a globally recognized standards-setting body within IEEE. We develop consensus standards through an open process that engages industry and brings together a broad stakeholder community. IEEE standards set specifications and best practices based on current scientific and technological knowledge. IEEE has a portfolio of over 1,500 active standards and over 650 standards under development. IEEE standards are made available for implementation in products and services as needed by businesses and governmental bodies and many are foundational for entire ecosystems. IEEE standards are available to other SDOs for direct adoption at the international, regional, or national level.

GLOBAL, CONSENSUS STANDARDS, DRIVEN BY TECHNICAL MERIT, ARE CREATED THROUGH PROCESSES THAT ENSURE DIRECT AND OPEN PARTICIPATION, WHICH IN TURN FOSTERS INNOVATION.

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