

The Open Group Standards Development Process

THE *Open* GROUP

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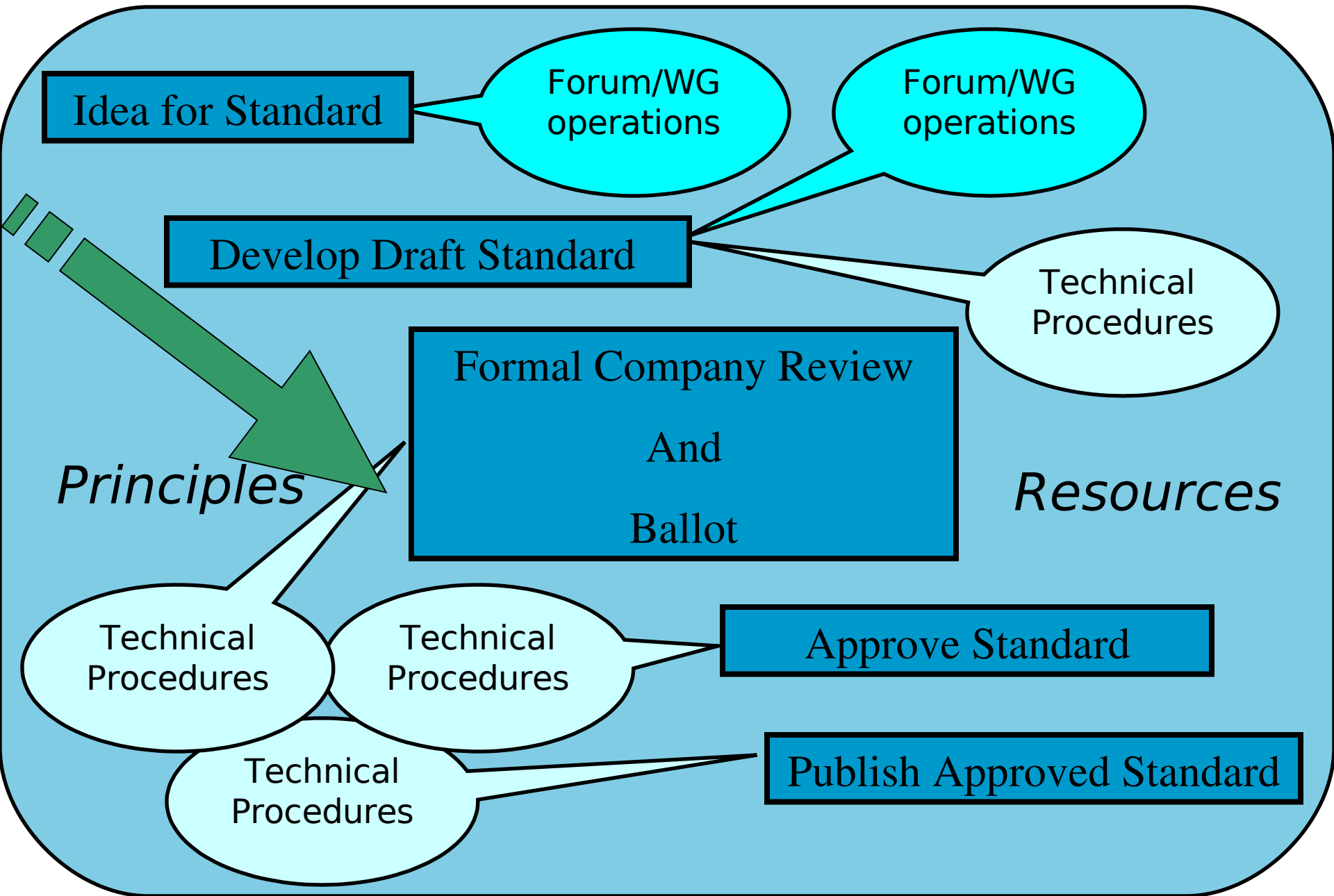
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THE *Open* GROUP
Making standards work®

Agenda

- ❑ Fundamentals
- ❑ Forum Operations
- ❑ Technical Procedures
- ❑ The Company Review
- ❑ Resources

The Open Group Standards Process



Fundamentals

- The Open Group is Open
 - Standards Adoption Criteria define what it means to have an “open” specification

- The Open Group is a Consensus body
 - We operate with the support of the majority of our members

- The Open Group must at all times operate in accordance with US, EC and international anti-trust laws
 - Certain decisions must utilize the approved technical procedures

Principles

1. Openness
2. Timely and Deterministic Process
3. Public Availability of Published Specifications
4. No Legal Impediment to Implementation or Adoption

1. Openness

Statement:

- Standards are developed in an open process with decisions taken based upon the consensus of the parties involved

Rationale:

- Openness is a basic part of The Open Group's raison d'etre (embedded in the name). The Open Group must be seen to be open
- Openness is a key part of the value proposition to Open Group members. Our standards are competing in the market with vendor-specific standards; the openness of the process that produces them is a key part of the value of our standards to the market, and to the members who join us in order to help develop them

1. Openness

Implications:

- The process must be not only be open, but seen to be open.
- Openness implies effective communication with and between all relevant parties
- Openness should be applied throughout the standards development process, not just in the final company review
- Openness implies that any member is eligible to participate in any council, forum, work group or project, and stand for election to any office (e.g. Chair, Vice Chair) of any such group of members, and stand for election to represent the membership at the Governing Board, limited only by entitlements associated with their membership type and status
- All standards published by The Open Group must be copyright of The Open Group

2. Timely and Deterministic Process

Statement:

- Standards are developed using a deterministic process that delivers standards in a predictable and timely manner

□ Rationale:

- There is a continuum of standards in any industry, de jure, industry consensus and vendor-specific or commercial. While consensus standards cannot be produced as rapidly as those of a single vendor, they do have to be produced at an acceptable pace to have value in the market, and have to be substantially faster and more deterministic in getting to market than de jure standards, which often have other drivers, such as health, safety or national interests, underlying them

2. Timely and Deterministic Process

Implications:

- Determinism is a means to the end of timeliness, not an end in itself
- The inability of many de jure standards efforts to deliver effective standards in a timely manner means that we should distinguish ourselves from de jure bodies in the market
- We should be prepared for an activity to be stopped or re-constituted if it does not reach consensus in a timely manner

3. Public Availability of Published Standards

Statement:

- Standards once published are made publicly available

Rationale:

- Standards only have value if they are widely adopted in the market
- A key part of the overall value proposition for Open Group members is the widespread adoption of their deliverables

3. Public Availability of Published Standards

Implications:

- Standards should be available to all (members and non-members)
- The Open Group should publicize the fact that a standard is publicly available

4. No Legal Impediment to Implementation or Adoption

Statement:

- There must be no legal impediment to implementation or adoption of an Open Group standard

Rationale:

- Legal impediments could prove to be a significant barrier to the widespread adoption of the standard

Implications:

- The Open Group must have copyright to the standard, and any patents must be free of charge, or available under RAND (Reasonable And Non-Discriminatory) terms to all parties

Agenda

- Fundamentals
- **Forum Operations**
- Technical Procedures
- The Company Review
- Resources

Forum* Operations

- ❑ There must be a chair – elected by the members
- ❑ We use the consensus process (not other procedures such as Roberts Rules of Order)
- ❑ Meetings must be announced in advance
- ❑ Minutes must be recorded and published
- ❑ Forums must operate within the charter of The Open Group and be lawful and not do anything to undermine the assets of operation of The Open Group

(* Note this applies to Working Groups also)

Forum Operations

- ❑ A forum must operate within the technical procedures at all times
- ❑ Workings of the forum must be open to all its members
- ❑ There are a number of best practices that forums can follow

Forum Operations

- The objective is to reach stable decisions
 - In general that means supported by a **consensus** of members of the Forum
 - It also means not strongly opposed by a sufficient subset of the members to cause decisions to be revisited
 - No reply does not equate to consensus
 - See the following slides on consensus decision-making:

Consensus decision-making

- Consensus decision-making is a decision-making process that not only seeks the agreement of most participants, but also to resolve or mitigate the objections of the minority in order to achieve the most agreeable decision
- “Consensus” is usually defined as meaning both general agreement, and the process of getting to such agreement. Consensus decision-making is thus concerned primarily with that process

What is consensus decision-making?

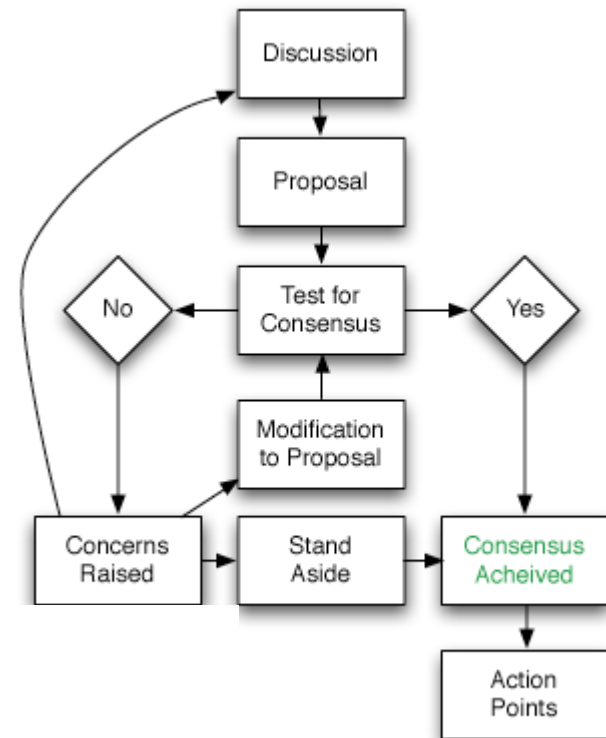
- **Inclusive**
 - As many stakeholders as possible should be involved in the consensus decision-making process
- **Participatory**
 - The consensus process should actively solicit the input and participation of all decision-makers
- **Co-operative**
 - Participants in an effective consensus process should strive to reach the best possible decision for the group and all of its members, rather than opt to pursue a majority opinion, potentially to the detriment of a minority
- **Egalitarian**
 - All members of a consensus decision-making body should be afforded, as much as possible, equal input into the process
- **Solution-oriented**
 - An effective consensus decision-making body strives to emphasize common agreement over differences and reach effective decisions using compromise and other techniques to avoid or resolve mutually-exclusive positions within the group

Consensus as an alternative to voting

- ❑ Voting is competitive, rather than cooperative, framing decision-making in a win/lose dichotomy that ignores the possibility of compromise or other potential solutions.
- ❑ A majority decision reduces the commitment of each individual decision-maker to the decision
 - Members of a minority position may have a sense of reduced responsibility for the ultimate decision.

The process of consensus decision-making

- Since the consensus decision-making process is not as formalized as others, such as Roberts Rules of Order, the practical details of its implementation vary from group to group. However, there is a core set of procedures which is common to most implementations of consensus decision-making
- Once an agenda for discussion has been set and, optionally, the ground rules for the meeting have been agreed upon, each item of the agenda is addressed in turn. Typically, each decision arising from an agenda item follows through a simple structure



The process of consensus decision-making

- ❑ **Discussion of the item**
 - The item is discussed with the goal of identifying opinions and information on the topic at hand. The general direction of the group and potential proposals for action are often identified during the discussion
- ❑ **Formation of a proposal**
 - Based on the discussion, a formal decision proposal on the issue is presented to the group
- ❑ **Call for consensus**
 - The facilitator of the decision-making body calls for consensus on the proposal. Each member of the group usually must actively state their agreement with the proposal, often by using a hand gesture or raising a colored card, to avoid the group from interpreting silence or inaction as agreement
- ❑ **Identification and addressing of concerns**
 - If consensus is not achieved, each dissenter presents his or her concerns on the proposal, potentially starting another round of discussion to address or clarify the concern
- ❑ **Modification of the proposal**
 - The proposal is amended, re-phrased or a rider is added, in an attempt to address the concerns of the decision-makers. The process then returns to the call for consensus and the cycle is repeated until a satisfactory decision is made

Roles in the consensus process

- **Facilitator (usually the Forum Director)**
 - 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 the group adheres to the mutually agreed-upon mechanics of the consensus process; and, if necessary, suggesting alternate or additional discussion or decision-making techniques, such as go-arounds, break-out groups or role-playing
- **Timekeeper (usually the Chair)**
 - The purpose of the timekeeper is to ensure the decision-making body keeps to the schedule set in the agenda
- **Empath or 'Vibe Watch'(usually the Chair)**
 - The empath, or 'vibe watch' as the position is sometimes called, is charged with monitoring the 'emotional climate' of the meeting, taking note of the body language and other non-verbal cues of the participants. Defusing potential emotional conflicts, maintaining a climate free of intimidation and being aware of potentially destructive power dynamics, such as sexism or racism within the decision-making body, are the primary responsibilities of the empath
- **Notes Taker (identified at start of meeting)**
 - The role of the notes taker or secretary is to document the decisions, discussion and action points of the decision-making body. Unlike other forms of decision-making, consensus minutes often make a point of documenting dissenting positions

If consensus is not unanimous, who must agree?

- ❑ 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 groups, or unanimity may be the result of coercion, fear, undue persuasive power or eloquence, inability to comprehend alternatives, or plain impatience with the process of debate, The Open Group may use an alternative benchmark of consensus
- ❑ **Unanimity minus two** (or U-2)
 - does not permit two individual delegates to block a decision, but tends to curtail debate with a lone dissenter more quickly. Dissenting *pairs* can present alternate views of what is wrong with the decision under consideration. Pairs of delegates can be empowered to find the common ground that will enable them to convince a third, decision-blocking, decision-maker to join them. If the pair are unable to convince a third party to join them within a set time, their arguments are deemed to be unconvincing

When consensus cannot be reached

- Although the consensus decision-making process should, ideally, identify and address concerns and reservations early, proposals do not always garner full consensus from the decision-making body. When a call for consensus on a motion is made, a dissenting delegate in The Open Group has one of two options:
 - **Declare reservations**
 - Group members who are willing to let a motion pass but desire to register their concerns with the group may choose "declare reservations." If there are significant reservations about a motion, the decision-making body may choose to modify or re-word the proposal
 - **Stand aside**
 - A "stand aside" may be registered by a group member who has a "serious personal disagreement" with a proposal, but is willing to let the motion pass. Although stand asides do not halt a motion, it is often regarded as a strong "nay vote" and the concerns of group members standing aside are usually addressed by modifications to the proposal. Stand asides may also be registered by users who feel they are incapable of adequately understanding or participating in the proposal

Forum Operations

- ❑ Guidelines are available for how to start a new project or new work item within The Open Group
- ❑ Decisions relating to approval of specifications MUST use the approved Company Review procedure
 - This is a useful tool for building consensus around other types of deliverable

Decision Making – Important Decisions

- A “super majority” vote is required for important decisions
 - 75% of those eligible to vote for approval
- Adopt a quorum for important decisions
 - *See next slide*
- Important decisions are votes on:
 - Approval of standards/specifications and the publication of other deliverables
 - Election of Forum officers
- Keep a clear record of all decisions taken with rationale
- Adopt “one company, one vote”
 - Stops any company stacking the voting

Decision Making – Other Decisions

- ❑ Other decisions may be made by a consensus of those present at a face-to-face or teleconference meeting, provided that a quorum is present
 - “Quorum” in this context means at least 10% of the membership of the Forum, or 3 members, (whichever is the greater)
- ❑ If no quorum is present, any decisions taken will need to be ratified (or otherwise) by the Forum membership by email vote
 - Simple majority required (50% +1)
- ❑ Keep a clear record of all decisions taken with rationale
- ❑ Adopt “one company, one vote”
 - Stops any company stacking the voting

Best Practices

- ❑ Announce face to face meetings at least 30 days in advance
- ❑ All meetings have to publish minutes
- ❑ Develop a workplan/roadmap for each year (or two year period)
 - Based on member proposals
 - Based on member consensus
- ❑ Work to the roadmap, report regularly on progress, update the roadmap

Best Practices

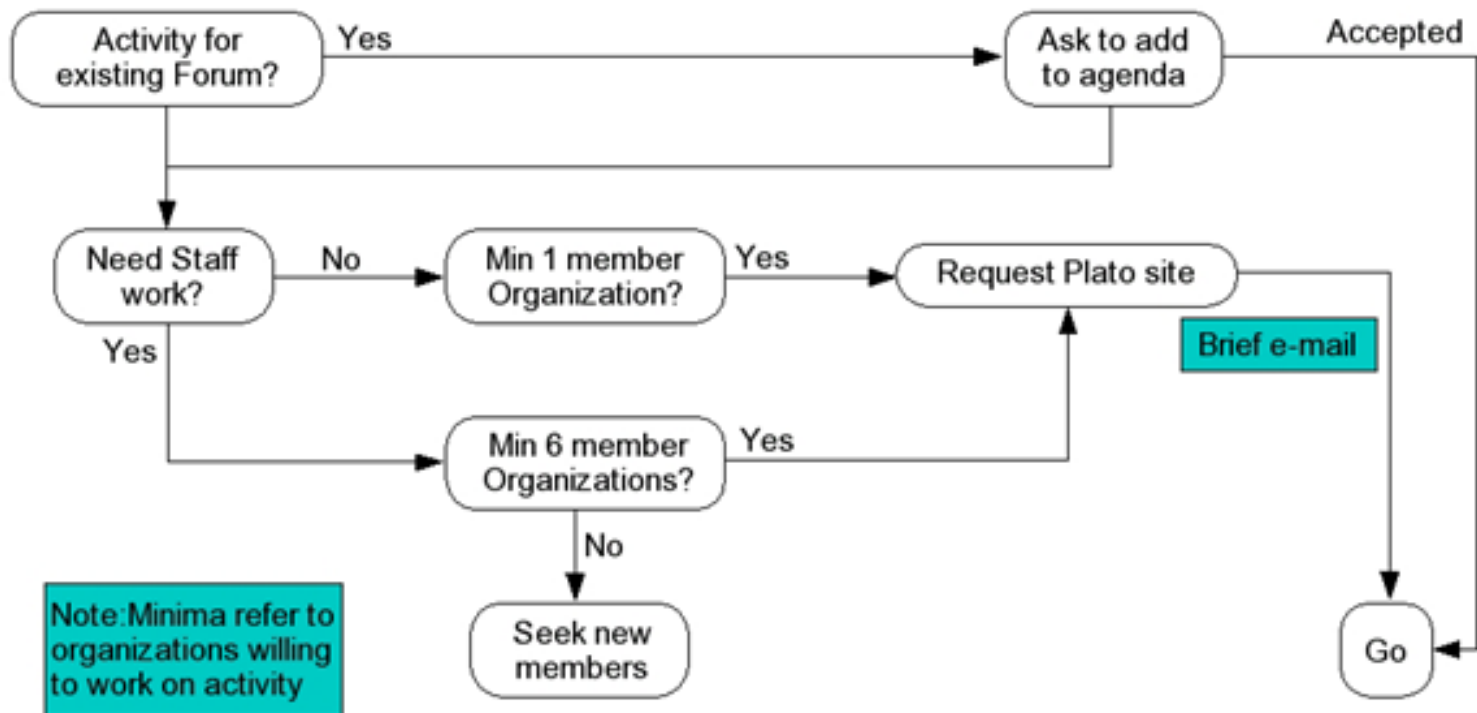
- Maintain an Issues List
 - A list of issues where no consensus has been reached.
 - A way to “park” an issue
 - For example,
 - Issue *identifier*: How to best organize the specification, should it be a singular document or split into modules?

- Maintain a Consent list
 - A list of key decisions
 - For example
 - *Identifier*: AGREED. New feature xyz would be incorporated into the specification

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 - Infrastructure for Work items
 - Developing materials
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- ❑ The Company Review Process
- ❑ Resources

How to Start a New Work Item



Sample Proposal for New Work item for a Forum

***6 slides (not including the title)
3 Slides fixed topics as in this
template***

Project Description

(The first three slides should briefly describe the project and its scope, its proposed timeline and whether there is a base document, they should also cover existing industry experience, if any)

Scope

Timeline

Base Document

Existing Industry Experience?

Is it within the scope of the forum?

Is there a coordination or integration plan?

Business Relevance

(Slide 4 should identify the market place relevance of this proposal in terms of what problem is being solved and or need being addressed)

What problem
does this solve?

What need does
this address?

Does this bring
sufficient value
to the industry?

Does it sufficiently
further the
interests of the
industry?

Market Requirement

(Slide 5 should identify the nature of the Market Requirement, assessing the extent to which it is essential, desirable or merely supportive of some other project. Indicate if this is Essential, Desirable, or Supportive.)

What is the
market
requirement?

Is it Essential,
Desirable or
Supportive?

Working Group Commitment

(Slide 6 should list working group participants who would commit to this proposal. These participants must include a Chair and Technical Editor, as well as a sufficient number of technical experts representing a reasonable balance of viewpoints, and the participants must be willing to support the secretarial function)

Who is the
Chair?

Who is the
Technical
editor?

Who is the
secretary?

Who has
committed to
participate?

Is there a
balance of
viewpoints?

Do the
participants have
the necessary
expertise?

Is the resource
impact
reasonable?

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 - **Infrastructure for Work items**
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- ❑ Resources

Best Practices

- Maintain a document register
 - A repository of forum documents
 - A Plato site

- Maintain an email archive
 - Can be accessed through a Plato site

- Use other technology to allow access to as many members as possible
 - SIP phone access (Gizmo project)
 - IRC channel

Example Site

Information Feed



You are here: > DirecNet Task Force

What

The DirecNet® Portal is a common site for the members of the DirecNet® Task Force to share information and discuss our evolving standard.

Why

DirecNet is a directional, ad hoc, mesh network providing the warfighters on the edge of the GIG, a 1 Gbps communications backbone.

DirecNet Members are encouraged to participate in 'Conversations' and to contribute 'Documents'.

Who

Access to this site

You are at the Public Level

You must be a member of the DirecNet Task Force to have access to the non-public segment of this site. Please refer to the membership documents for more details. If you have any questions please contact the DirecNet Administrator or a DirecNet Admin.

Deliverables

When

Forthcoming/Recent Events		Documents (Membership)	
(No Forthcoming/Recent Events available)		08-Jun-06	DirecNet Membership Agreement 26 PDF
			June 2006 version 1.6 DOC
		08-Jun-06	DirecNet Terms and Conditions 27 PDF
			June 2006 version 1.7 DOC
		08-Jun-06	DirecNet Policies and_Procedures 26 PDF
			June 2006 1.6 DOC
14-Jul-06	DirecNet - Industry leaders to form consortia to develop an open-standard directional networking system		
05-Apr-06	Flight International Article - The Missing (data) → more		

Public level
Log in
Mailing Lists

Original DirecNet
DirecNet.org Home

Plato

This web page uses Plato - The Open Groups web

collaboration system
Overview

Help

FAQs

Tutorial

RSS

Example Site

You are here: Platform Forum > Single UNIX Specification



This is the development area for the Open Group Base working group that manages the development and evolution of the Single UNIX Specification.

A significant portion of the specification is jointly developed in collaboration with the IEEE POSIX and ISO WG15 committees under the auspices of the [Austin Group](#)

This section is restricted to Base WG members only.

Votes/Polls

Actions

Events

Documents

News

<p>Current Polls Add ?</p> <p>24-May-05 Where should the next Base Working Group meeting be held? → more</p> <p>Forthcoming/Recent Events Add ?</p> <p>26-May-05 16:00 GMT/BST Call Reminder: Austin Group teleconference → more</p> <p>Recent News Add ?</p> <p>11-Mar-05 2005-2006 Roadmap for next Revision 20-Nov-04 Austin Group Meeting Jan 10-13 2005 07-Oct-04 ISO Publication of the Corrigendum to ISO/IEC 9945 05-May-04 2004 Edition of Base Specifications Issue 6 published → more</p>	<p>Open Actions Add ?</p> <p>23-Mar-05 Andrew Josey Test Action → more</p> <p>Recent Documents Add ?</p> <p>15-Apr-05 LSB Specification Current LINK</p> <p>21-Mar-05 Conflicts between the ISO/IEC 9945 (POSIX) Standard and the Linux Standard Base Specification 1.2.8 LINK</p> <p>10-Mar-05 Frequently Asked Questions on POSIX.1 1.10 LINK</p> <p>24-Feb-05 Frequently Asked Questions on the Single UNIX Specification 1.9 LINK</p> <p>24-Feb-05 Frequently Asked Questions on the Austin Group 1.16 LINK</p> <p>18-Jan-05 AI-2005-01-04 POSIX Roadmap Slides 1 PDF</p> <p>18-Jan-05 Austin Group January 2005 Meeting Minutes Final LINK</p>
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Logged in as a.josey

PASC SEC level

[Public level \(logout\)](#)

[Mailing Lists](#)

[PASC Operating Procedures](#)

[SD11 Status Report](#)

[1003.1 Standard](#)

[Online](#)

[1003.13](#)

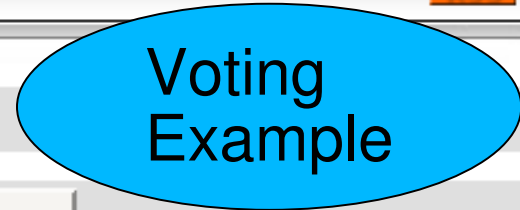
[Interpretations](#)

[SSWG-RT](#)

[Plato Help](#)

[Maintenance pages](#)

[PLATO news](#)



Votes

[Add a new Vote](#)

Age

Closed

[Reselect](#)

Start Date	Status	Title	Documents	Added by	Delete?	VOTE
Close Date						

24-Jun-2006 09-Jul-2006	Activated	Motion to Approve the PAR to revise the 1003.1 standard	PAR PMC Criteria	Andrew Josey	Update	<input type="checkbox"/>	<table border="1"> <tr><td>YES</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>NO</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>ABSTAIN</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	YES	12	NO	0	ABSTAIN	0
YES	12												
NO	0												
ABSTAIN	0												

20-Dec-2005 04-Jan-2006	Activated	Resolution to enact previous vote on C++ Study Group		Nick Stoughton	Update	<input type="checkbox"/>	<table border="1"> <tr><td>YES</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>NO</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>ABSTAIN</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	YES	10	NO	0	ABSTAIN	0
YES	10												
NO	0												
ABSTAIN	0												

10-Dec-2005 25-Dec-2005	Activated	Motion to create a Study Group on creating a C++ Binding		Andrew Josey	Update	<input type="checkbox"/>	<table border="1"> <tr><td>YES</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>NO</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>ABSTAIN</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	YES	9	NO	0	ABSTAIN	0
YES	9												
NO	0												
ABSTAIN	0												

[Delete?](#)

Benefits of using *Plato*

- ❑ **Quick deployment** - a web presence for a project or projects can be created quickly
- ❑ **Flexibility** - a high degree of customization is available and can be simply managed through the web
- ❑ **Extensible** - additional functionality can be rapidly developed if necessary
- ❑ **Simplicity** - no html editing skills are required to establish or manage a site
- ❑ **Commonality** - each site benefits from enhancements developed to meet the requirements of other users

```

▼ irc.fre
  #au [14:17] --> You are now talking on #austin
  #bu [15:04] <ajosey> Dial-in Number: US +1(641) 985-1010
    [15:04] Access code: 774188#
  #lsk [15:05] --> gwc (~gwc@maill.gclare.org.uk) has joined
  irc.op [15:08] <ajosey> XSHbug2.txt ERN 132
  #au [15:09] --- Disconnected (Connection reset by peer).
  #au [15:09] --> You are now talking on #austin
  #ge [15:26] drepper (~chatzilla@64.74.213.162) has joined
    #austin
    [15:50] <drepper> waitid() with idtype set to P_ALL
    [15:50] or
    [15:50] waitid() with the first parameter being P_ALL
    [15:51] <ajosey> http://www.opengroup.org/austin/docs/austin_349.txt
    [15:52] Mark had proposed APP USAGE last week
    [15:55] Calls to wait() will collect information about any
    [15:55] child process.
    [15:55] This may result in interactions with other
    [15:55] interfaces that may be waiting
    [15:55] for their own children (such as by use of system()
    [15:55] ). For this and other
    [15:55] reasons it is recommended that portable
    [15:55] applications not use wait(),
    [15:55] but instead use waitpid(). For these same reasons,
    [15:55] the use of waitpid()
    [15:55] with a <pid> argument of -1 is and waitid()
    [15:55] with the first parameter being P_ALL is also not
    [15:55] recommended for
    [15:55] portable applications.
    [15:58] <drepper> s/use waitpid()/use waitpid() or waitid()/
    [15:59] from "of -1" replace with
    [16:00] of -1 and waitid() with the <idtype> parameter of
    [16:00] P_ALL is also not recommended for portable
    [16:00] applications.
    [16:01] <ajosey> --
  
```

Example IRC Usage

Allows for Forum
Discussions in
"realtime"

Agenda

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 - **Developing materials**
- Technical Procedures
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Confidentiality and IPR

- Member agrees to the following obligations of confidentiality with respect to information received through participation in the Forum(s):
 - “Any specifications, drawings, sketches, models, samples, data, computer programs or documentation or other technical or business information in written, graphic or other tangible or electronic form furnished or disclosed to The Open Group or any other party in the course of the Forums’ activities and/or as a result of Member’s use of any materials (“the Information”) should be deemed the property of The Open Group, and shall be returned to The Open Group upon request. Member agrees to maintain all Information in confidence, using the same degree of care Member uses to protect its own proprietary information of like importance, but in no event less than a reasonable degree of care.”

The Open Group Membership Agreement

Copyright Notices

- Materials developed as part of participation in a forum's activities must carry The Open Group copyright

Copyright © Year The Open Group, All rights reserved*

- And its recommended that drafts carry the additional header or footer

Unapproved Draft, Subject to Change

* *First and each year in which the materials were created/amended/updated – e.g. “Copyright 1994-7, The Open Group. All rights reserved”*

Agenda

- Fundamentals
- Principles
- Forum Operations
- **Technical Procedures**
- The Company Review Process
- Resources

Technical Procedures

- Objectives
 - To record how complex tasks involving different groups may be executed in an effective and repeatable manner
 - To ensure the quality of Open Group technical deliverables
 - To ensure that The Open Group complies with legal constraints on the operation of consortia

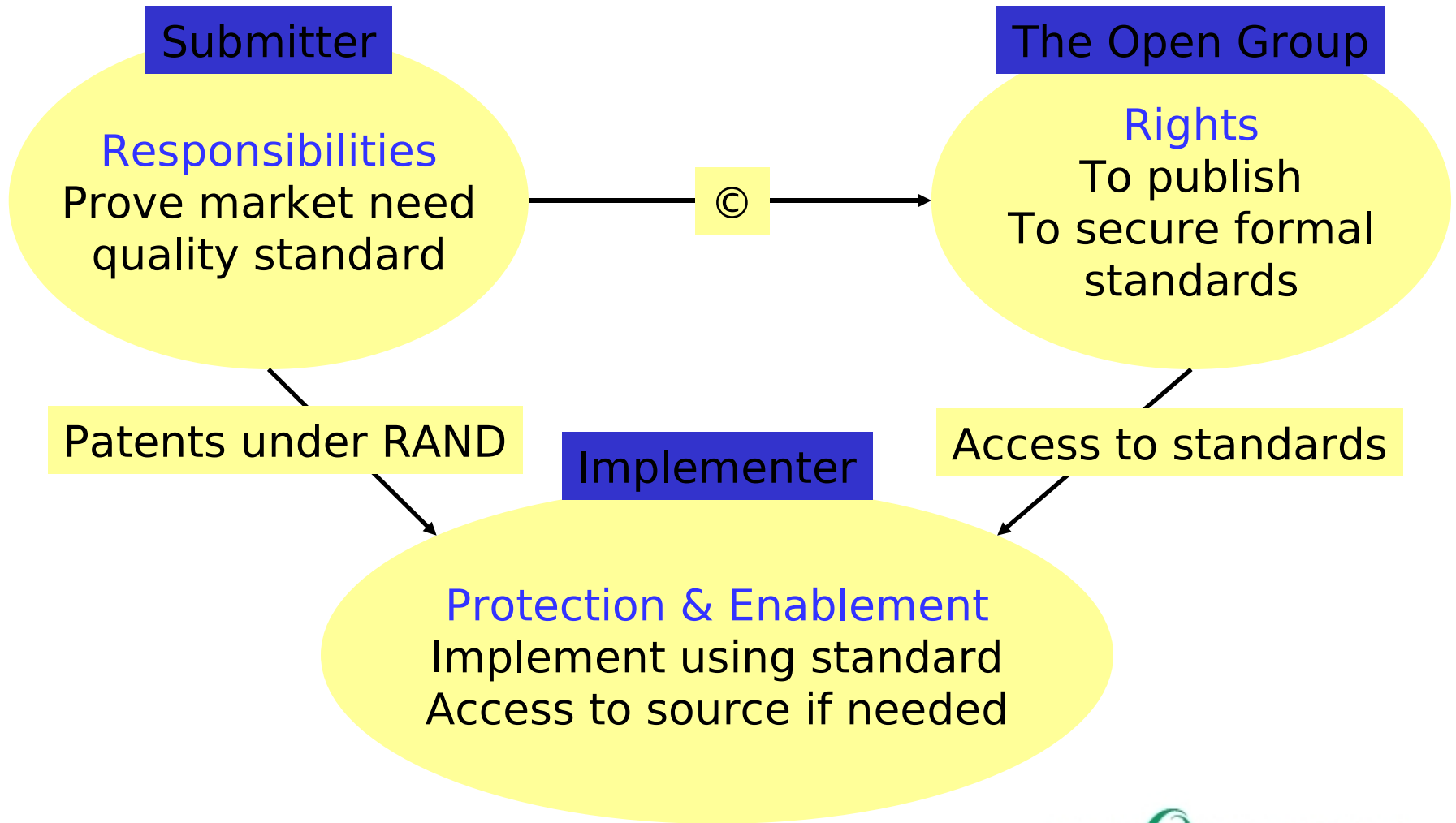
Applicable Technical Procedures

- ❑ Developing and Approving Standards
 - The company review for measuring consensus
- ❑ Certification Programs
- ❑ Confidentiality
- ❑ Standards Adoption Criteria

Standards Adoption Criteria

- ❑ Define what it means to have an open standard
- ❑ All standards published by The Open Group and referenced in certification programs using The Open Group trademarks **MUST** conform to the Standards Adoption Criteria

Standards Adoption Criteria



Standards Adoption Criteria

- Three categories
 - **Mandatory** – Must be satisfied
 - **Recommended** – Ideally met
 - **Desirable** – Nice to have

Legal Criteria

- ❑ A permanent royalty free copyright license from the copyright holder of the material for The Open Group to use and publish
- ❑ If the standards to be adopted are covered by patents, such patents must be licensed by their owners on a reasonable and non-discriminatory basis
- ❑ An assurance that a person developing a product in accordance with the standard is immune from any liability to the contributor of the material in respect of the use by him or his customers of such material, other than through failure to properly license pre-disclosed patents
- ❑ The terms to be such that The Open Group will not be inhibited in its efforts to secure acceptance of the standard by international standards bodies

Stability Criteria

- The availability of a high quality standard upon which Open Group activities can be based

Implementation Criteria

- If the standard is taken from an existing product source licensable from a single vendor only, then implementations should be available to all companies on a non-discriminatory basis. This includes pricing and licensing conditions
- Freedom for anyone to develop a practical product which either supports or utilizes the same standard, subject to the need to license any pre-disclosed patents
- The standard to be adopted must be specified sufficiently that a conformant product may be implemented (and usable) using only:
 - The standard itself
 - Products or services (e.g. protocols) that are publicly available or obtainable from multiple sources on a non-discriminatory basis
 - Formal standards from accredited standards development organizations
 - Other Open Group published or referenced standards
 - Other freely available information

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The Company Review Process

- All major deliverables from a Forum are approved through a consensus process that The Open Group calls the **Company Review**
 - No single company can force something through against the wishes of others
 - No single company has a veto

- Meets all necessary anti-trust legislation

- Acceptable to de-jure standards bodies

Introduction

- ❑ There are 2 processes for developing Technical Standards within The Open Group
- ❑ One covers the process for taking specifications developed within The Open Group by a Forum or other group (Working Group, Project, Team etc)
- ❑ The other describes the process for taking standards contributed by a third party enterprise, consortium, or other industry group through an open review process, while allowing the original developers an element of control over the process

Standards Development Processes

- ❑ Open Group Technical Standard developed within The Open Group – “Standard Track”
- ❑ Open Group Technical Standard contributed by a third party - “Fast Track”

The Open Group Standards Process

Idea for Standard

Develop Draft Standard

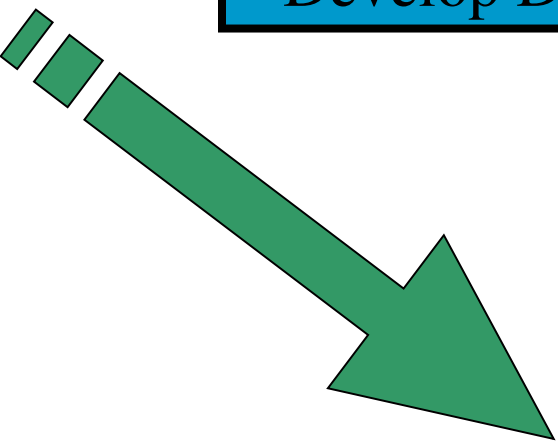
By a
Forum/WG or
third party

Formal Company Review
And
Ballot

Standard Track
or Fast Track

Approve Standard

Publish Approved Standard



Standard Track

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 group
- The staff of The Open Group will configure the infrastructure and facilitate the standards process

Development Phase

- During this phase, the standard is developed in The Open Group house style and consensus is sought within the Forum or other group
- Any member may contribute to the standard
- The Forum or other 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 Technical Standard ready for Company Review

Company Review

- Company Review is conducted by the appropriate Forum or other group developing the standard
- Non-Members may be invited to submit “Change Requests” as part of the Company Review process
- The Forum or 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

Final Approval

- The developing group must achieve the defined level of consensus during Company Review in order for the draft Technical 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

Fast-Track Process

Initiation Phase

- Any Platinum Member of The Open Group is, without fee, entitled to:
 - Contribute a starting point for a standard “(Base Document)”
 - Opt for the standards process to either be worked through an existing Forum or other group, or through a new group established for the purpose
 - Define the “owner” of the Base Document
- The staff of The Open Group will configure the infrastructure and facilitate the standards process

Adoption Phase

- ❑ During this phase, the Base Document is converted to The Open Group house style and consensus is sought within the Forum or other group
- ❑ The Forum or other group can choose to open the Base Document for comments to:
 - All members
 - Invited third parties
 - Non-members (e.g. the open source community)
- ❑ The owner can withdraw the Base Document from the process at any time
- ❑ At the conclusion of the adoption phase, the Base Document becomes a draft Technical Standard ready for Company Review

Company Review

- Company Review is conducted by the appropriate Forum or other group developing the standard
- Non-Members may be invited to submit “Change Requests” as part of the Company Review process
- The owner is responsible for resolving all Change Requests submitted during Company Review
 - Resolving change requests can include accepting, declining or accepting with modification
 - For the purpose of resolving change requests the defined level of consensus is 75% of those voting

Final Approval

- The developing group must achieve the defined level of consensus during company Review in order for the draft Technical 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
- Ownership of the standard transfers to The Open Group on final approval of the Technical Standard

Essential Differences in Processes

- The essential difference in the 2 processes lies in the “ownership” of the draft Technical Standard up to the point of final approval by the Governing Board
- In the first case the draft Technical Standard is “owned” by the relevant Open Group Forum
- In the second case, the sponsoring third party organization retains ownership and may withdraw the document at any point prior to final approval. Only at this time does ownership pass to the The Open Group

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

Standard Track – Standards Process

© transfer to
The Open Group
upon submission of
contributions

Any member can participate in the development of the specification if they are a member of the developing Forum or Group (WG)

WG proposes resolution to all Change Requests (CR's)
•Accept; Decline; Accept with modification

Submissions

Request
*Initiation of activity
Any Member*

Standards
Adoption
Criteria
check

WG consensus to pass specification

WG Consensus

75% WG members, present & voting to approve proposed resolutions for Company Review to succeed

**Draft
Technical
Standard**

Company Review

Specification developed in The Open Group house style

Optional
Open for "Comments"
All members; 3rd Parties
Non-members

Change requests open to all members plus optionally to Non-members

**Published
Technical
Standard**

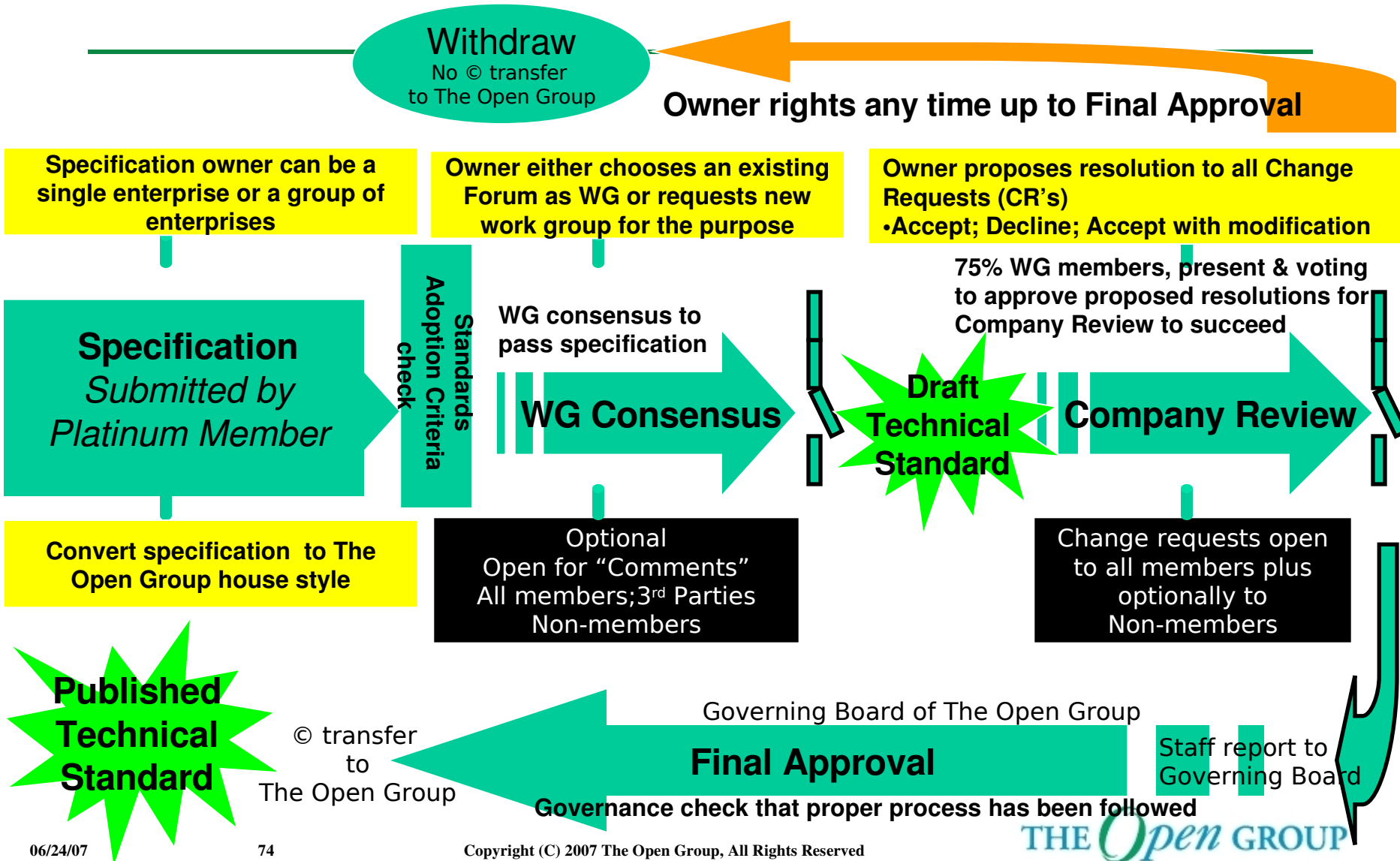
Governing Board of The Open Group

Final Approval

Staff report to
Governing Board

Governance check that proper process has been followed

Fast Track – Standards Process



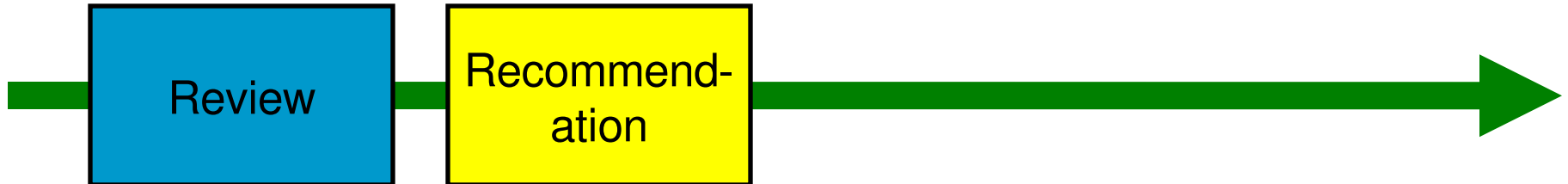
The Company Review



Review

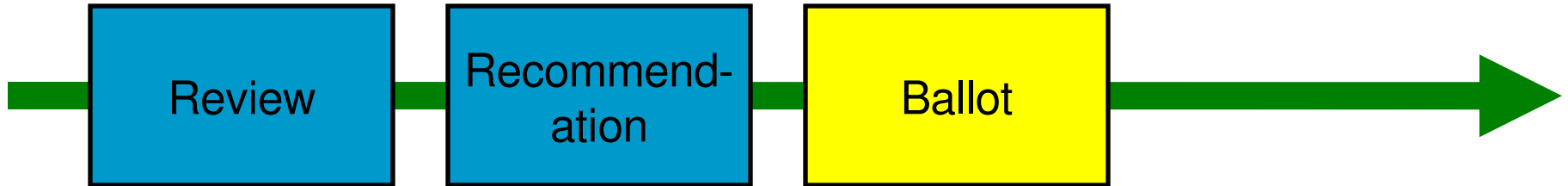
- Review Group
 - Total membership of The Open Group
 - Other relevant groups/experts
- “Yes if” review
 - Specific change proposals needed
 - Conducted by email
 - Typically review period is between 2 and 4 weeks

The Company Review



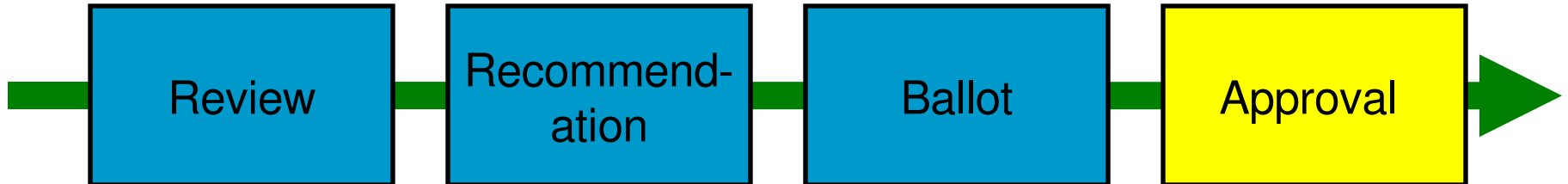
- Each specification has a Sponsor, either
 - The Forum
 - The Fast Track document owner
- The Sponsor reviews all Change Requests and recommends disposition

The Company Review



- Members of the Forum vote on recommended resolution of Change Proposals
 - 75% either way is decisive
 - Meeting or telecon to resolve residual issues
- If volume of changes is high, short re-circulation review is permitted

The Company Review



- Formal 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

The Open Group Standards Process

Idea for Standard

Develop Draft Standard

Announce Formal Company Review

Materials Available

2 or 4 Week Period
+ recirculation if
needed (2 week notice
+ 2 weeks review)

Company Review and
Ballot

Ballot
Resolution
Usually 7 days

Governing
Board vote by
email or at
quarterly
meeting

Approve Standard

Publish Approved Standard

2 Weeks prior
to review

Usually 1 week
prior to review

Agenda

- ❑ Fundamentals
- ❑ Principles
- ❑ Forum Operations
- ❑ Technical Procedures
- ❑ The Company Review Process
- ❑ **Resources**

Resources

- ❑ We've developed specifications and standards before!
- ❑ Its often better to build on the work of others than re-invent the wheel
- ❑ Useful Starting Point:
 - <https://www.opengroup.org/projects/spectools/>

Public level

Log in

Plato

This web page uses Plato - The Open Group's web collaboration system.

[Overview](#)

[Help](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Tutorial](#)

[RSS](#)


 **Specification Tools and Process Area**

This is a Pilot site

If you are an Open Group member you can access this *Resource area* to locate pointers to processes and templates for specification/document development, working group and forum processes. This allows you to locate the information you need to progress your project in a single location.

[login here](#) here to access further information

To provide feedback on this pilot site, please contact the [Specification team](#).

 **Member Notices**



Join us at our next conference

**Enterprise Architecture
Practitioners Conference Paris**

April 23-25, 2007

The conference will run in parallel with

*The Open Group Member
Meetings*

April 23-27, 2007

 **Recent Documents (Procedures)**

06-Mar-07

Technical Procedures 2006

[LINK](#) [LINK](#) [LINK](#) [LINK](#)

[more](#)

Logged in as a.josey

Working Group level

Public level (logout)

Maintenance pages

PLATO news

Plato

This web page uses Plato - The Open Group's web collaboration system.

[Overview](#)

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Specification Tools and Process Area

This is a Pilot site

If you are an Open Group member you can access this *Resource area* to locate pointers to processes and templates for specification/document development, working group and forum processes. This allows you to locate the information you need to progress your project in a single location.

Recent Documents (Information) Add ?

06-Mar-07	Technical Publications Style Guide 2006	PDF
06-Mar-07	How to Start a New Project/Work Item within The Open Group 2006	LINK
→ more		

Recent Documents (Procedures) Add ?

06-Mar-07	Draft revised Technical Procedures 2007	LINK
06-Mar-07	Technical Procedures 2006	LINK LINK LINK LINK
→ more		

Recent Documents (Sample Document) Add ?

06-Mar-07	Sample Work Item Roadmap/Project timeline 2007	LINK LINK
06-Mar-07	Sample New project/Work item Proposals 2006	TXT PDF
→ more		

Recent Documents (Template) Add ?

06-Mar-07	Technical Publications Template (word)	DOC
→ more		

Thank you!