The Open Group Standards Development Process – Company Review Process
Scope of This Presentation

Standards Track
An agreed way of doing something, e.g. making a product, managing a process, delivering a service etc.
Normative requirements
Formal Status as a standard of The Open Group

Guide Track
How to ...
Supports a standard of The Open Group
Or Provides Informative Guidance only
No formal status

White Paper Track
Discussion or Position Paper
No formal status
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
Forum/Work Group Principles

1. Primacy of Principles
2. We inherit the Principles of The Open Group
3. Collaboration
4. Shared Purpose
5. Formal Process
6. Obligations of Leadership
7. Openness and Assumption of Good Intent
Agenda

» This presentation provides an overview of The Open Group Company Review Process – a core process within the Standards Development Process
The Standards Development Lifecycle

- Initiate Project
- Draft Development Process
- Company Review Process
- Approval Process
- Publication Process
- Maintenance Process
Company Review Process

- Human Actors
  - All Members
  - Invited Experts
  - Member Voting Representatives
  - Review Group
  - Ballot Group
  - Governing Board
  - The Open Group Executive Management
  - The Open Group Manager
  - Technical Editor
  - Sponsor

- Processes
  - Announcement
  - Distribution of Materials
  - Review
  - Recirculation Review (optional)
  - Implement Resolutions
  - Sanity Review
  - Approvals Process
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 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 Phase

» Revision to Existing Standard

- Existing Standard
- Change Requests
- Project Scope/Charter
- Revised Standard

» Development of a New Standard

- New Standard
- Material Developed or Contributed
- Document Template
- Project Scope/Charter
» 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
» 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
The Company 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
Each specification has a Sponsor, either

- A Forum or Work Group
- A Governing Board Work Group

The Sponsor reviews all Change Requests and recommends disposition
The Company Review

- The sponsor votes 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
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

- 2 Weeks prior to review
- Usually 1 week prior to review
- 2 or 4 Week Period + recirculation if needed (2 week notice + 2 weeks review)
- Ballot Resolution Usually 7 days
- 2 week review

Governing Board vote by email or at quarterly meeting

Core Process
Process Summary

Request
Initiation of activity
Any Member

Specification developed in The Open Group house style

Submissions
Adoption Criteria
Check

WG Consensus
WG consensus to pass specification

Draft Standard

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

Governance check that proper process has been followed

Approvals Process
Staff report to Governing Board

Published Standard

Publication Process

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

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

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

Optional
Open for “Comments”
All members; 3rd Parties
Non-members
Further Information

http://www.opengroup.org/standardsprocess
» I153 - A Handbook for Publications Development:
   - The Standards Development Lifecycle
   - Developing Text for The Open Group Standards
   - The Snapshot Process
   - The Guide Process
   - The White Paper Process
   - Guidance for Reviews
   - Executable Standards
   - Resources
Handbooks

» Guidance Hand Books available:
  – I121 A Handbook for the Consensus Decision-Making Process
  – I122 A Handbook for Elected Officers of The Open Group Forums and Work Groups
  – I123 A Handbook for Individuals Acting as The Open Group Liaison to Another Organization

https://publications.opengroup.org/guides/standards-process
Thankyou!
Questions