

Canadian Standards Association

The Canadian Standards Association was established by Dominion charter granted in 1919. As a result of experience gained during several years of operation and particularly during the war years the charter was amended in 1944 to embrace a broader field of operation as outlined below:

(a) To provide, originate and furnish Canadian standards of any nature whatsoever which are in the interests of producers and users; to coordinate the efforts of producers and users toward the improvement and standardization of materials, processes and related matters; to provide systematic means by which organizations interested in standardization work may cooperate in establishing and promoting Canadian standards to the end that duplication of work and the promulgation of conflicting standards may be avoided.

(b) To serve as a clearing house for information on standardization work in Canada and foreign countries; to further the standardization movement as a means of advancing the national economy, and to promote a knowledge of, and the use of, approved Canadian standards both in Canada and foreign countries; to act as an authoritative Canadian channel in international cooperation in standardization work.

(c) To register in the name of the Association, and to hold, own, use and operate any and all trade marks, proof, letter or device and to enforce and protect the use of such marks, proofs, letters or devices and to oppose any proceedings or applications which may seem calculated directly or indirectly to prejudice the interests of the Association.

Committee Organization

The Canadian Standards Association has close contact, by direct representation, with the following classifications of interest: Manufacturers, Departments of the Dominion Government, Provincial Governments, Public Utilities, Educational Institutions, Professional Bodies, Labour Organizations, Purchasing Departments, Insurance Interests.

From the various classifications of interest a series of Divisions has been estab-

lished covering such representative fields as Textiles, Agriculture, Pulp and Paper, Steel Construction, Electrical Engineering, etc. From these Divisions a Main Committee is drawn, each member serving for a period of three years and eligible for further service at the discretion of the nominating interests. This is the governing body of the C.S.A.

From the Main Committee, members are elected by the Divisions to form the Executive Committee which is the administrative body of the Association.

Sectional committees are appointed by the Divisions, each sectional committee consisting of from 10 to 30 members, representing the best available knowledge and experience in their respective fields. Their responsibility is to supervise the work of standardization within the scope of each division. They are responsible for the approval of specifications, which have been developed by their working committees and for submitting same to the Executive Committee for final approval and publication.

When a request is received to produce a standard specification for any commodity, it is referred to the division interested, for consideration and recommendation to the Executive Committee for action. Should there appear to be a reasonable demand for the standard in question and sufficient information available to assure satisfactory completion of the work, authority will be given to the division by the Executive Committee to proceed with the preparation of a standard.

If sufficient information appears to be lacking, and scientific investigation is considered necessary, proposals will be made to a recognized research body, such as the National Research Council, to conduct tests or make investigations in order to provide needed information that will permit an authoritative standard to be prepared.

These Working Committees consist of a variable number of members ranging from five or six to as high as thirty or more, depending on the nature of the work to be done.

As work progresses, a draft specification is prepared and subsequently discussed

at meetings of the Working Committee. Verbal recommendations for revision, and those received from members unable to attend or interests not desiring direct representation, receive full consideration. This usually necessitates the preparation of several draft specifications, requiring considerable time before a proposed standard is considered ready for publication.

Every effort is made, not only to assure full representation of the views of all interests, but to tap every available source of information, both foreign and domestic. Accordingly, when a standard is published, it represents, as far as possible, the best available authority consistent with general knowledge and local conditions.

Approvals Division

The C.S.A. has had a certification procedure in effect for many years and the C.S.A. label is recognized throughout Canada as a symbol of assurance that electrical equipment and devices are reasonably free from fire and accident hazards. This Approval Service, which now insures compliance with safety and performance standards can be extended, as and when industry becomes convinced that certification, on a quality basis, is beneficial to the producer as well as to the consumer. The details of the procedure will be developed in collaboration with appropriate producer and consumer interests as required.

C.S.A. Standards

An important feature of C.S.A. standards, in line with British and American standardizing practice, is that they are "voluntary" standards. As such, they serve as recommendations to industry and may or may not be adhered to by the manufacturers concerned.

Such standards may, on the other hand, become mandatory by adoption by a government department having legal authority to enforce their requirements in the matters of governmental purchases, when the standards concern specific materials or products. The Association has published approximately 200 such standards—thus far limited to the various sections of engineering.

Photography

The C.S.A. Sectional Committee on Photography was organized in 1948 with

Dr. L. E. Howlett of the National Research Council as chairman. Three specification committees are at work in this field at the present time:

- Z7.1 — Motion Picture Photography;
- Z7.2 — Still Photography; and
- Z7.3 — Survey Photography.

Committee Z7.1 has completed a review of all basic A.S.A. and B.S.I. motion picture standards and some 43 have been published by the C.S.A. A specification for an industrial and educational model 16mm projector is now in the final draft stage. Members of this committee with their affiliations are:

- A. H. Simmons (*Secretary*), Gevaert (Canada) Limited, Ottawa
- Harold Walker, Dominion Sound Equipments Limited, Montreal
- Don Spring, Canadian Kodak Sales Ltd., Toronto
- John Gerald, Ansco of Canada Ltd., Toronto
- Sqn. Ldr. N. Drolet, Armed Services, Ottawa
- Gordon Adamson, National Film Society, Ottawa
- Gaudry DeLisle, Department of Education, Quebec City
- H. Goldin, Consulting Engineer, Toronto
- M. Metzger, Associated Screen News Ltd., Montreal
- Arthur Elsey, Canadian Industries Ltd., Montreal
- P. D. Carmen, National Research Council, Ottawa
- A. J. Pauley, The Odeon Theatres (Canada) Ltd., Toronto
- F. T. Myles, R.C.A. Victor Co. Ltd., Montreal
- John Young, Benograph, Montreal
- G. Graham (*Chairman*), National Film Board, Ottawa

Editor's Note: This report was kindly prepared by Gerry Graham, Director of Technical Operations, National Film Board of Canada, upon our request for help in adding to the series of brief articles describing organizations which SMPTE members wish to know more about. Previous stories have been about the American Documentation Institute, the Biological Photographic Association, and the University Film Producers Association. Your suggestions for subjects or possible contributors for other articles are welcome.