

IEEE SA STANDARDS BOARD IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR IEEE POLICY 9.17

Approved by IEEE SA Standards Board, 15 September 2006

(updated 30 June 2016; editorial updates: 24 Mar 2017, 24 Apr 2019, 09 Feb 2021; updated 10 December 2025)

The IEEE SA Standards Board adheres to IEEE Policy 9.17, which calls for measured and calculated values of quantities to be expressed in metric units in IEEE publications, following the detailed guidance for SI-based metric practice given in the most current version of IEEE/ASTM SI 10 American National Standard for Metric Practice.

Proposed new standards and revised standards submitted for approval should use metric units exclusively in the normative portions of the standard. Metric units shall be the primary unit of measurement, other than the exceptions listed below. Alternative unit systems such as US Customary Units or Imperial units may be included in parentheses after the metric units if the project's Standards Committee believes that the audience for the document would benefit from the inclusion of such units, based on concerns for safety or clarity. The Quantities, Units, and Symbols Standards Committee (QUSCom) shall provide guidance to IEEE SA Staff as they support IEEE Standards Committees to help them carry out this implementation plan. IEEE Policy 9.17 recognizes the need for some exceptions. QUSCom shall review requests for individual exceptions and shall provide its recommendations to the IEEE SA Staff who made the request. Each recommendation from QUSCom to grant an exception shall indicate the period of applicability for such exception.

Exceptions

Exceptions to providing metric units as the primary unit of measurement (such data need not be converted into metric units) are:

- Trade sizes, such as the American Wire Gauge (AWG) wire series
- Cases where a mechanical fit to an alternative unit-based product is required

This implementation plan does not require metric products to be substituted for inch-based products.