

Guidelines for Software Developed to Accompany ANSI/ASA Standards

Approved 6 May 2014

1. These guidelines apply to software that accompanies a published ANSI/ASA standard. See also “*ANSI Guidelines for Software in Standards*”: <http://publicaa.ansi.org/sites/apdl/documents/standards%20activities/american%20national%20standards/procedures,%20guides,%20and%20forms/ansi%20guidelines%20on%20software%20in%20standards.pdf>
2. The reasons for including software with the publication of a standard are to simplify a process such a complex calculation; to reduce errors in a complex calculation; and to show an example of either the process described in the standard and/or to show an example of the use of the method described in the standard in a practical application using realistic data as input.
3. Functionally, the accompanying software is the same as an Informative Annex, see ASACOS Rules for Preparation of American National Standards, clause 3.20: http://acousticalsociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/6th_ASACOS_Rules_approved_11-11-03.pdf
4. The software is to be considered one possible embodiment of the standard, i.e., as an example of the implementation of the standard, but must not be essential for using the standard. The standard must describe the process well enough for it to be used correctly without the software.
5. In the case of any discrepancy between the text, equations and tables published in the normative body of the standard and the accompanying software, the standard shall apply. In such event, the WG should review the issues and revise or withdraw the standard and software at the earliest opportunity.
6. The completed software must be included with the final draft of the standard document and go out to ballot along with the final draft document.
7. Different formats of software are acceptable as long as they can be delivered in a zip file: for example, 32-bit (64-bit compatible) *.exe, MS Excel *.xlsx, Matlab *.m file, ASCII. Sample data may be provided.
8. The purpose and operation of the software must be described either in an annex of the standard document, a README.TXT file, or a HELP file within the program itself.
9. Code such as Matlab, should be appropriately commented. Excel files should also include Cell Comments as needed.
10. The software revision cycle is the same as the document revision cycle, i.e., the software will not be revised more or less frequently than the document. The software version distributed with the published standard will be the version that was reviewed and approved by the consensus body. In many cases, the developer of the software may

publish a revision after publication of the standard. This revised software will not be substituted for the original software unless and until it is approved as part of a revision.

11. The WG Chair shall be responsible for securing the necessary legal permission and/or open source license from the software developers for its free use within the standard (contact ASA for details).
12. Any standard that is accompanied by software shall include a disclaimer stating that ASA does not warrant that any provided software is suitable for any particular purpose.
13. Software accompanying ANSI/ASA standards is packaged in a zip file and sold or distributed with the PDF copy of the standard. Some resellers may also make the software available on CD accompanying a print copy of the standard.