



Date: 17 September 2008

Ref: U.S. TAG funding

Policy for funding the activities of the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131

approved by the Advisory Panel to the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 at its 17 September 2008 meeting

Each company that wishes to participate in the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131, except for those that are defined as users*, will be assessed an annual administrative fee of \$2,000. This fee will entitle the company to be represented on as many subgroups of the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 by as many people it desires. This fee will be prorated for those companies that join the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 after the start of the fiscal year (1 July).

Each government agency, consultant or non-profit organization that wishes to participate in the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 will be assessed an annual administrative fee of \$250 per person involved. This fee will be prorated for those organizations that join the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 after the start of the fiscal year (1 July).

Payment of these fees will entitle participants to receive agendas, minutes, drafts for comment and ballot and all other documents related to the work of the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131. Payment of these fees will also entitle participants to voting privileges. Payment of fees will be administered through the U.S. TAG Special Account.

Any company, government agency, consultant or non-profit organization that wishes to participate but feels it cannot pay the necessary fee may apply for a reduction or waiver of the fee by presenting evidence to support its request. This information shall be submitted via the secretariat of the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 to the Advisory Panel to the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131. The Advisory Panel will make the final decision on any such request.

continued

* *The U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 defines a user member as a firm that is not a manufacturer of fluid power components but whose primary function fulfills one or more of the following criteria (which are provided in an informal order of importance):*

- 1) uses fluid power components and/or systems in the products it builds and markets;*
- 2) rebuilds or remanufactures equipment that includes fluid power components and/or systems;*
- 3) specifies and maintains fluid power components and/or systems that are installed in the equipment employed in its manufacturing operations.*

Questions and answers:

When will this policy go into effect?

The first assessments were made in May or June 1999 for the fiscal year beginning on 1 July 1999.

Will this fee replace the current \$40 per meeting fee charged for U.S. TAG meetings?

Yes. After 1 July 1999, we no longer collected meeting fees.

How were the fees determined?

The Advisory Panel to the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 determined the fees by analyzing the current membership of the U.S. TAG and the current budget of the U.S. TAG and ISO/TC 131. More than 90 percent of the funding the work of the U.S. TAG and ISO/TC 131 comes from NFPA membership dues. The Advisory Panel looked for a way to maintain the financial support of the U.S. TAG and ISO/TC 131 while allowing members of the U.S. TAG that do not belong to NFPA to contribute their financial share.

The costs of running the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 include not only salaries, benefits, telephone, mailings and meeting costs, but also fees that NFPA must pay to ANSI for the right to administer the U.S. TAG. These ANSI fees alone were more than \$17,000 for 2008.

It should be noted that the NFPA Board of Directors recently approved a policy that the U.S. TAG administrative fee for NFPA member companies is covered in that member's dues payment to the association.

Do I need to pay the fee if I just want to attend meetings of the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131?

No. Meetings of the U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 131 will continue to be open to all interested and materially affected U.S. parties. However, you will not be eligible to receive mailings.

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