

# Guidance to Standards Developing Organizations Measuring Research Impact

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is collaborating on research strategy and co-funding research projects with the pipeline industry. Outputs from some of this research are affecting Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs).

PHMSA's vision in this research objective is to help strengthen consensus standards, measure the impact, and provide impact information to all stakeholders on our website. We need your assistance to measure the impact, tell this great story of collaboration and to make our vision a reality.

The following guidance assists SDOs in measuring research impact on consensus standards.

Step 1: Go to and bookmark the Standards Developing Organization Impact Status Page for future reference. This page is public but not widely shared and designed for SDO members of the Pipeline Standards-Developing Organizations Coordinating Council for the purpose of reporting research impact on standards. <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/matrix/sdolist.rdm>

Step 2: Click on the "Standard Impact Report" link in the table's row for your organization to sort through the relevant research affecting your organization. This will give you a Compact or Detailed Listing of all research affecting your organization.

Step 3: To obtain a table summary for reporting the current impact status of the research affecting your organization, click on the "Update Form" WORD Template. The table will show only projects that are not currently active and are ones ready for measuring the impact. The table also shows the PHMSA project number, the project title hyperlinked to the public page for that project, the standard number, the previous status if applicable and any previous notes with a cell for reporting the new status and notes from the affected SDO. Example table is shown below.

ASME Standard Impacts (Mar 24, 2009)						
Project	Project Title	Standard	Previous Status	Previous Notes	New Status	New Notes

Step 4: Determining Impact – Share this table with your organization's committee leadership and ask them to investigate the current impact status of the research. They can click on the project title which is hyperlinked to the public project page. The majority of the project's final reports are available for download. If not shown, please contact PHMSA's Research Program about getting a copy.

Step 5: Reporting Impact – After reviewing the current relevance or impact status of the research, an SDO has only two items to report (new status and new notes) from a list of formatted responses.

New Status: Choose one of the following options:

1. Standard Out for Revision.  
(Meaning no word yet on the research impact but the committee will address this when reconvening)
2. Standard Revised.  
(Meaning the committee reviewed the research results and it was used in part to revise the standard)
3. Standard Not Revised.  
(Meaning the committee reviewed the research results and it was decided that it would not be used to revise the standard)

New Notes: Choose one of the following options:

1. Forwarded to committee officers for use in revising standard.
2. Research results were used in part to revise the standard.
3. Research results were not used revise the standard.

Step 6: Transmittal – Populate the table with the New Status and New Notes for the listed research. Then use the Sample SDO Response letter found on the Standards Developing Organization Impact Status Page and include the completed table on page 2 of that letter. Please use your organization's letter head. Please then sign, scan and email the letter to Mike Israni ([mike.israni@dot.gov](mailto:mike.israni@dot.gov)) and Robert Smith ([robert.w.smith@dot.gov](mailto:robert.w.smith@dot.gov)). It will be posted and the information will be reflected on the PHMSA's public performance page for strengthening standards through research.

Thank you very much for your participation and assistance!