THERE’S ALWAYS ROOM FOR NEW IDEAS ON AN API STANDARDS COMMITTEE
YOUR KNOWLEDGE CAN HELP POWER STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT IN THE OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY.

The development of consensus standards is one of API’s oldest and most successful programs. Beginning with its first standards published in 1925, API now maintains some 600 standards covering all segments of the oil and natural gas industry. Today, the API standards program has gone global, being used in worldwide operations and supporting the production of quality equipment and materials through API’s Training and Certification Programs. In fact, the U.S. Department of Commerce cites API Standards as "standards used around the globe to meet specific sector needs."  

API produces standards, recommended practices, equipment specifications, codes and technical publications, reports and studies that cover all parts of the industry. For upstream, API publications cover offshore structures and floating production systems, tubular goods, valves and wellhead equipment, plus drilling and production equipment. In the downstream arena, API publications address marketing and pipeline operations and refinery equipment, including storage tanks, pressure-relieving systems, compressors, turbines and pumps. API also has a number of publications that cut across industry sectors, covering fire and safety protection and petroleum measurement.

1 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE REPORT, STANDARDS & COMPETITIVENESS: COORDINATING FOR RESULTS, MAY 2004
TODAY’S OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY NEEDS YOUR INPUT AND YOUR IDEAS.

Subcommittees and task groups made up of industry experts develop API standards. These groups identify the need, then develop, approve, and maintain standards and other technical publications. New projects must be justified by valid business and safety needs. The standards-writing subcommittees and task groups are open to representatives of groups that are materially affected by the standards. These include oil and natural gas companies, manufacturers and suppliers, contractors and consultants, and representatives of government agencies and academia.

API standards-writing groups do their work at meetings (typically two per year) and by mail, fax, phone, email, and web meetings. API corporate membership is not a requirement for participation in the process. Representatives of organizations most impacted by the standards being developed (“materially affected parties”) may attend standards-writing meetings, and they may review drafts of standards and have their comments considered.
It’s your knowledge and input that drive the development of API standards. By participating in the API standards development process, you’ll not only be able to share your hard-earned depth of knowledge, you’ll also gain important knowledge by keeping up with the latest ideas and technologies.

The benefits you receive from committee participation are tremendous. You’ll be able to network with your peers, make important industry contacts, and interact with the best minds in the business.

You’ll share information, lessons learned, and stay up to date on the latest trends. It’s a total win-win situation — you’ll be able to soak up knowledge and stay technically competent while helping to keep the advances in the industry rolling along.

And as you help improve API standards, your company will reap the rewards also. Instead of developing standards on your own, your company can use the standards you helped work on. It’s not only efficient, it’s effective. And that’s music to your boss’s ears.
INVEST SOME TIME AND REALIZE A SUBSTANTIAL RETURN ON THAT INVESTMENT, FOR BOTH YOU AND YOUR ORGANIZATION.

Companies realize both tangible and intangible benefits from supporting the standardization of petroleum equipment, design requirements, and operational practices. These benefits apply to all facets of the petroleum production business with major emphasis on safety, cost avoidance and savings, quality, environmental performance, complying with government requirements, assuring equipment interchangeability and performance, and meeting the global needs of the industry.

Participation in API standardization activities allows companies to leverage their engineering resources by providing technical input of the company’s requirements to develop a document that can be regarded as a true industry standard. End users reap cost savings by procuring standard, readily available equipment at lower cost, and by having access to the industry’s “lessons learned” and best practices through this documentation. Additionally, industry standards written to meet users’ needs provide the essential foundation for minimizing company specifications, leading to lower capital and operating costs. Manufacturers also realize savings, since they need fewer manufacturing practices and related quality systems to meet these requirements.
In many cases, the existence of an API standard eliminates the need for government agencies to issue detailed regulations that impact oil and natural gas operations. And, the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act encourages use of industry consensus standards by government regulators, giving API standards committees a more direct role in this vital part of standardization.

Often, recommended practices that address common industry operations are standardized and then referenced by government agencies in regulations. Standards written by the industry and referenced in government regulations are invaluable because they are written by industry experts and interested parties in technical terms familiar to industry personnel.

This can save industry the time and costs associated with obtaining interpretations from government agencies on unclear regulatory language. Industry standards usually reflect real world operating conditions and practices. They can help make regulations more straightforward and less onerous to implement while still meeting the intended purpose of the regulation.
SHARE YOUR TALENTS AND EXPERIENCES AND DISCOVER THE STORY BEHIND THE STANDARDS.

WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?

Investing a few days a year on an API Standards Committee will provide returns many times over. You’ll work with the technical leaders in the industry, who apply expert technical knowledge in a practical way to problems we all face.

- Through working with the industry leaders, you’ll come to know the “story behind the standards,” the reasoning and perspective to apply the industry specifications with sound judgment and deep knowledge.

- Every subcommittee meeting results in information exchange on problems and opportunities. You’ll be there when experts share experiences from, literally, around the world.

- You’ll become recognized as an industry leader in your field of expertise. API standards committee members are acknowledged as the industry’s best talent and most knowledgeable individuals.

- API will regularly recognize your contributions with its Years of Service Awards Program, with notification to your management of your accomplishments.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE STANDARDS API IS WORKING ON.

API standards at various stages of development – new project, draft ballot, and final ballot – are announced periodically in the American National Standards Institute’s ANSI Standards Action, in the Federal Register, and on API’s website at www.api.org.

Information on the availability of published API standards, or on standards under development, is available from the API Standards Department, 1220 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005-4070, USA, or online at www.api.org.
JOIN UP AND JOIN IN ON THE IMPORTANT WORK OF STANDARDIZATION.
AN API STANDARDS COMMITTEE IS WAITING FOR YOU.

ACTIVE API STANDARDS COMMITTEES INCLUDE:

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDIZATION OF OILFIELD EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS
- Production Equipment
  - Tubular Goods
  - Valves
  - Field Production Equipment
  - Plastic Pipe
- Drilling Standards
  - Drill Stem Elements
  - Drilling and Servicing Equipment
  - Well Cements
  - Drilling Fluids
  - Drill Through Equipment
- Offshore/Subsea Standards
  - Offshore Structures
  - Subsea Equipment
- Completion Equipment
- Supply Chain Management
- Quality Standards
  - API Spec Q1®
  - API Spec Q2™

COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM MEASUREMENT
- Evaporative Loss Estimations
- Gas Fluid Measurement
- Liquid Measurement
- Measurement Accountability
- Measurement Quality
- Production Measurement and Allocation
- Measurement Education and Training

COMMITTEE ON REFINERY EQUIPMENT
- Corrosion and Materials
- Heat Transfer Equipment
- Piping and Valves
- Inspection
- Instruments and Control Systems
- Mechanical Equipment
- Pressure Vessels and Tanks
- Electrical Equipment
- Pressure Relieving Equipment
- Process Safety
- Safety and Fire Protection