

Referenced Standards in Model Codes

A model code is a compilation of minimum requirements based on a stated scope. Referenced standards set forth specific details of accepted practices, material specifications, or test methods in numerous specialized applications. When proposing a code change proposal with a specific standards reference, one should identify the code section(s) suitable for the standards reference and the specific application based on unique code requirements that support such reference.

The practical application of referencing standards in model codes must be considered on a case-by-case basis within their context and their applicability to provide guidance. Standards that are referenced in model codes carry an expectation of being as clear, concise and enforceable as code requirements. Referenced standards in model codes provide an efficient method of conveying complex information and specifications on the performance requirements for materials, products, systems and may provide instruction on applications and installation.

The manner and purpose for a standard's use and, in turn, code compliance, must be definitive in all references to the standard. If the standard is intended to be a requirement for judging code compliance, the code must state its intent for use. The standard should adequately address a defined need and at the same time specify the minimum performance requirements, technical characteristics and methods of testing, and required test results. A clear distinction must be made between requirements, statements, and recommendations. All relevant information is necessary to identify the specific referenced document as there may be more than one standard listed for the same material or equipment. By providing specifically adopted standards, the construction and installation requirements necessary for compliance with the code can be readily determined. The basis for code compliance is, therefore, established and available on an equal basis to the code official, contractor, designer and owner.

The referenced standards table is organized in a manner that makes it easy to locate specific standards. It lists all of the referenced standards, alphabetically, by acronym of the promulgating agency of the standard. Each agency's standards are then listed in either alphabetical or numeric order based upon the standard identification. The list also contains the title of the standard; the edition (date) of the standard referenced; and the section or sections of this code that reference the standard.

References to the correct promulgator and contact information should be located within this chapter in order to contact the promulgating agency for further information or ease of identification.

Guidelines

1.0 General.

1.1 Scope. These guidelines provide guidance to Technical Committees (TCs) for referencing mandatory standards. These guidelines are meant to supplement but not conflict with IAPMO's Regulations Governing Committee Projects. In order for a standard to be considered for reference or to continue to be referenced by the Codes, a standard shall meet the following criteria set forth in Section 2.0.

1.2 Code References. Mandatory standards shall be identifiable by title, date or edition, and name of the developing organization. The manner in which it is to be utilized shall be specifically referenced in the Code text (referenced section that applies), all in accordance with the IAPMO Manual of Style.

2.0 Standard Content.

Mandatory standards shall at a minimum include the following:

- (1) Standards or portions of standards- in order to be considered "Mandatory Standards" under these guidelines- shall be written using mandatory language and meet the requirements of Section 3-3.7.1 of the IAPMO Regulations Governing Committee Projects for the UPC/UMC and Section 15.0 of the Regulations Governing Consensus Development of the USEHC/USPSHTC.
- (2) The scope of application of a mandatory standard shall be clearly described. The scope defines without ambiguity the subject of the document and the aspects covered, thereby indicating the limits of applicability of the standard.
- (3) The measure of performance for which the test is conducted shall be clearly defined in either the test standard or in code text.

3.0 Referenced Standards Table.

The Referenced Standards Table shall include referenced standards and shall consist of three sections as follows:

- (1) Standards for Materials, Equipment, Joints and Connections. When more than one standard has been listed for the same material or method, the relevant portions of all such standards shall apply.

- (2) All reference listings in the Referenced Standards Table shall contain complete reference information (e.g., promulgator, standard number and date of publication, standard title, application, and referenced sections).
- (3) Abbreviations used in the Referenced Standards Table shall contain a list for the referenced promulgator and contact information located at the end of the chapter.

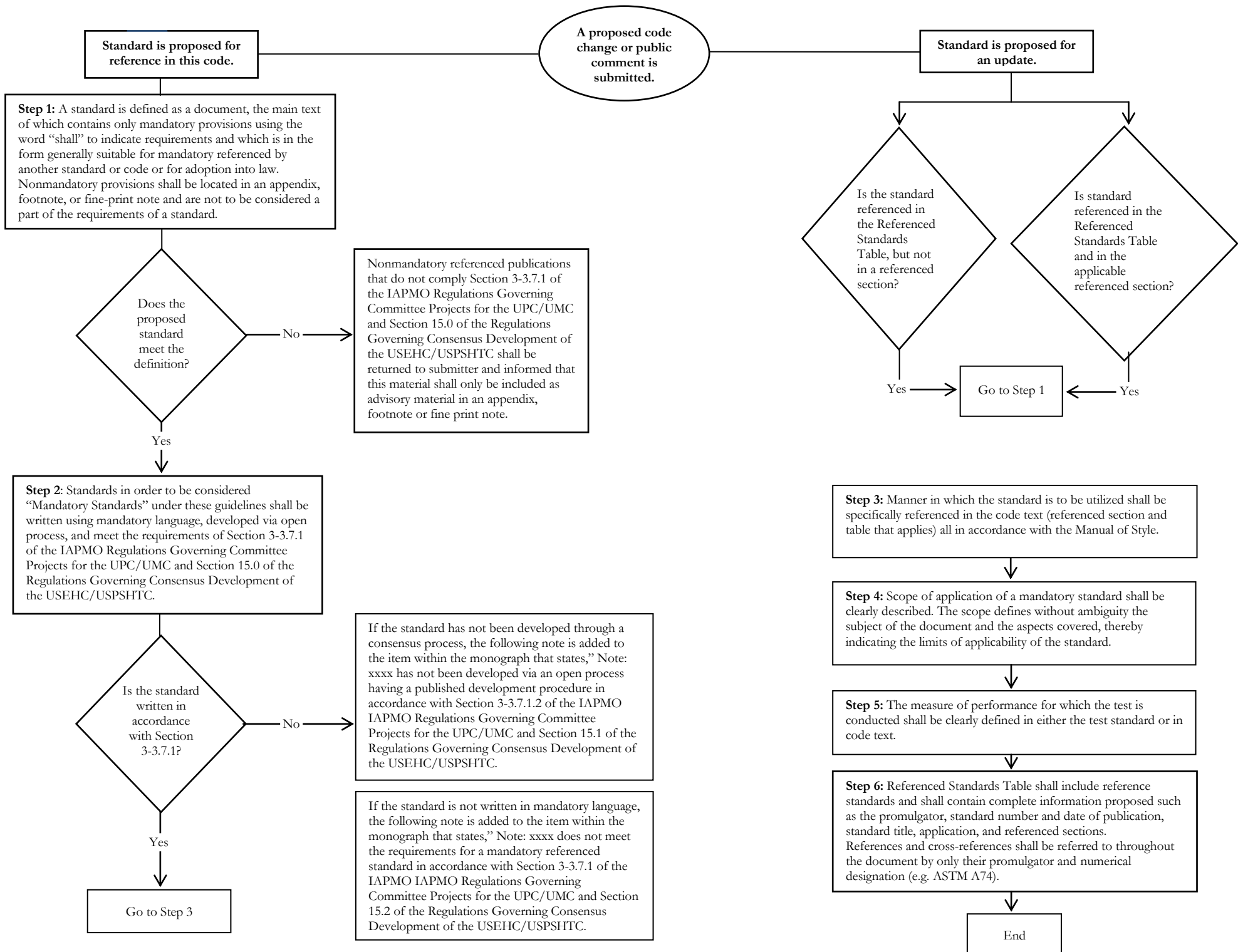
4.0 Indicating References.

References shall be referred to throughout the document by only their promulgator and numerical designation (e.g., ASTM A74).

4.1 Cross-References to Standards. A cross-reference to a standard shall include the standard promulgator and number (e.g., ASTM D2665)

5.0 Procedure for Updating Mandatory Standards.

Standards shall be kept current with that of the source document by administratively sending requests for updates to the standard promulgator. Updates shall be accomplished via a proposal or a comment during the regular revision process of the document.



Standard is proposed for reference in this code.

A proposed code change or public comment is submitted.

Standard is proposed for an update.

Step 1: A standard is defined as a document, the main text of which contains only mandatory provisions using the word “shall” to indicate requirements and which is in the form generally suitable for mandatory referenced by another standard or code or for adoption into law. Nonmandatory provisions shall be located in an appendix, footnote, or fine-print note and are not to be considered a part of the requirements of a standard.

Does the proposed standard meet the definition?

No

Nonmandatory referenced publications that do not comply Section 3-3.7.1 of the IAPMO Regulations Governing Committee Projects for the UPC/UMC and Section 15.0 of the Regulations Governing Consensus Development of the USEHC/USPSHTC shall be returned to submitter and informed that this material shall only be included as advisory material in an appendix, footnote or fine print note.

Yes

Step 2: Standards in order to be considered “Mandatory Standards” under these guidelines shall be written using mandatory language, developed via open process, and meet the requirements of Section 3-3.7.1 of the IAPMO Regulations Governing Committee Projects for the UPC/UMC and Section 15.0 of the Regulations Governing Consensus Development of the USEHC/USPSHTC.

Is the standard written in accordance with Section 3-3.7.1?

No

If the standard has not been developed through a consensus process, the following note is added to the item within the monograph that states, “Note: xxxx has not been developed via an open process having a published development procedure in accordance with Section 3-3.7.1.2 of the IAPMO IAPMO Regulations Governing Committee Projects for the UPC/UMC and Section 15.1 of the Regulations Governing Consensus Development of the USEHC/USPSHTC.

Yes

If the standard is not written in mandatory language, the following note is added to the item within the monograph that states, “Note: xxxx does not meet the requirements for a mandatory referenced standard in accordance with Section 3-3.7.1 of the IAPMO IAPMO Regulations Governing Committee Projects for the UPC/UMC and Section 15.2 of the Regulations Governing Consensus Development of the USEHC/USPSHTC.

Go to Step 3

Step 3: Manner in which the standard is to be utilized shall be specifically referenced in the code text (referenced section and table that applies) all in accordance with the Manual of Style.

Step 4: Scope of application of a mandatory standard shall be clearly described. The scope defines without ambiguity the subject of the document and the aspects covered, thereby indicating the limits of applicability of the standard.

Step 5: The measure of performance for which the test is conducted shall be clearly defined in either the test standard or in code text.

Step 6: Referenced Standards Table shall include reference standards and shall contain complete information proposed such as the promulgator, standard number and date of publication, standard title, application, and referenced sections. References and cross-references shall be referred to throughout the document by only their promulgator and numerical designation (e.g. ASTM A74).

End