

Accredited Standards Committee*
X3, Information Technology

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Project:

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Reply to: Mr. John Lohmeyer
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Mr. Jean-Paul Emard
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Dear Jean-Paul,

At X3T10's meeting last week, considerable time was spent debating the merits of ANSI's International Program Fee (mostly the lack thereof). As you know, I was directed to remove 22 people from X3T10's roles due to non-payment of the IPF. (Only 9 of these 22 people were in my attendance database. The others apparently had not attended any prior meetings.)

X3T10's membership passed the following motion related to this topic:

"The members of this committee demand that X3 investigate and respond to concerns expressed over the levying of the IPF (International Program Fee). Until such time as such action is taken, the members of this committee shall oppose the removal of the nine people listed above as members for a number of reasons:

- Correspondence on this subject has been continuing for two years with no response from ANSI or X3.
- Only X3 levies the IPF on the basis of participation in American Standards activities and this is an international fee.
- X3T10, X3T11, X3T12 (and pending X3T13) committee members participate in only one international activity.
- Documentation indicating that other standards secretariats levy the fee on the basis of individual participation, not committee participation.

It was further moved that the removal of the nine people listed above as the members of X3T10 be suspended until the listed concerns are addressed."

The following is additional information from the minutes on this topic:

"The motion was discussed at length. Very little was said favoring the current fee structure. Claims were made that IEEE collects the fee only on a individual participation basis and then only using an honor system. This lead to charges that X3 is financing IEEE international activities. John suggested that such claims were speculative, at best. Ed Gardner suggested that very little benefit is derived from international participation. Skip Jones suggested that X3T10 end its international participation and thus end payment of the fee.

John noted that he will not honor the requirement of the motion to reinstate the members. He stated that the SD-2 (X3 rules) give him no leeway regarding terminations for non-payment of fees. Despite this, the demands for John to ignore the X3 Secretariat were repeated several times.

The motion passed 39:0:0:12=51."

As you can see, I was put into a very difficult position. I cannot defend the fairness of the IPF because I frankly think it is unfair. Members of the T10, T11, and T12 Technical Committees are paying a disproportionate share of

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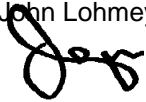
ANSI's expense of operating international secretariats. We only benefit from our share of the JTC-1 secretariat. We receive no value at all from ANSI's other secretariats, yet we pay as much or more in total dollars than other Technical Committees.

The big companies who off-loaded this burden several years ago are benefiting most from international standards. Small companies and consultants see almost no benefit from these standards. The IPF is perhaps the biggest rip-off recently perpetrated on the standards community. If this situation is not straightened out very soon, I plan to lobby for X3T10 to drop out of international standards work.

I also am embarrassed by X3's and ANSI's handling of Dal Allan's case. He has written multiple letters to X3 and ANSI with no response other than being terminated. I implore you to investigate this situation further. Dal has been a major contributor to standards work for close to two decades. He at least deserves a response to his correspondence. For reference, I am enclosing Dal's most recent letter to me on this topic (X3T10/95-365).

Regards,

John Lohmeyer, Chair X3T10



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