

ANSI/OESC TAG to ISO/TC 172/SC 5 Annual Report for 2010

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Number of Meetings Held during 2010: 1

Date: Sept 14-17

Location: Kyoto Japan

Number of Meetings Scheduled for 2011: 1

Date: September 20-23

Location: Washington, D.C.

List any significant accomplishments for ANSI/OEOSC TAG/SC 5 this year.

SC5 published no new standards published in 2010. At year end, SC5 was occupied with seven (7) Work Items included documents in various stages of completion: one (1) proof copy; two (2) at DIS stage; one (1) at Committee draft stage; three (3) at working draft stage. In addition, SC5 has eight (8) possible future projects under investigation.

The United States led the creation of a new standard ISO 19012 Optics and Photonics – Designation of microscope objectives; that will published in three parts. This standard brings international agreement on defining terminology of optical performance of microscope objectives which are critical to end users purchasing decisions. Prior to ISO 19012 the terminology was left entirely up to manufacturers to set their own guidelines, creating confusion and potential deception in the market. ISO 19012 Part 1: Flatness of field/plan, has already been published. 19012 Part 2: Chromatic Correction is in DIS stage. At the SC5 meeting in Kyoto, work continued on 19012 Part 3: Spectral Transmittance. When finished, this three part standard will unify critically important optical performance designations and will stand as some of the most important work to come out of SC5.

The United States also led the revision of ISO 8255-1 Cover glasses Part 1: dimensional tolerances, thickness and optical properties. As the resolution of biological light microscopes reaches the single molecule level of sensitivity, the requirements for the cover glass to match designers' specifications is essential. 8255-1 prior to revision did not agree with the US standard usage and the SC5 agreed to revise accordingly.

List any problems encountered by the ANSI/OEOSC TAG/SC 5 during the year

SC5 has struggled with our role in creation and maintenance of the ISO Concept Database. While we have been briefed by an SC5 member who also attends SC1 and works on the CDB, we are asking the Secretariat for more basic information on creation, usage, and maintenance.