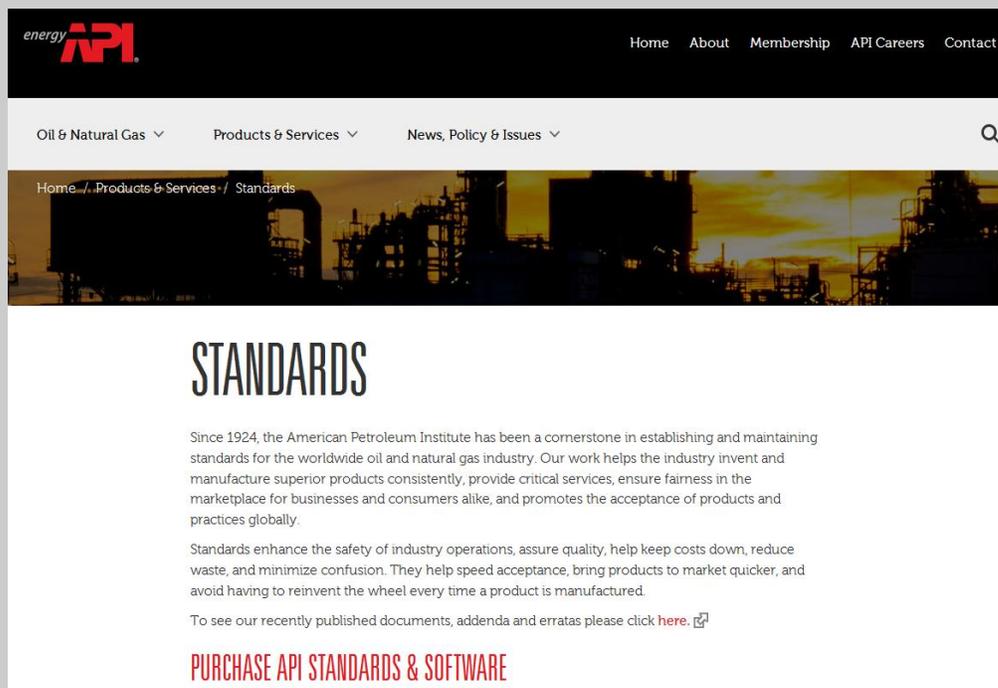


Home Page



Logo



URL

http://www.api.org/products-and-services/standards

Subject

Petroleum—Standards-- United States

Accessibility

On subscription basis

Language

English

Publisher

The American Petroleum Institute

Brief History

The American Petroleum Institute (API) was established on March 20, 1919. API is the only national trade association that represents all aspects of America’s oil and natural gas industry. The institute traces its beginning to World War I, when

Congress and the domestic oil and natural gas industry worked together to help the war effort. At that time, the industry included the companies created in 1911 after the court-imposed dissolution of Standard Oil and the "independents." These were companies that had been "independent" of Standard Oil. They had no experience working together, but they agreed to work with the government to ensure that vital petroleum supplies were rapidly and efficiently deployed to the armed forces. The National Petroleum War Service Committee, which oversaw this effort, was initially formed under the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and subsequently as a quasi-governmental body. After the war, momentum began to build to form a national association that could represent the entire industry in the postwar years. The industry's efforts to supply fuel during World War I not only highlighted the importance of the industry to the country but also its obligation to the public, as the original charter shows.

### *Scope and Coverage*

The American Petroleum Institute was established to afford a means of cooperation with the government in all matters of national concern, to foster foreign and domestic trade in American petroleum products, to promote in general the interests of the petroleum industry in all its branches, to promote the mutual improvement of its members and the study of the arts and sciences connected with the oil and natural gas industry. For more than 85 years, API has led the development of petroleum and petrochemical equipment and operating standards. These represent the industry's collective wisdom on everything from drill bits to environmental protection and embrace proven, sound engineering and operating practices and safe, interchangeable equipment and materials. API maintains 685 standards and recommended practices. Many have been incorporated into state and federal regulations; and increasingly, they're also being adopted by the International Organization for Standardization, a global federation of more than 100 standards groups.

### *Kind of Information*

Since 1924, the American Petroleum Institute has been a cornerstone in establishing and maintaining standards for the worldwide oil and natural gas industry. It helps the industry invent and manufacture superior products consistently, provide critical services, ensure fairness in the marketplace for businesses and consumers alike, and promotes the acceptance of products and practices globally. Standards enhance the safety of industry operations, assure quality, help to keep costs down, reduce waste, and minimize confusion. They help speed acceptance, bring products to market quicker, and avoid having to reinvent the wheel every time a product is manufactured. API defines and drafts standards for measurement for manufactured products such as Precision thread gauges, Plain plug and ring gauges, Thread measuring systems, Metrology and industrial supplies, Measuring instruments, Custom gauges, Precision machining and grinding, ISO 17025 registered calibration. Among API standards, the API information technology standards cover EDI, eBusiness, telecommunications, and information technology applications for the oil and natural gas industry. Users can browse for the standards and get information from a link available under the heading "Standards". Here the standards are arranged and provides the information like the name or the full title of the standards, name of the organizing body, availability, price, full description, product detail like the edition, the date of publication etc., document history, and also

provides links to related products from API.

***Special Features***

API organizes seminars, workshops, conferences and symposia on public policy issues. Through API University, we provide training materials to help people in the oil and natural gas business meet regulatory requirements and industry standards.

***Arrangement Pattern***

The standards are organized by the categories like Exploration & Production, Petroleum Measurement, Marketing, Transportation, Refining, Safety and Fire Protection, Health and Environmental Issues, API Data Products, Policy and Economic Studies, Communications and Education Outreach etc., in a pdf file available in the website. One can get information from there. Under the API Publication store, the standards can be arranged by chronologically the date of the publication or by the alphabetically by the titles of the standards or by the document numbers.

***Remarks***

API's mission is to promote safety across the industry globally and to influence public policy in support of a strong, viable U.S. oil and natural gas industry. API speaks for the oil and natural gas industry to the public, Congress and the Executive Branch, state governments and the media. It negotiates with regulatory agencies, represent the industry in legal proceedings, participate in coalitions and work in partnership with other associations to achieve its members' public policy goals.

***Comparable Tools***

- American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) International Standards (<https://www.astm.org/>)

***Date of Access***

March 6, 2017