

Units of Measure
- How many standards?

What is a standard?

- A standard is nothing more than an agreement across a particular community of interest, to achieve mutual benefit, based on the best available knowledge and technology
- Implementation is voluntary, unless mandated by legal or commercial constraints

Key principles

- Consensus - The views of all interests should be taken into account - manufacturers, vendors and users, consumer groups, testing laboratories, governments, engineering professions and research organizations
- Industry wide - Global solutions to satisfy industries and customers worldwide
- Voluntary - International standardization is market driven and therefore based on voluntary involvement of all interests in the market-place.

Why have multiple standards?

- Different scopes?
 - Is there any opposition to one set of UoM definitions?
- Different stakeholder needs for content?
 - Subsets of the single set of definitions is OK
- Different communities of interest?
 - No need for incompatibility
- Different representations?
 - Text
 - XML
 - Ontology

Other barriers to single standards

- Regional variations
- Conflict in definitions
 - Surely no outstanding issues in this field
- Failure to read existing documents
- Protection of existing projects/funding
- Need to have open availability
 - Publicly available free of charge