



Revised Oct. 1, 2010

Fact Sheet

- Organization:** ASME is a not-for-profit professional organization that enables collaboration, knowledge sharing and skill development across all engineering disciplines, while promoting the vital role of the engineer in society.
- Member Services:** Codes and Standards Development
Career Education
Conferences and Publications
Government Outreach
Scholarships, Awards and Grants
- Member Technical Groups:** Basic Engineering
Energy Conversion
Engineering and Technology Management
Environment and Transportation
International Petroleum Technology
Manufacturing
Pressure Technology
Systems and Design
- Members:** More than 120,000 worldwide
- Founded:** 1880
- Headquarters:** New York City, NY
US offices: New Jersey, Washington DC, Georgia, Texas
International offices: Belgium, China, India
- Financial Status:** Not-for-profit membership organization
- Management:** Robert T. Simmons, President
Victoria A. Rockwell, President-nominee
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Organization Backgrounder

Mission

To serve our diverse global communities by advancing, disseminating and applying engineering knowledge for improving the quality of life; and communicating the excitement of engineering

Vision

ASME will be the essential resource for mechanical engineers and other technical professionals throughout the world for solutions that benefit humankind.

History

ASME was founded in 1880 to provide a setting for discussion among engineers regarding the key issues and concerns brought by the rise in industrialization and mechanization, particularly in the area of machine safety and reliability. The Society's founders were some of the more prominent machine builders and technical innovators of the late nineteenth century, including Alexander Lyman Holley and Robert H. Thurston the Society's first president. One of their chief interests was the development of standard tools and machine parts and uniform work practices ensuring reliability and predictability in machine design and mechanical production.

In the first years, the fledgling ASME became a focal point for discussing standards addressing screw threads, pump and valve dimensions, and other mechanical components growing in use on farms and in production factories and machine works. In 1914, the Society achieved a significant organizational milestone, producing the first edition of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, *Rules for the Construction of Stationary Boilers and for Allowable Working Pressures*. In the years following the publication of the first Boiler Code, ASME developed engineering standards in numerous technical areas and industries, including pipeline production, elevators and escalators, materials handling, gas turbines, and nuclear power.

ASME Today

ASME is a membership organization recognized globally for its leadership in providing the engineering community with technical content and a forum for information exchange. With a membership of more than 120,000 mechanical engineers and allied professionals from around the world, ASME serves this wide-ranging technical community through high-quality programs in the development and maintenance of codes and standards, continuing education, research, conferences and publications, advocacy, and various forms of outreach.

ASME members are the lifeblood of the organization. Many engineers join ASME for career enrichment, lifelong learning and the opportunity to network and exchange ideas with professionals of like-minded interests. Others become active in local sections or in ASME's administrative structure of boards and committees, providing leadership and expertise to the Society and profession at large.

The volunteer leaders of ASME work in collaboration with a professional staff to shape the Society's programs and strategies and make them available to engineers around the world. ASME administers its programs through offices and institutes in the United States, Belgium, China and India, and through various committees and groups, to ensure that the myriad technical interests of the global engineering community are met. The governance of the Society is the responsibility of a member-elected board of governors.

Strategic Focus

To achieve its vision, the Society has identified three strategic initiatives aimed at addressing global concerns for a sustainable future and the relevant work of the greater engineering community.



Energy – ASME will serve as an essential energy technology resource and leading advocate for balanced energy policies. Specifically, ASME will serve as an energy technology resource for business, government, academia, practicing engineers and the general public as a leading energy policy advocate for balanced energy policies in the U.S. and other areas of the world.



Engineering Workforce Development – ASME will foster a broader, competent, vibrant and more diverse engineering workforce with improved retention in both the profession and ASME over all career stages. Specifically, the Society will expand the capacity and effectiveness of the engineering workforce, promote the public good and increase public awareness of the value of the engineering profession.



Global Impact – ASME will deliver locally relevant engineering resources to advance public safety and quality of life throughout the world. Specifically, ASME will provide locally relevant standards, certification, technical information, networking, and advocacy for business, government, academia and practicing engineers to positively impact the quality of life throughout the world.

Member Services Overview

Codes and Standards Development

ASME members have contributed to the development of more than 500 codes and standards used in more than 100 countries. The organization's codes and standards committees consist of more than 4,000 member engineers, designers, manufacturers, users, inspectors and even representatives of regulatory agencies. These committees continually revise and update engineering codes and standards to reflect changes in technology.

Some of ASME's notable codes and standards include those for boiler and pressure vessels, pipeline production, elevators and escalators, materials handling, gas turbines and nuclear power. The Standards Technology Institute in the United States and the Consortium for Standards and Conformity Assessment in China ensure that these codes are available for purchase by engineers around the world.

Career Education

ASME engages in direct outreach to future and current engineers at every point in their education. The Society provides guidance materials to K-12 teachers that help students develop a higher understanding of science, technology, engineering and math, with the intention of inspiring students to embark on technical career paths. At the higher education level, ASME maintains more than 500 student sections involving 27,000+ students at colleges and universities around the world. The Society provides scholarships and financial assistance to student members and sponsors notable design competitions such as the ASME Human-Powered Vehicle Challenge and the ASME Student Design Competition.



ASME is also strongly focused on the needs of the early career engineer. The Society sponsors career fairs, workshops, continuing education classes, in-company training programs and online courses through ASME Training & Development, formally known as the Continuing Education Institute (CEI).

Conferences and Publications

ASME's conferences and publications are primary vehicles for disseminating technical information to the engineering community. The Society's preeminent technical conference is the annual International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition. ASME also sponsors ongoing symposia, workshops and virtual seminars on relevant industry topics.

ASME also possesses an extensive, internationally recognized publishing operation. The Society publishes codes and standards, conference proceedings and transactions journals. In addition, ASME Press releases engineering manuals, academic texts, codes and standards guidebooks and maintains a digital library that includes e-books. Finally, ASME also publishes *Mechanical Engineering* magazine, among many other member communications.

Government Outreach

The ASME Washington Center connects Society members with federal and state government officials in order to provide assistance on public policy issues. ASME's current public policy priorities include energy initiatives; science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education; American innovation and competitiveness; research and development; environmental issues; and an ongoing emphasis on standards development.

ASME issues position statements and briefings on these public policy issues, such as the U.S. Energy Grand Challenge Congressional briefing series. ASME's Federal Government Fellowship Program affords members the opportunity to serve a one-year term on the professional staffs of senators, congressional representatives, congressional committees, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and other federal agencies. ASME also provides technical input to state government officials through appointed member coordinators.

Scholarships, Awards and Grants



The **ASME Foundation** annually offers more than \$500,000 in awards, grants and scholarships to ASME members. The **Foundation Grants Program** provides monetary assistance to ASME members that are engaged in technical literacy, career planning, skills development and public policy projects. In addition, the **FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)** program awards scholarships to high school seniors, undergraduate and graduate students for their achievements in this annual robotics competition.



Member Technical Groups

Basic Engineering Technical Group

- Applied Mechanics Division
- Bioengineering Division
- Fluids Engineering Division
- Heat Transfer Division
- Materials Division
- Tribology Division

Energy Conversion Group

- Internal Combustion Engines Division
- Nuclear Engineering Division
- Power Division
- Advanced Energy Systems Division
- Solar Energy Division

Engineering and Technology Management Group

- Management Division
- Safety Engineering and Risk Analysis Division
- Technology and Society Division

Environment and Transportation Group

- Aerospace Division
- Environmental Engineering Division
- Noise Control and Acoustics Division
- Rail Transportation Division
- Solid Waste Processing Division

Manufacturing Technical Group

- Manufacturing Engineering Division
- Materials Handling Engineering Division
- Rail Transportation Division
- Solid Waste Processing Division

Pressure Technology Group

- Nondestructive Evaluation (NDE)
- Engineering Division
- Pressure Vessels and Piping Division

Systems and Design Group

- Computers and Information in Engineering Division
- Design Engineering Division
- Dynamic Systems and Control Division
- Electronic and Photonic Packaging Division
- Fluid Power Systems and Technology Division
- Information Storage and Processing Systems Division
- Microelectromechanical Systems (MEMS) Division

International Petroleum Technology Institute

- Pipeline Systems Division
- Petroleum Division
- Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering Division