

THE COMMITTEE  
FOR  
GRAPHIC ARTS  
TECHNOLOGIES  
STANDARDS  
(CGATS)

## **The Committee for Graphic Arts Technologies Standards (CGATS)**

The Committee for Graphic Arts Technologies Standards (CGATS) was formed in 1987 following a year-long assessment of the need for an umbrella standards committee by the Image Technology Standards Board (ITSB) of ANSI, and received ANSI accreditation in 1989. The goal of CGATS is to have the entire scope of printing, publishing and converting technologies represented in one national standardization and coordination effort, while respecting the established activities of existing accredited standards committees and industry standards developers.

**CGATS writes standards only where the need exists and no other committee is undertaking the writing.**

Thus, in addition to developing standards for the industry, CGATS also provides a vehicle for other industry organizations that have specifications to work under the CGATS "umbrella" to move their work into the standards arena, and have the work further developed and approved as an American National Standard. Several such joint efforts have been undertaken, resulting in the development of an ANSI CGATS standard.

The committee works to improve the efficiency of national standards development, facilitates information exchange, coordinates multi-discipline standards activities and provides liaison for international standards development.

CGATS has standards, either approved or in draft, relating to pallet loading of printed materials, metrology, terminology, plates, process control, electronic transmission of publication ads, digital data exchange, color data definition, design workflow for packaging, and ink and color characterization for packaging. The activities involving digital data exchange and color data definition were activities formerly under the IT8 Committee. Beginning in 1994, that work continued under the administrative structure of CGATS.

The CGATS main committee consists of Participating (voting) members and Observing (non-voting) members.

Work on the standards is done within subcommittees (SC), working groups (WG), or task forces (TF). In accordance with ANSI procedures, all standards undergo a periodic review every five years to determine whether to reaffirm, revise or withdraw the standard.

CGATS meetings and membership are open to anyone having an interest. Committee documents are available from the CGATS Secretariat, NPES, or online at <http://www.npes.org/standards/CGATS.html>.

### **You can be involved in standards development!**

Membership on CGATS and its subcommittees is open to anyone having an interest. To apply for CGATS membership please use a photocopy of the membership application in this book or download a membership application from <http://www.npes.org/standards/workroom.html>.

Standards result from extensive technical discussions to find solutions to meet identified needs. Much of the work is developed in face-to-face meetings, supplemented by conference calls and e-mail exchanges. However, even if you are not able to travel and attend meetings, you can still contribute your expertise to the standards development process by reviewing and commenting on documents.

## Subcommittees, Working Groups, and Task Forces

- **Special Task Force 1 - Electronic Design Workflow for Packaging** is developing standard industry practices that encompass the entire packaging workflow, regardless of printing process. This includes the identification of a model, or reference, workflow for the package development process, from the identification of a project through preparation of an approved production file. Although the work defines the set of information that needs to be addressed in a workflow, it allows for variations based on individual needs, and is intended to be used as a reference in the creation of workflow procedures for specific organizations or products.
- **Special Task Force 2 - Ink and Color Characterization for Packaging** is focusing on the development of a procedure to characterize package printing of standard and non standard process colors, and is attempting to define reference conditions applicable to ranges of package printing. This includes the development of standardized color targets, as well as other tools and guidelines.
- **Subcommittee 2 - Plates** investigates the need for graphic arts printing plate standards, and identifies existing standards/specifications prior to initiating any standards development activity. SC 2 coordinates its work with other standards developers to insure there is no overlapping work. Where plate standards needs exist and are not being met by existing developers, SC 2 will develop these standards through the ANSI consensus process. It also provides input into the related work being done in ISO TC 130 WG4, and helps to formulate the official U.S. position in the area of plate and blanket standards.
- **Subcommittee 3 - Metrology** develops standards for the measurement of optical characteristics (e.g., densitometry, colorimetry, etc.) of graphic arts images and materials. SC 3 also reviews other national and international work in the area of densitometry and metrology that may impact graphic arts, and provides comments when appropriate. SC 3 also functions as an advisory task force to the US TAG to ISO TC 130 in this subject area, and maintains interaction with other U.S. and international organizations in this area.
- **Subcommittee 3 Task Force 1 - Objective Match Evaluation** was formed to develop a method and provide a metric that will estimate the probability that hardcopy images reproduced by single or multiple systems, using identical input, will appear the same to the typical human observer, and to investigate the development of a method that can be used to do the quantification.
- **Subcommittee 4 - Process Control** develops standards that support the application of printing process control (e.g., process definition, characterization, analysis, control tools, etc.). SC 4 reviews other national and international work in the area of process control that may impact graphic arts, and provides comments when appropriate. SC 4 also functions as an advisory task force to the US TAG to ISO TC 130 in this subject area, and maintains interaction with other U.S. and international organizations in this area.
- **Subcommittee 5 - Materials Handling** identifies needs relating to handling of materials used in, or produced by, the printing process. Where needs are not currently being met, SC 5 will work through the ANSI consensus process to develop, or cooperate in the development of, consensus standards. Wherever appropriate, approved national and international standards will be utilized.
- **Subcommittee 6 Task Force 1 - PDF/X**, which is developing a set of standards to be used for the electronic exchange of files using Adobe's Portable Document Format (PDF). This work is being done in cooperation with ISO TC 130 WG 2 TF2, and is resulting in a set of ANSI/ISO standards.
- **Subcommittee 6 Task Force 2 - Variable Data Exchange**, which is developing a standard relating to the creation and exchange of documents that combine both database information and variable content. The standard defines the use of content from current design applications and variable information from common database applications.

- **Subcommittee 6 Task Force 3 - Diecutting Data (IT8.6)** maintains IT8.6-2002, Graphic technology - Prepress digital data exchange - Diecutting data (DDES3). First issued in 1991 and revised in 2002, this standard establishes a data exchange format to enable transfer of numerical control information between diecutting systems and between diecutting systems and electronic prepress systems.

### **Approved CGATS and IT8 Technical Standards**

Please refer to **Chapter 11: List of Available Technical and Safety Standards**, at the end of this book.

Copies of these standards can be purchased by contacting the NPES Publications Department, Tel: 703-264-7200; E-mail: [orders@npes.org](mailto:orders@npes.org), or by downloading the Order Form for Technical Standards from the NPES website <http://www.npes.org/standards/orderform.html>.

## CGATS Participants

The following companies and organizations are represented on CGATS, its subcommittees, or both:

Acme Printing Co., Inc.	DuPont/Imaging Technologies
Adobe Systems Incorporated	Eastman Kodak Company
Advanced Decision Sciences	EastWest Creative
Agfa Corporation	Elateral Ltd.
Airlines Reporting Corporation	Electronics for Imaging, Inc.
ALCAN Packaging Services AG	Enfocus Software NV
Alliance Group	Enfocus Software, Inc.
Allison Systems, Inc.	Enovation Graphic Systems, Inc.
ALWAN Color Expertise	ERA
American Color Graphics	Esko-Graphics
Amgraph Packaging Inc.	Expedi Printing, Inc.
Apago, Inc.	FCA Associates
Arden Software	Flexographic Technical Association, Inc.
Arizona State University	Flint Ink
Art Director's Service	Fundacion Gutenberg, Inst. Argen
ASTM F5	GATF/PIA
Banta Corporation	Genline Systems, Inc.
Berkshire Westwood Graphics Group	Global Graphics Software
Bowling Green State University	grafikAmerica, Inc.
Canon USA Inc.	Graphic Packaging Corporation
Capps Digital	Graphics Microsystems Inc.
Cassata & Associates	Gravure Association of America
CCL Label	GretagMacBeth
Chuck Blevins & Associates	GTI Graphic Technology Inc.
Cimex	Hearst Magazines
Citation Software, Inc.	Heidelberg U.S.A.
City University of New York-College of Technology	Helwan University-Cairo-Egypt
Clemson University	Henry Wurst, Inc.
Color Communications Inc.	Hershey Foods Corporation
ColorInfo Technology	Hewlett Packard
ColorMark a division of Color Co	HighWater Designs Ltd.
Color Sciences	Horsell Graphic Industries
Computer Integrated Color	IDEALLiance
Courier Corporation	INSYNC.MEDIA
Creo	Integrated Color Solutions, Inc.
Creo Americas, Inc.	International Association of Diecutting & Diemaking
Dainippon Screen Engineering of America	International Paper - Thilmany Division
Dalim Software	International Prepress Association
Dalton & Robinson	Jet Letter, Inc.
Dartmouth Printing Company	Jonco Die Company Inc.
Data Technology, Inc.	Kandu Software Corp.
Datalogics, Inc.	Ken Specialties
Deluxe Engraving	Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Denver Newspaper Agency	Kodak Polychrome Graphics
DiamondSoft, Inc.	Kodak Versamark
Digital Now Incorporated	Kraft Foods
Dimensional Impressions	Lasercut, Inc.
DuPont Experimental Station	Latran Technologies, LLC.

Lexmark International, Inc. CPD  
Lipson Alport Glass & Associates  
LSI/Kala  
Max Daetwyler Corporation  
Merrill Lynch  
Mitsubishi Imaging (MPM), Inc.  
MooreWallace  
National Association of Litho Clubs  
National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers  
National University of Singapore  
Network PDF  
Newspaper Association of America  
Newspaper Vendor Group  
NexPress Solutions LLC  
NISO  
NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing,  
Publishing and Converting Technologies  
Oceana  
One Vision, Inc.  
Ontario Beach Systems  
Ormet  
PBM Graphics, Inc.  
PDF Sages, LLC  
Perfect Pallets, Inc.  
PFU Limited  
Philadelphia Newspapers, Inc.  
Photographer At Large  
Piranha, Inc.  
Precision Color, Inc.  
Printpack  
Quad/Graphics  
Quad/Tech, Inc. (QTI)  
Quality House of Graphics  
Quark Inc.  
Quebecor World, Inc.  
Rampage Systems, Inc.  
Rave Design  
Reality Information Systems  
Research & Engineering Council of NAPL  
RGB Metrology  
RIT/College of Imaging Arts & Sciences  
RIT/School of Print Media  
RIT/T & E Center  
RMG Consulting

RR Donnelley  
Schawk Cincinnati  
Schawk Global  
Schawk NYC  
Schawkgraphics  
Schroeder & Bogardus Die Co.  
Shira Computers Ltd.  
Smurfit-Stone Container Corp.  
Society for Imaging Science & Technology  
Somerville Packaging  
SouthEastern Die Co., Inc.  
Southern Graphics  
Southern Living Magazine  
Specialized Packaging Group, Inc.  
Specialty Graphic Imaging Association  
International  
Stratis Plastic Pallets  
Sun Chemical Corporation  
SW Tilden  
The Packaging Department  
The Washington Post  
Think121.com  
Time Inc.  
Tobias Associates, Incorporated  
Transcontinental Printing Inc.  
Universal Printing Company  
Valassis Communications  
Valassis Inserts  
VariPath Technologies  
Vertis, Inc.  
Vertis, Inc. (VCC Group)  
Vio Inc.  
vLogix, Inc.  
VPI Color  
Wegener  
Westvaco Corporation  
William Fox Munroe, Inc.  
Xeikon America, Inc.  
Xeikon International N.V.  
Xerox Corporation  
Xerox Document Systems and Solutions  
X-Rite, Inc.  
Z-Tech, Inc.  
Zwang & Company

This page intentionally blank.

# Membership Application

## Committee for Graphic Arts Technologies Standards (CGATS)

### 1. CHECK ONE:

- I would like to apply for Participating Membership on CGATS. *Voting membership: Participating members are expected to attend meetings and/or comment on document drafts, and return all ballots*
- I would like to apply for Observing Membership on CGATS. *Non-voting membership: Observing members receive minutes, document drafts, and meeting notices*

### 2. CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Delegate

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Alternate (optional)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Any participant of the CGATS committee must have a valid email address to receive all documents, correspondence, ballots, etc.*

### 3. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

*If one or more representative will participate in subcommittee activities, please check those of interest. Indicate name of representative(s), and level of interest: Participating (voting) or Observing (non-voting). If participant is other than Delegate or Alternate, please provide contact information on a separate page.*

Subcommittees (see previous pages for details)	Name(s)	Participating (voting)	Observing (non-voting)
<input type="checkbox"/> STF1 - Digital Workflow for Packaging	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> STF2 - Ink & Color Char. for Packaging	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC2 - Plate Dimensions	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC3 - Metrology	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC3 TF1 – Objective Match Evaluation	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC4 - Process Control	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC5 - Material Handling	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC6 TF1 - PDF/X	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC6 TF2 – VDX	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SC6 TF3 - Diecutting Data (IT8.6)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*CGATS Membership Application Page 1 of 2 – please complete **BOTH** pages*

**4. CHECK ONE WHICH BEST DESCRIBES YOUR ORGANIZATION:**

- Manufacturer
- User (non-manufacturer)
- Association
- Consultant (individual)
- Government
- Educator/Educational Institution

**5. PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ORGANIZATION'S BUSINESS**

*If you are applying for Participating Membership this information will be included on the ballot of your membership.*

**6. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

*Fees include membership on the full committee as well as selected subcommittees. Payment (if applicable) must accompany application. See FEE STRUCTURE, below, for details.*

- Check (payable to NPES)
  - American Express     Visa     MasterCard     Diner's Club/Carte Blanche     Discover
- Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Verification #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Verification #: 3-4 digits on back of credit card after card #. Credit card orders cannot be processed without verification #.*
- Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEE STRUCTURE**

	<u>Participating (voting) Membership</u>		<u>Observing (non-voting) Membership</u>	
	<b>NPES Members</b>	<b>Non-Members</b>	<b>NPES Members</b>	<b>Non-Members</b>
Co. 250+ employees	\$0.00	\$600.00	Observer	\$250.00
Co. 100-250 employees	\$0.00	\$375.00		
Co. under 100 employees	\$0.00	\$300.00		
Association	N/A	\$200.00		
Consultant (individual)	N/A	\$200.00		
Government	N/A	\$0.00		
Educator/Edu. Institution	N/A	\$0.00		

**PLEASE RETURN BOTH PAGES OF YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:**

NPES  
 Attn: Standards Department  
 1899 Preston White Drive  
 Reston, VA 20191-4367

Tel: 703/264-7200  
 Fax: 703/620-0994  
 E-mail: [standards@npes.org](mailto:standards@npes.org)

*CGATS Membership Application Page 2 of 2 – please complete **BOTH** pages.*