CASEWORK STANDARDS COMPLIANCE VALIDATION

When contracts specify that wood casework for a new building project should “be built to current AWI Standards,” are you ready to comply with the new ANSI/AWI 0641-2019—Architectural Wood Casework Standard?


Do your product enhancements or processes meet the Standard’s performance requirements?
How do you prove they do?
You’ll want to protect your reputation for quality craftsmanship, built to specs and manufactured to the current performance requirements of AWI Standards. Introduction of the new ANSI-approved 0641 Standard ELEVATES AWI Standards above previous versions.

You’ll want validation. And, that’s were performance testing comes into play.

Compliance Validation
There are several ways to prove your wood casework is compliant with the 0641 Standard. Providing test results confirms your claims that your casework meets current AWI Standards. You have a choice of using the prescriptive construction method or using performance-based testing of your company’s proprietary manufacturing practices.

AWI Family Gatherings: Connect, Learn, Share!

Last month AWI launched a new way to connect with AWI National and other members!

Titled “Family Gatherings,” they are online forums which take place on Fridays at 3:00 pm (ET).

Get involved, learn, share and build connections within the AWI family of members. These gatherings also are a great way to end your week.

Recorded Forums
On June 12th the online AWI forum addressed “Advanced or Retreating? The Restart Begins” featuring Dr. Chris Kuehl, Managing Director of Armada Corporate Intelligence. He reviewed economic trends, with an eye to where business is heading as states open up. The conversation is

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Coming Next Month
• CODBS Results

Skills USA : OFFICIAL SPONSOR
ConsensusDocs : ENDORSED BY AWI
one part of an ongoing discussion regarding, what we thought in April, what actually happened in May and then what indicators are pointing towards the 3rd and 4th quarters.

On June 19, another forum on Industry Impacts, focused on “Remain Calm and Build On” in a year without IWF, which was canceled due to COVID-19 and will take place in Atlanta in 2022.

If you miss the Family Gatherings, the recorded forums are accessible in the Members Area of www.awinet.org, where you can click on the drop-down “Members Only” menu for “Webinars”.

How to Connect
Whether you have attended all the recent AWI webinars or if you are just getting involved, we are excited to have you join the weekly Friday Family Gatherings! To attend, respond to AWI’s email inviting your registration, which is free of charge as a benefit of your AWI membership.

Are you maximizing the value of your AWI membership? Do you know the AWI staff member or office you should call about your membership, AWI programs, publications or services? Use this list as a guide to staff who are links to information and AWI services. Emails and phone numbers for each are available at www.awinet.org.

**AWI STAFF… At Your Service**

**Are** you maximizing the value of your AWI membership? Do you know the AWI staff member or office you should call about your membership, AWI programs, publications or services? Use this list as a guide to staff who are links to information and AWI services. Emails and phone numbers for each are available at www.awinet.org.

**Administation**

Responsibilities: Administration, Policy, Finance

Doug Hague, Executive Vice President

Barbara Wert, Accounting Manager

Meredith Dorey, Accounts Receivable

**Education**

Responsibilities: Webinars, Education Outreach, Leadership Conference, Convention Education Program, Speakers Bureau, SkillsUSA

Wade Thaxon, Education Director

Sue Sicilian, Education Coordinator

**Membership & Marketing**

Responsibilities: Membership, Chapters, Best Practice Groups, Publications, Website, Social Media, Outreach

Katie Allen, Director of Marketing & Membership

Taylor Shaughnessy, Membership Manager

Margaret Fisher, Strategic Outreach & Relations

Debby Heidler, Membership Assistant
Make AWI’s powerful Digital Learning Portal (DLP), www.awinet.org, your “go to” resource for education resources, AWI Standards, AWI member woodwork specializations, AWI publications and other resources, as well as shared industry and technical information from AWI Community.

Enter the Members Area of the website by signing in with your user login at the top right corner of the home page. Then use the powerful SEARCH feature in the middle of the screen for entry to a wealth of information.

Enter “Duty Levels” in the SEARCH window. The search reveals 69 results (everything) comprised of AWI Community discussions, Standards, Education, General and Glossary. The results include: Duty Level Typical Applications, Determination of Product Performance Duty Level, Structural, Testing, and much more. You can narrow your search by selecting “Content Type” on the left of the screen.

Get the facts from the DLP and make it your “go to” resource for a wealth of information never before available—or possible—from AWI.

**AWI Digital Portal Quickstart Guide**

- **Make sure you’re signed in**
  The AWI Digital Portal remembers your bookmarks and knows your member status, so your complete, personalized experience is just a sign-in away.

- **Enter a search term to get started**
  The sitewide smart search feature provides fully-integrated access to community posts, education materials, standards, and more from one search.

- **Filter by content type**
  Expand the filters in the left navigation pane to narrow your search results to just the type of content you’re looking for. Then, simply click to access the content.

- **Bookmark, Save, Share**
  Standards and Education pages have enhanced features at the top of the page:  
  - Bookmark: Add the page to your favorites 
  - Save: Download a local copy of the current page 
  - Share: Create a link on another platform

Visit the new online home of AWI Standards at awinet.org
Adherence to this ANSI / AWI Standard ELEVATES your company above those not doing so.

**Option 1:** If you are an AWI member in good standing, you may use AWI’s “standard” detailed test reports for submission with your bid, if you build your cabinets exactly to construction methods already tested under rigorous conditions by AWI at its National Testing Center in Americus, GA. “That means that you must build your cabinets exactly according to what was tested,” emphasized AWI Technical Committee Chair Greg Lutz of Lutz Woodworks.

What Does Duty Level Really Mean?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Duty Level</th>
<th>Typical Application</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duty Level 1</td>
<td>Light Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Level 2</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Level 3</td>
<td>Institutional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Level 4</td>
<td>Laboratory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Duty Level 3 is the default, based on the Architectural Woodwork Standards, Edition 2 (2014)

**Option 2:** If you build your cabinets incorporating your company’s proprietary machining methods and product enhancements, you may have your cabinets tested either by the AWI National Testing Center or by an independent laboratory which must use the performance criteria noted in the new 0641 Wood Casework Standard. A report delineating the test results will be provided for submission with your bid for the project.

“The results of the tests conducted for proprietary casework will in such cases be the woodworker’s exclusive property, and will not be available to any other architectural woodworker, thereby keeping such proprietary methods in strict confidence for competitive purposes. “A proprietary test is exclusive to the manufacturer. AWI will not make such a proprietary methodology an approved AWI method available generically. This is added protection for the manufacturer,” Greg affirmed.

“Additionally, Quality Certification Program inspection also offers additional assurance of compliance with the AWI Standards and of course will continue and expand in scope.”

Test Reports

Reports of rigorously conducted tests by a laboratory give you leverage when competing for other similar jobs. Bear in mind, however, that the tests address very specific design and construction methods.

So, adherence to this ANSI / AWI Standard ELEVATES your company above those not doing so. Furthermore, the test reports affirm that your product will perform according to test results. Together, the documents ELEVATE your construction practices and claims to a new level – above the rest!

Completion of the test report content is coming soon. Stay tuned for announcements in e-briefs as details become available.

Performance Test Inquiries

Need help determining if you need and want your products tested? Contact AWI Education Director Wade Thaxton at wade@awinet.org. Other questions about the 0641 Standard should be directed to AWI Technical Director Hunter Morrison at hunter@awinet.org.

2020 AWI Annual Sponsors

AWI thanks the 2020 annual sponsors for their additional support throughout the year, which helps to fund the association’s programs, publications and other services for members. AWI Manufacturing Members are encouraged to connect with these suppliers anytime at www.awinet.org whenever a need arises for their services. Contact AWI if you would like to join this elite group of sponsors.
PERFORMANCE-BASED TESTING: VALUE ADDED

“The new ANSI/AWI 0641-2019—Architectural Wood Casework Standard helps an architect to make better educated decisions with regard to performance Duty Levels (the new norm) and aesthetic Grades to fit the needs of project owners and provide value without overbuilding,” said AWI Technical Committee Chair Greg Lutz.

“With 0641, an architect can mix and match aesthetic and performance requirements so that the end product best suits the vision of the project owner. For instance, the structural performance of cabinets for schools may be a primary consideration, while aesthetics may be a secondary concern; but for a resort property, the aesthetics may be a primary factor for the cabinets which don’t require the highest level of structural tolerances,” AWI President Tyler Cerny of Strata Design said.

Are you adding cost or value? This testing and approval process is intended to give industry professionals the opportunity to use many of the exciting and innovative products that are constantly being developed in the ever-changing architectural woodwork industry. Until now, many of these products have not had a direct path to acceptance in the industry.

**Benefits!**
- Brings credibility to the industry with authentic documented test results.
- ANSI process creates collaborative standard, with thresholds that have been tested and documented.
- Allows woodworkers to develop and fine-tune a machining process and assembly method that’s best for their company.
- Creates woodworker differentiation when you market your tested and approved unique methods as meeting the ANSI / AWI Standard of performance.
- Protects our industry by holding all woodwork providers accountable to tested results.
- Extends value to end users and architects, and helps woodworkers move away from competition based only on cost.

**AWI TEST METHODOLOGIES**

“There are tests for base, tall and wall cabinets, with 15 joinery and material combinations for those cabinets. The three types of cabinets have been tested using various materials approved for wood casework at the AWI National Testing Center,” AWI Technical Committee Chair Greg Lutz said.

The AWI Test Methodologies can be [downloaded free of charge at www.awinet.org/publications/testmethodologies](http://www.awinet.org/publications/testmethodologies), They provide details of submittals of drawings, manufacturing, assembling and confirmation of the testing process.

**Test Loads**

“Test loads are not suggested service loads,” cautioned AWI Technical Director Hunter Morrison. “This test method will not determine the useful life of architectural casework resulting from the test data obtained. It will, however, indicate casework performance outcomes from test loads over time. This test method is not intended to determine serviceability of hardware component,” according to current test methodology language.

“Test data will provide useful information for architects, design professionals, and manufacturers in making judgments on the ability of an architectural casework assembly to maintain serviceability under actual loading and operating conditions,” Hunter said.

Technical Committee Chair Greg Lutz (2016 AWI Past President)
QCP's Role in Conformance Validation

“For applicable projects registered with the Quality Certification Program (QCP), QCP Reps will review the project specs, contract and shop drawings, and validate compliance with the ANSI / AWI Wood Casework Standard. Such conformance review by QCP will offer verification to assure that woodworkers fabricate the cabinets according to the test results,” AWI Technical Committee Chair Greg Lutz said.

QCP will offer verification to assure that woodworkers fabricate the cabinets according to the test results.

“Such verification can be done in a couple ways: verification with soon-to-be-released AWI tested and approved casework Duty Level 3 methodologies OR a woodworker’s tested proprietary casework method. In both instances, QCP licensed firms will need to schedule in-plant verification visits which can be done using video technology. In both cases, QCP will confirm that methodologies used conform to the tested casework shop drawings showing joinery details, testing results and material cores tested,” said AWI Quality Certification Corporation Executive Director Randy Estabrook.

Periodically QCP also will spot check cabinet results and methods of construction in compliance with the test reports.

The AWI QCC Board of Directors approved a tested casework policy in April of 2019.

Incorporated in early 2007, the AWI Quality Certification Corporation (QCC) is an autonomous organization which administers the AWI Quality Certification Program (QCP). The AWI QCP is a valuable quality assurance tool for interior architectural woodwork, one of the most highly visible aspects of many construction projects. QCP assesses whether the woodwork provided meets the project’s specifications and industry standards. The American Subcontractors Association (ASA) and the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) endorse the QCP. www.awiqcp.org

Easy Access to AWI Standards

Option 1: Online

The powerful SEARCH feature of AWI's website, www.awinet.org, also known as the AWI Digital Learning Portal, is your pathway to AWI Standards online. It is the best way to access the standards, presented in an interactive format to help keep the information that you need at your fingertips. All standards are available online to view, bookmark, save and share free of charge through the Standards Area of www.awinet.org.

Each section of the standards is open to the public to view, download and share. Members gain the added ability to bookmark and access extra educational content, not included in the standards. If you haven’t logged in previously, just click, sign in, and choose “Reset Your Password.” If you have any problems or if your login is not connected to your member company, contact AWI Membership Manager Taylor Shaughnessy, tshaughnessy@awinet.org or call 571-323-3636 to set up your user account or to link your current profile to your AWI member company.

Option 2: Printed Copy

Printed copies of ANSI / AWI 0641, AWI 100, 200, 300 and ANSI / AWI 0620 are available for purchase at the member price in the AWI website store.
Over the past few months, we’ve focused on creating and sharing digital resources to keep you informed on the latest news and innovations from Stiles and the industry. You can access and watch all of these digital resources on your own time, when you have the time. Join us on [www.stilesmachinery.com/connect](http://www.stilesmachinery.com/connect) for free access to our SOLUTIONS LIVE Webinar series, on-demand training, our Manufacturing Solutions Seminar Online presentations, remote video demos, and more.

**Solutions Live**

SOLUTIONS LIVE is a free webinar series featuring technology overviews, maintenance tips and tricks, and more. We know your time is valuable and limited, so we’ve shared the recordings.

**Stiles University Online**

In addition to resuming in-person training, Stiles University has gone digital. We are excited to offer the all-new Stiles University Online FREE for one week. You and your team can now access the knowledge and resources you need from wherever you’re most comfortable.

**Recorded Seminars**

All presentations from our recent Manufacturing Solutions Seminar Online were recorded and are now posted online to inspire you with fresh business growth ideas and provide you unique digital technology experiences.

**Virtual Demos**

We know the restrictions and safety surrounding travel right now is difficult to navigate, so we’ll bring a showroom demo to you — virtually! Just as if you were physically in one of our showrooms, you’ll be able to experience machine features and operation overviews live and (digitally) one-on-one.

**Other Access**

As always, our online store is open and available 24/7. You can browse our spare parts, ancillary equipment and more, whenever and wherever you’d like.

For even more updates and information, join us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn for the latest updates from across the country and our showrooms.

Stiles Machinery, Inc., an AWI Supplier Member since 1996, is a Level 2 AWI Sponsor. [www.stilesmachinery.com](http://www.stilesmachinery.com)

You’ll be able to experience machine features and operation overviews live and (digitally) one-on-one.
AWI NEWS

New AWI Members

MANUFACTURERS
ArchWood, Inc.  
Rochester, NY
BON Architectural Millwork, LLC  
Pennsauken, NJ
Bromack Manufacturing, Inc.  
Los Angeles, CA
Buda Woodworks, LLC  
Buda, TX
Carpentry Associates  
Arlington, TX
KTI Cabinets  
White Settlement, TX
RJ Wood Industries, Inc.  
Jackson, WI
Wood Works, LLC  
Ridgeland, MS
Woodlane Cabinet Company  
Tallahassee, FL
XP-Manufacturing  
Richmond, VA

SUPPLIER
Cord Contracting  
Woodbury, NY

Note: These new members joined AWI in May 2020.

Use the online Directory of AWI Manufacturing and Supplier Members at www.awinet.org for contact information and access to the websites of these and other AWI members. The resource is open 24/7 for use in seeking manufacturers and suppliers of architectural woodwork.

COMPANY ONLINE LISTINGS

Every member company is entitled to a listing in the online Member Directory. You can even display your logo on your company profile. With a couple of clicks, you can approve and enhance your company listing. Company primary contacts should login to your profile on www.awinet.org and choose “Manage Organization”. Check and update your company information, including your category specialties. Make sure “Show in Directory” is checked for company and contact details.

Help your employees do their jobs better. Primary contacts within AWI member companies should encourage their employees to sign up. Contact AWI Membership Coordinator Taylor Shaughnessy, tshaughnessy@awinet.org or call 571-323-3636 to set up your user account or to link your current profile to your AWI member company. When entering information, be sure to check “Show in Directory” in order for the contact name to show up within your company profile in the online directory search.

The robust AWI website is powered by a Search Feature for entry to the Digital Learning Portal. The search engine will not only pull up relevant standards information and pertinent education material, but also expertise found among AWI members through company profiles, and relevant discussions among AWI members about a variety of subjects via My Community.

All key personnel within AWI member companies are invited to access the wealth of information available. This is just another benefit…and a pathway to all that AWI has to offer.

Tap into AWI Membership Benefits!

Maximize the return on your membership investment by using all the resources, services and publications AWI has to offer.

Need a refresher of what your benefits are? Visit www.awinet.org and on the top menu bar click on “Membership” to access your membership category where you’ll find a comprehensive list.