The long-awaited release of the ANSI / AWI 0641-2019 – Architectural Wood Casework Standard occurred on May 11, 2020, opening the door for exciting opportunities for innovation and cost savings for the first time in AWI Standards development history! ANSI / AWI 0641 became effective this month.

“Of all AWI Standards, the new Architectural Wood Casework Standard is the largest section of forthcoming ANSI / AWI Standards that has the greatest impact of change for woodworkers,” said AWI President Tyler Cerny, president of Strata Design. “About 80% of millwork specified is cabinets, so the 0641 Standard will likely govern the majority of casework specified,” according to estimates by Greg Lutz, AWI Technical Committee Chair and president of Lutz Woodworks.

Key Changes
In previous AWI Standards, a casework unit’s aesthetic and structural requirements were lumped together under three Grades: Economy, Custom and Premium. For the first time, in the 0641 Standard Grade characteristics are divided into two parts:

1. Aesthetics only – Economy, Custom and Premium Grades; AND
2. Structural performance – Duty Levels: 1, 2, 3, 4

Foundation Efforts Gain Good Grades!

The AWI Education Foundation awarded $25,250 in scholarships last month, buttressed by generous contributions from members that increased the scholarship pool from the 2019 level.

Fundraising efforts in 2019 on behalf of the Education Foundation received high grades for increasing contributions to elevate AWI’s endowment for scholarships awarded to worthy wood industry students. This year the AWIEF received the most secondary school applicants in the history of the scholarship program.

“This year’s successful scholarship program truly was a team effort. Industry’s generosity of giving was at an all-time high for the Education Foundation in 2019, and we had 13 quality applicants apply this year to receive funds. It is an

(continues on page 2)
It is an honor to extend industry donations to hard-working individuals preparing themselves to join the wood industry.

Foundation Efforts ... (cont. from page 1)

honor to extend industry donations to hard-working individuals preparing themselves to join the wood industry. I look forward to the fundraising efforts of 2020 and elevating the bar higher for next year. Many thanks to all!” said AWI EVP Doug Hague.

AWIEF Chair Kent Gilchrist noted that applicants must meet formidable criteria for nomination. “The nominee must be either currently entered in a woodworking program or entering one in the fall, and he/she must submit an application as well as an academic recommendation from their school advisor and a personal reference from an employer, academic counselor or other instructor. A letter of reference from the student’s advisor is required as is one from the applicant explaining and clarifying how the funds will be used and how the scholarship will contribute to his/her entry into the architectural woodwork field.”

$2,500 Scholarship Recipients

Gage Davis
Level: Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Jacob Waggoner, Gunter High School
School Enrolled in or Attending: Pittsburg State University

Claire Koettker
Level: Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Darren Masten, Bluevalley Northwest School

Shailyn Phelps
Level: Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Joe Davis, Dale Jackson Career Center School
Enrolled in or Attending: Pittsburg State University

Curtis Taylor
Level: Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: John Stearns, Peyton High School
School Enrolled in or Attending: Pittsburg State University

Trenton Bobula
Level: Post-Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Patrick Molzahn, Madison Area Technical College
School Enrolled in or Attending: Madison Area Technical College

Braun Butterfield
Level: Post-Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Kellan Baird, Utah Valley University
School Enrolled in or Attending: Utah Valley University

Connor Jennings
Level: Post-Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Jordan Backs, Pittsburg State University
School Enrolled in or Attending: Pittsburg State University

Sarah Provard
Level: Post-Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Charlie Phillips, Pittsburg State University
School Enrolled in or Attending: Pittsburg State University

Howard Wiese
Level: Post-Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Mark Lorge, Fox Valley Technical College
School Enrolled in or Attending: Fox Valley Technical College

$1,250 Scholarship Recipients

Ryunosuke Bennion
Level: Post-Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Mike Snow, East Newton County
School Enrolled in or Attending: Pittsburg State University

Logan Knapton
Level: Secondary
Nominating Instructor & School: Garret Wenzel, St. Croix Central High School
School Enrolled in or Attending: Madison Area Technical College
The Architectural Woodwork Institute / AWINET.ORG

The Power of the Portal
Sample Search Results:
Casework Standards

LEARNING PORTAL

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, and shared industry and
technical information from AWI Communities.

Enter the Members Area of the website by signing in with
your user login at the top right corner of the home page. This
gives you the full power of the search engine not available to
visitors to the public home page of the website.

In the search window (your entry point to the DLP) in
the middle of the screen, enter “Casework Standards.” The
search reveals 411 results (everything) comprised of AWI
Community discussions, Standards, Education, General and
Glossary. 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 pos-
sible—from AWI.

HELP PLANT SEEDS
WITH AWIEF

“KEEP THE AWI EDUCATION FOUNDATION IN THE
FOREFRONT OF YOUR AWI MEMBERSHIP. We
rely on AWI members to continue supporting the
workforce of tomorrow through the Foundation’s
scholarship program and other initiatives.
During these critical times, don’t lose site of
the value of the scholarship program. Join us in
planting seeds today for the future,” AWIEF Chair
Kent Gilchrist said.

The AWIEF is a 501(c)(3) public charity, non-profit
foundation. Please contribute using our PayPal
link, “DONATE TO AWIEF” at www.awinet.org, or by
submitting a check payable to “AWIEF” to:

AWI Education Foundation
46179 Westlake Dr., Suite 120
Potomac Falls, VA 20165

Contact AWI at 571-323-3636 to learn more about
how you can be part of the Foundation’s vision,
mission and goals.

The Architectural Woodwork Institute
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK INSTITUTE

Visit the new online home of
AWI Standards at awinet.org

3
Key Similarity
“AWI members will be most familiar with the default requirements of the new Wood Casework Standard,” said AWI Technical Director Hunter Morrison.

- Structural Performance: Duty Level 3
- Aesthetic Performance: Custom Grade

“The Duty Level requirements were determined by measuring the amount of force and pressure the product can tolerate or withstand during the extensive AWI testing process,” Hunter explained.

Other Highlights
ANSI / AWI 0641 includes product as specified under CSI MasterFormat divisions:

- 06 41 00 Architectural Wood Casework
- 06 41 13 Wood-Veneer-Faced Architectural Cabinets
- 06 41 16 Plastic-Laminate-Clad Architectural Cabinets
- 06 41 93 Cabinet and Drawer Hardware

The Scope of 0641 identifies exclusions from the Standard as well.

“Among the Material requirements are those set forth in AWI 300–Materials Standard, maximum recommendations for casework components, and adoption of ANSI / BHMA Standards Grade 2 as the default minimum requirement for hardware,” Hunter said.

In addition, 0641 figures (illustrations) are referenced throughout the Standard and are contained at the back of the Standards document. Users also will find an online glossary, Design Professional responsibilities, and other references.

Development Insights
Duty Levels (or structural performance criteria) evolved from American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements for standards development, according to Greg. “This component of the Standard required extensive testing and significantly lengthened the Standard’s development process. Hundreds of hours of testing took place at the AWI National Testing Center in Americus, GA, where data was collected to provide us with reference information needed for a Standard of this level. Also, during the canvass process, feedback from interested parties identified substantial changes that were necessary. As a result, we now have THE BEST standard available for the millwork industry. Rigorous testing of this nature had not been available previously. This is the first meticulously tested woodwork standard on the street,” he emphasized.

AWI was accredited as a Standards Developer Organization in August 2014 by the American National Standards Institute.

Benefits for Customers
“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,” Tyler said.

During an introductory webinar to the 0641 Standard on May 19, Bill Munyan, principal at R&M Group Architects and a member of the AWI Technical Committee, noted that architects are concerned about their liability for the products in their buildings and place a high value on Standards. “ANSI standards add value in dealing with project owners and developers. The Duty Level options in ANSI / AWI 0641 allow for cost reductions when desirable and give project owners true options."

**Benefits for Woodworkers**

“AWI members will have access to various detailed construction drawings, which are an outcome of the extensive testing of cabinets performed by the Standards Development Team,” Tyler said.

“From a woodworker’s perspective, building your wood casework to criteria within ANSI / AWI 0641 will set you apart. The architectural woodwork industry has never had..."
ANSI Standards previously. They bring credibility to our industry. Because of the rigorous testing, the data obtained, and the vetting by a wide range of manufacturers, suppliers and other interested parties, users of the NEW AWI Standards gain a competitive advantage against others not conforming with the ANSI / AWI Standards. These new Standards will raise the bar for our industry to compete beyond pricing,” Greg added.

Another benefit of the 0641 Standard is the potential for innovation in the manufacturing of cabinets. “For example, if a woodworker believes their proprietary way of building a cabinet can meet new Duty Levels identified in 0641, they have an opportunity to have the product tested for compliance with the Standard, and they can submit their test reports to the customer. The testing would improve their competitive advantage in the marketplace,” Greg said.

“Quite simply, Standard 0641 gives flexibility to architectural woodworkers to build cabinets in a NEW way to comply with its requirements, an option not available in the Architectural Woodwork Standards, Tyler said. “Some woodworkers through their innovation have created new construction techniques, and others will look at their processes to come up with innovation to adjust costs.”

Another benefit of the 0641 Standard is the potential for innovation in the manufacturing of cabinets.

STANDARDS

Education Resources

AWI presented a series of webinars to assist members in navigating the changes in the Standard and with seizing new opportunities going forward. The first webinar on May 19 with 310 registrants was recorded and is accessible in the password-protected Members Area of www.awinet.org. Click on the drop-down “Members Only” bar for “Webinars,” then “AWI Casework Standard Release.”

During the webinar, AWI Education Director Wade Thaxton guided attendees through the powerful Search feature of AWI’s website, also known as the AWI Digital Learning Portal. Using the search engine within the Standard section—and elsewhere—allows users to bookmark a section, download passages to a PDF format, and send links referencing specific language to customers or fellow AWI members.

If you don’t already have a login, Wade noted that everyone—not just primary contacts at AWI member companies—should create a user profile for the AWI Learning Portal. Once accomplished, that will give individuals the opportunity to bookmark and maintain a historical record of important information unique to them for subsequent quick reference. Contact 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.

ANSI / AWI Standard
The NEW Wood Casework Standard has been conceived, developed, tested, and produced according to rigorous requirements established by the internationally respected American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Founded in 1918, ANSI (www.ansi.org) is a private non-profit organization that administers and coordinates the US voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. ANSI represents the diverse interests of more than 270,000 companies and organizations, and 30 million professionals worldwide.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

**ANSI / AWI Standards**

Members have full access to all the AWI Standards and educational information at www.awinet.org!

With the introduction of new AWI Standards that began rolling out in February 2019 and linkage with AWI’s coveted education material from years of updates in the *Quality Standards Illustrated* as well as new illustrations, **AWI Standards access and information has been ELEVATED to a new level.**

The robust AWI website is powered by a [Search Feature](http://www.awinet.org) 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 as well as insights among AWI members about the subjects via My Community. **Only AWI Members have access beyond the Standards themselves, which are now public documents.**

AWI has produced and collaborated on the development of standards in accordance with its mission since its founding in 1953 to the present day. Continuous improvement of Standards for architectural woodwork and related interior finishes is central to AWI’s mission. **AWI is an accredited Standards Developer Organization** by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), a non-profit organization recognized around the world that administers and coordinates the US voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system.
Software Solutions from Bidding through Installation

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Architectural millwork companies have many software solutions available to them. While there are many estimating tools and project management solutions available that provide the functionality needed for their respective task, there is a disconnect when moving from one stage to the next which leaves a risk for error. However, one system running the organization means one data source with easy data access from the bidding process right through to the installation.

One source of data allows companies to use their actual labor and costs to create accurate estimates that convert easily into sales orders. That same data is visible to all departments throughout the organization as the project moves through the various stages of production, making and tracking changes, receiving alerts of any potential problems, and billing according the project’s requirements.

**Being able to manage a project from start to finish within one system can have a powerful impact on productivity and margins.** As technology advances, look for software partners that understand the woodworking industry and can provide a complete solution that incorporates all your processes together to reduce the duplication of work and the opportunity for errors, and provides total visibility in the planning, controlling and execution of their business. Take advantage of the new solutions out there that provide the necessary project management functionalities as well as an end-to-end solution. The value of having an integrated and flexible solution will be of inestimable value to the architectural millwork industry.

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Logan Millwork, LLC
Newton, NJ
Max Urban
Pompano Beach, FL

Note: These new members joined AWI in April 2020.

SAVE THE DATE!
68th AWI Annual Convention
September 30 – October 2, 2020
Resort at Squaw Creek
North Lake Tahoe, California