

Meet Graham Nasby, ISA Standards Excellence Award Winner



ISA annually gives out a range of awards honoring its volunteers for the professional work they do. ISA Standards, of which there are

more than 150, reflect the work of more than 4,000 industry experts from around the world. The 2021 Standards Leader of the Year, announced earlier this year, is Graham Nasby, water SCADA & security specialist for the City of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Here are some things he has been working on, and how he feels about his standards work with ISA.

Nasby seems to have come naturally to his current job, having started at six years old with a succession of summer jobs rewiring boats at a local marina. This led to a lifelong interest in electrical systems and to obtaining a degree in electrical engineering and automatic control systems at the University of Guelph. Nasby's career took him into a range of consulting and manufacturing jobs in several industries: software development, structural engineering, semiconductor manufacturing, ready-mix concrete, pharmaceutical manufacturing, construction, and municipal water/wastewater.

Nasby earned his professional engineer (PE) license in 2010, received ISA's certified automation professional (CAP)

certification in 2012, and obtained his functional safety engineer designation in 2015. Since then, he has worked for the City of Guelph managing a team of specialists who look after the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system for the city's drinking water utility.

Nasby says he "cannot underscore enough the positive impact that ISA standards work has had on my career."

In search of useful best practices

"It was back in 2010 that I first got involved with a standards committee," Nasby says. "At the time, I was designing automatic control systems for high-purity water systems in the pharmaceutical industry. I was having a hard time finding useful best practices on how to design both the control system and its process alarms. Seeing an article in *InTech* about an 'alarm management committee,' I contacted the article's author [Nick Sands, now an ISA Fellow] and asked if I could get involved. Through the ISA18 committee, I was able to work with world-renowned experts in alarm management, as well as contribute back to the committee by sharing my own experiences. The committee also gave me an opportunity to develop my technical skills, and get experience with technical leadership, consensus building, and communication skills."

Fast forward to the present, and Nasby is now involved with multiple

consensus-based technical standards committees within both ISA and other organizations. These include the CSA P125 OT Functional Safety & Security Committee; the IEC TC65/TC65A Industrial Process Measurement, Control, and Automation committees; AWWA Automation committee; and ISA committees such as ISA18 Alarm Management, ISA99 Cybersecurity, ISA101 HMI Design, ISA105 Commissioning, and ISA112 SCADA Systems.

To become an expert in a field, seek out the best-of-the-best.

"It is primarily from my involvement with standards committees and the resulting relationships with other experts that has enabled me to build my career," Nasby adds. "I learned very early that one must always be learning, and, for me, standards-committee involvement is a big part of that. My participation in ISA standards committees has also given me great opportunities to practice my communication, writing, consensus-building, and leadership skills."

Nasby adds: "One of the major takeaways I have learned from being involved with ISA standards, is that if you want to become an expert in a field, you need to seek out the best-of-the-best for that field and find a way to work with them. Don't restrict yourself to just learning from people at your own company or from a specific geographic area. Being involved with consensus-based technical standards work, such as with the ISA, has enabled me to build my technical career."

Learn more about Nasby's role as co-chair of the ISA112 SCADA Systems standards committee and why the ISA 112 standard is important in a related post on the ISA Interchange blog (<https://blog.isa.org>). ■ -By Renee Bassett

ISA42, Nomenclature for Instrument Tube Fittings RP to Be Updated

ISA42, Nomenclature for Instrument Tube Fittings, is being reactivated to update a 2001 ISA recommended practice of the same name. The document defines nomenclature for tube fittings most commonly used in instrumentation, and is intended to apply to mechanical flared and flareless

tube fittings as commonly used in instrument tubing systems. The purpose is to aid in the proper specification and application of instrument tube fittings by standardizing nomenclature. Those who are interested in participating are asked to contact Charley Robinson, crobinson@isa.org. ■