

Information on Australian Telecommunications Alliance Working Committees



WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety Working Committee

Please note: EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS WORKING COMMITTEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5.00PM, 6 FEBRUARY 2026

Due to the need to progress these matters quickly, late applications will not be accepted and extensions will not be granted.

1 About the Australian Telecommunications Alliance

The Australian Telecommunications Alliance (ATA) is the peak body of the Australian telecommunications industry. We are the trusted voice at the intersection of industry, government, regulators, and consumers. Through collaboration and leadership, we shape initiatives that grow the Australian telecommunications industry, enhance connectivity for all Australians, and foster the highest standards of business behaviour.

For more details, visit www.austelco.org.au.

2 ATA Working Committees

Each ATA Working Committee is directly responsible for the content of specific work assigned to it, such as the drafting of Standards, Industry Codes and Guidelines. Working Committees are established to perform an area of work identified by the relevant Reference Panel or Advisory Group.

Working Committees will meet regularly and are required to provide progress reports. Members would be expected to contribute substantial time outside formal Working Committee meetings.

Working Committees are established for the duration of a specific task and are disbanded once the task is completed. Members are selected to provide effective representation of the industry and community sectors relevant to the Committee's subject area. For example, a Customer Equipment Standard can only deal with issues pertaining to sections of the industry which have the opportunity to input into its development.

3 Terms of Reference of the WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety Working Committee

The **WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety** Working Committee has been established to perform an area of work identified by the **Customer Equipment and Cable Reference Panel** (CECRP).

The Working Committee is to address the following areas of review as part of the project:

For AS/CA S004:2013:

- What CE is to be tested against the Standard.
- Harmonising this Standard with AS/CA S042.
- Consideration of a new intelligibility test for the Standard.
- Review the acoustic safety requirements for telephony.
- Review the capability of CE to dial an emergency call as scoped by the Standard.
- To re-evaluate the necessary CE requirements for devices taking into account the types of telecommunications networks.
- Relationship to the provision of the STS and the application of the Standard.
- Ancillary issues, including the review the need for acoustic coupling requirements and the currency of ETSI and other referenced Standards.

In addition, the Working Committee is to take into account the following regulatory-related obligations when revising the requirements in the Standard:

- obligations concerning the testing modules vs testing the entire CE.
- obligations concerning modified CE.
- that the AS/NZS 62368.1 safety Standard becomes an applicable Standard when AS/CA S004 is an applicable Standard.

For G616:2013:

- to ensure that the guideline is up-to-date in accordance with international guidelines, including the introduction of the electrical energy classifications ES1, ES2 and ES3, introduced with AS/NZS 62368.1
- alignment with AS/CA S004 as necessary.

The project milestones of the Working Committee are:

Milestone	Targets
Approval to start	December 2025
First WC meeting	February 2026
Public comment start	June 2027
Public comment close	August 2027
Resolution of public comments	September 2027
Committee Ballot start	November 2027
Committee Ballot close	November 2027

Approval for publication	December 2027
Publication	December 2027

4 **Membership of the WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety Working Committee**

WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety Working Committee members will be selected to ensure adequate representation of industry and consumer interests. Members need not be members of the ATA and may include representatives from regulatory bodies.

Membership will be assessed on the basis of achieving/ensuring appropriate and balanced representation of interested, affected sectors. In the interests of achieving a workable sized committee, the lodging of an Expression of Interest does not guarantee membership on the **WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety** Working Committee.

Membership of the ATA Working Committees is restricted to one voting member per organisation. Additional members from an organisation are able to nominate as participating members. Unlike voting members, participating members will not be eligible to participate in any vote in the Working Committee, unless authorised by the voting member in their absence.

The Working Committee constituency by sector is:

Sector
Carrier (3)
Supplier: Equipment/Cable (4)
Testing laboratory (1)
Certification Body - Compliance services (1)
Regulator (1) (non-voting)

5 **Role of Working Committee Members**

Members of the **WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety** Working Committee are required to:

- participate in Working Committee meetings;
- where possible, ensure that an ‘alternate’ representative from your organisation is able to attend meetings in your absence;
- contribute to the content development and drafting of the revised AS/CA S004:2013 *Voice performance requirements for Customer Equipment* Standard and the G616:2013 *Acoustic Safety for Telephone Equipment* Guideline;
- assist in the preparation of project reports, where necessary;

- assist with the public review process of the proposed draft AS/CA S004:2013 *Voice performance requirements for Customer Equipment* Standard and the G616:2013 *Acoustic Safety for Telephone Equipment* Guideline; and
- vote on the publication on the completion of the content development at the end of the project.

6 Consumer/Community Representative Travel Costs

The ATA will consider on a case-by-case basis the payment of travel costs associated with the attendance of consumer/community representatives at Working Committee meetings. Wherever possible, meetings will be held by teleconference and other electronic means.

7 Expressions of Interest

Please note:

If you have previously been nominated for the **WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety** Working Committee through a consumer organisation, you need not lodge an Expression of Interest.

Expressions of Interest for Working Committee membership must include:

- Statement of relevant experience, why you are interested in participating in the Working Committee and which group you are representing (if any);
- Brief resume outlining your experience; and
- Completed and signed nomination form.

Expressions of Interest for the **WC128 Voice Performance and Acoustic Safety** Working Committee should be lodged, preferably by email, with:

Mike Johns, Senior Manager, on (02) 9959 9125 or e-mail m.johns@austelco.org.au.

Alternatively, Expressions of Interest can be forwarded to:

WC128 VOICE PERFORMANCE AND ACOUSTIC SAFETY
AUSTRALIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE
PO Box 444
Milsons Point NSW 1565

Queries can be directed to the Project Manager by email or alternatively via: telephone (02) 9959 9111.

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