

# RF EXPOSURE AND COMPLIANCE STANDARDS

***C-K. Chou***

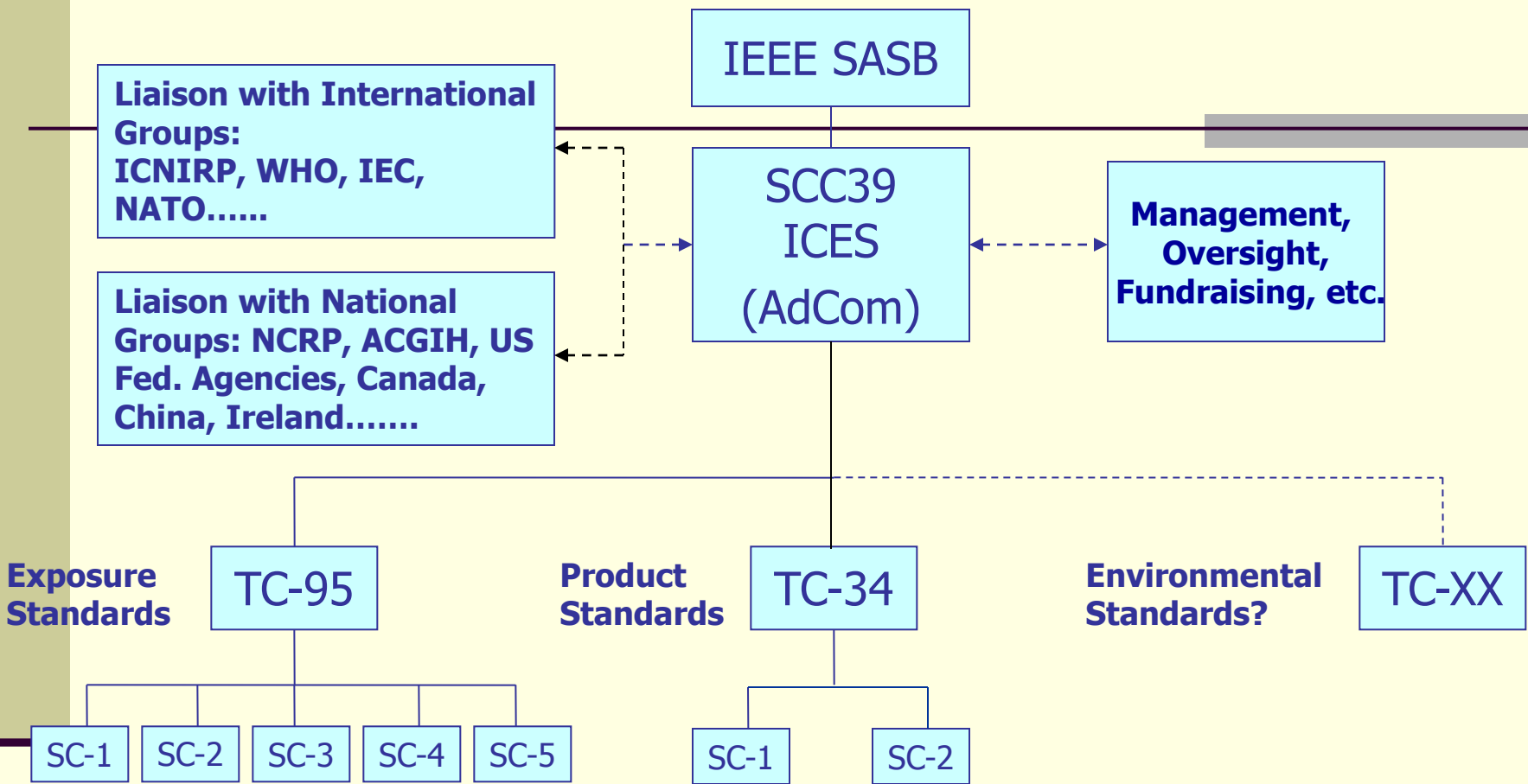
**Motorola Labs, Fort Lauderdale,  
Florida, U.S.A.**

***Ron Petersen***

**Petersen Associates LLC, Bedminster,  
New Jersey, U.S.A.**

*Some materials presented at 2006 PIERS meeting in Tokyo*

# ICES as the Focal Point in the Global Program for EME Safety Standards



- SC-1: Measurements & Calculations**
- SC-2: Warning Signs/Hazard Comm**
- SC-3: 0-3 kHz**
- SC-4: 3 kHz - 300 GHz**
- SC-5: EEDs**

- SC-1: SAR Evaluation – Measurement Techniques**
- SC-2: SAR Evaluation – Computational Techniques**

# IEEE Safety Standards History

---

- 1960:** USASI C95 Radiation Hazards Project and Committee chartered
- 1966:** USAS C95.1-1966
  - 10 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> (10 MHz to 100 GHz)
  - based on simple thermal model
- 1974:** ANSI C95.1-1974 (limits for E<sup>2</sup> and H<sup>2</sup>)
- 1982:** ANSI C95.1-1982 (incorporates dosimetry)
- 1991:** IEEE C95.1-1991 (two tiers – reaffirmed 1997)
- 2002:** IEEE C95.6-2002 (0-3 kHz)
- 2006:** IEEE C95.1-2005 published on April 19, 2006 (comprehensive revision, 250 pages, 1143 ref.)

# C95.1-2005 definitions

- **biological effect:** A biological effect is an established effect caused by, or in response to, exposure to a biological, chemical or physical agent, including electromagnetic energy. Biological effects are alterations of the structure, metabolism, or functions of a whole organism, its organs, tissues, and cells. Biological effects can occur without harming health and can be beneficial. Biological effects also can include sensation phenomena and adaptive responses.
- **adverse health effect:** A biological effect characterized by a harmful change in health.

Recommendations are made to **protect against established adverse health effects** in human beings associated with exposure to electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields in the frequency range of 3 kHz to 300 GHz.

# ANSI C95.1-1982 standard

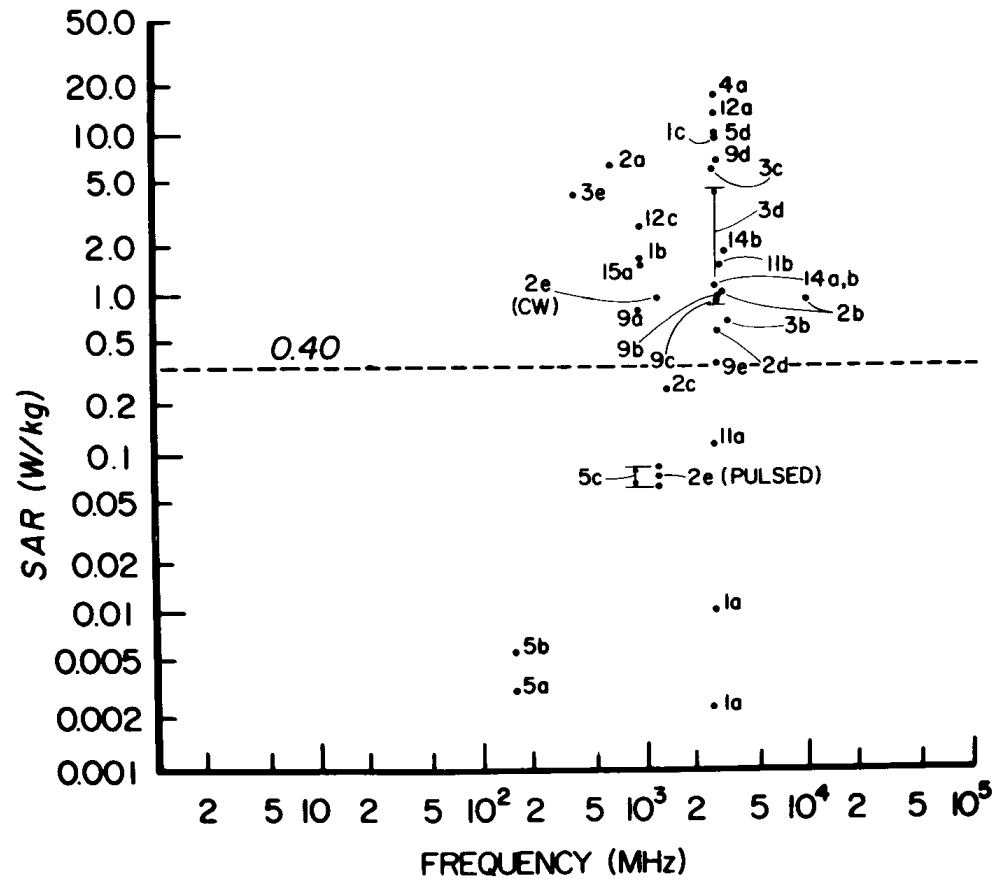


Fig A3  
Whole-Body-Averaged SAR  
Corresponding to Biological Effects Reported in  
Various References of Appendix

# Safety factors

- ANSI C95.1-1982
  - ❖ A factor of 10 for one tier standard
    - Whole body SAR 0.4 W/kg
  - ❖ Based on man model and animal data, peak to whole body SAR ratio 20X
    - Peak SAR 8 W/kg averaged over 1 g
- NCRP 1986
  - ❖ Occupational 10X
  - ❖ General public 50X
- IEEE C95.1-1991
  - ❖ Controlled Environment 10X
    - Whole body 0.4 W/kg, Peak 8 W/kg per 1 g
  - ❖ Uncontrolled Environment 50X
    - Whole body 0.08 W/kg, peak 1.6 W/kg per 1 g
- IEEE C95.1-2005 (based on database before December 31, 2003)
  - ❖ Controlled environment 10X
    - Whole body 0.4 W/kg, Peak 10 W/kg per 10 g
  - ❖ Action level 50X
    - Whole body 0.08 W/kg, Peak SAR 2 W/kg per 10 g



An exposure limit is NOT like the edge of a cliff, with immediate danger when it is exceeded.



Limit value? No!

Limit values are conservatively set some distance from the start of a slope, down which the possibility of danger gradually increases.

**DANGER**

Limit Value!

Safety Margin

Murphy [2007]

# Nature of Standards

---

- **Exposure standards** – based on science, with large safety margins, conservative, protective, realistic
- **Compliance standards** – precision, repeatability, conservative, can be implemented, easy to regulate

Need trade offs, when a standard is good enough, and agreed by >75% voting members.

Standards are living documents, and can be improved based on the best scientific information at the time.

Charlie Backof: “Good engineers know how to solve a problem. Great engineers know when to stop.”



# Benefits of Harmonization

---

Supports WHO harmonization efforts

- **Consumers** gain the protection of an internationally recognized safety standard, and have equal access to products and services that are available to consumers elsewhere in the world
- **Regulators** can have a consistent approach to regulation consistent with the recommendations of the WHO, the ITU and the WTO
- **Industry** gains by developing and manufacturing products to a widely accepted international standard and, once tested for compliance, can make those products available around the world in a consistent and timely manner

# Conclusions

---

- Exposure standards have large safety margins.
- Compliance standards should be practical and realistic.
- We should not be in a position where we can't see the forest for the trees.
- Harmonization is the key issue for exposure and measurement standards.