



ASB Z50 SAFETY COMMITTEE

Annual Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2026, 3:30 PM

Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk

Superior, 2nd Floor

In Person Attendance:

Lisa Arato, Spiromatic

Jon R. Anderson, BEAG

Jerry Barnes, Babbco Group

Josh Becker, Harpak-Ulma

Steve Berne, Avant Food Media

Rowdy Brixey, Brixey Engineering

Wes Luczak, BEMA

Sarah Day, American Society of Baking

Dave Hipenbecker, Fritsch/Multivac

Dan Malovany, Sosland Publishing

Peter Rasmussen, Festo Corporation

Anton Rozich, The Austin Company

Todd Schneyer, Aspire Bakeries

Jeremiah Tilghman, Better Butter

Eric Dell, American Bakers Association

Jess Shura, Flowers Foods (guest, BEAG Board Chair)

Virtual Attendance:

Robert Burgh, Nexcor

Carl Rinaldi, Erika Record Baking Equipment

Cody Craun, Quality Harvest Foods

Tyler Fast, Moline Machinery

Josh Hughes, Burford Corporation



Steve Kephart, United States Baking

Mike Miele, Kings Hawaiian Bakery

Jeff Patzer, Retired

Gale Prince, GP

Toby Steward, TNA North America

NOTE: The meeting was not recorded, any recording of this meeting is unauthorized.

1. Attendance, Physical (sign-in) and Virtual

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 PM by Lisa Arato. Sarah asked all attendees to sign the attendance sheet. Lisa welcomed everyone and asked everyone to silence their phones.

2. Identification – Please Clearly State Your Name Before Speaking

Lisa asked all attendees to speak their name clearly each time before they speak. ANSI requires formal minutes to be submitted so the meeting notes must be taken accurately.

3. Previous Meeting Minutes – Review and Approval

Lisa explained that we must all take a few minutes to review the 2/16/2025 minutes from the previous year for acceptance (minutes were emailed prior to meeting and available printed in the meeting room). Lisa instructed those who were participating via Teams that if they are “in agreement” with the approval, they can remain silent but if they have any objections, they should speak up.

A motion to accept the 2025 minutes was presented, which was seconded. The motion passed and the minutes were accepted.

4. Committee Membership Roster – Changes, Review and Approval (Roster had been emailed prior to this meeting.)

There have been 5 additions and 8 removals to the membership roster since the last meeting, as follows:

Removals

Mark	Fertitta	Equipment User
Greg	Carr	General Interest
John	Gaches	General Interest



Mike	Gentile	Equipment Manufacturer
Ken	Hagedorn	Equipment Manufacturer
Albert	Koch	Equipment User
Kristen	Spriggs	General Interest
Rasma	Zvaners	General Interest

Additions

Cody	Craun	Equipment User
Anton	Rozich	General Interest
Josh	Becker	Equipment Manufacturer
Tyler	Fast	Equipment Manufacturer
Eric	Dell	General Interest

Everyone was in favor of accepting the current balance of Membership and the presented roster was approved.

5. Committee Membership Balance – Interest Categories

Lisa explained that ANSI requires this committee to have equal participation from three main categories: Equipment Manufacturers/Suppliers, Bakers (Equipment Users) and Other (General Interest) so that Z50 remains balanced as an accredited committee.

The total committee membership is 35:

Equipment User	11
Equipment Manufacturer	13
General Interest	11

6. Comments and Objections – Right to Appeal Rulings

Lisa advised that our meetings are open to the public and are never secret. We need to remain transparent at all times and if anyone has any objections related to this committee, they have the right to contact ANSI directly. We can work to a consensus, but you have the right to object or appeal.

7. ANSI Audit Report – Last Audit Completed May 2022, Next ANSI Audit Scheduled 2027, ANSI Reaccreditation Approval effective November 2022

Lisa explained that the last audit in 2022 was okay and the process remains stable. The next audit will be in 2027. No changes are needed at the moment but please reach out to Lisa if you have any questions.



8. Z50 Procedures (03/22/2024) – ANSI Annual Compliance – 2026 OK

Z50 Committee Procedures remain unchanged since the 3/22/24 ballot.

ANSI Essential Requirements is an ANSI document that is reviewed by ANSI annually. In 2026, there were no changes to that ANSI document, so no alterations to our procedures were needed. Our annual compliance was submitted and accepted.

9. Z50.1-2026 Bakery Equipment Safety Standard (2/3/2026)

Status – Current and Approved

The Z50.1 revision process, started in 2017, is now complete. The standard had a consensus body vote, public review process, and final approval from ANSI. New sections were added on guarding, robotics, automation, and many other existing sections were modernized.

ANSI asks us to reaffirm standards every 5 years, so the Z50.1 standard will be up for revision again in 2031.

10. Z50.2-2015 (R2020) Bakery Equipment Sanitation Standard

Status – Current & Approved 12/1/2020

Now under revision (PINS published 2/27/2026)

The Z50.2 sanitation standard was originally slated to be reaffirmed but will now undergo a full revision. Committee leadership believe this is the most prudent course of action to maintain the relevance and reputation of the standard, ensuring it aligns with industry expectations.

A task force will be created to address comments and update the standard accordingly. If you are interested in supporting this revision process, please reach out to Sarah via email.

11. Other Business

➤ Bakery Equipment Assessment Group – Jon Anderson

Jon Anderson gave an update on BEAG, sharing that growth is steady but the board are looking to increase industry acceptance of the Z50.2 standard. Jeff Shura (Flowers Foods) is the incoming board chair and has a plan to push the standard for acceptance by the baker. The group is also focusing on raising awareness of the certification's value by promoting case studies showing operational cost savings and food safety benefits.



Carl and John noted regulatory hurdles, especially in California where the Z50.2 certification is not accepted under new sanitation codes starting January 2025 due to ANSI accreditation requirements. This leads to potential increased costs as third-party ANSI-accredited product certifiers require more expensive and external verification processes. Wisconsin and other states have accepted the BEAG certification after education of health inspectors, showing regional variance and uphill battles in regulatory acceptance.

The recertification course for BEAG's Internal Equipment Evaluator course is being built by Sarah (ASB) based on the Z50.2 Standard to certify Internal Equipment Evaluators & 3rd Party Inspectors. The recertification will be ready for beta testing in April, 2026. Let Sarah know if you're interested in being a tester and reviewing the 1-hour course.

➤ Open Discussion

Committee leadership presented Toby Steward, past chair, with a trophy to celebrate his 25+ years of leading and supporting the work of this committee.

Rowdy, current vice-chair, will be stepping down from the committee in the near future so there will be an opening for the vice-chair position. Please let Lisa know if you're interested.

The ASB staff will be updating and promoting the revised Z50.1-2026 standard, some committee members stepped up to help in promotion of the updates.

Next planned meeting: Feb 21st 2027 (Hyatt Regency Atlanta)

Steve Berne made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dave Hipenbecker seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 PM.