

Highlights of the Winter 2026 Virtual Technical Meeting

On January 27-28, 2026 the Cordage Institute held a Virtual Technical Meeting. The two-day event consisted of Technical Subcommittee and Task Group Meetings, and a meeting of the full Technical Committee. During the full Technical Committee meeting, reports from each Subcommittee and Task Group were provided.

3 and 8 Strand Ropes Subcommittee

Stephen Parola reported that the subcommittee had no updates to report. Maxamillian Linninger would take over the Chair role after this meeting due to Stephen's retirement. Sarah Padilla thanked him for his years of service and friendship. This was met with a round of applause.

Arborist Ropes Subcommittee

Josh Walls reported no updates.

ASME B30.9 Task Group

Sarah Padilla reported no updates on behalf of Greg D'Elia.

Boiler Plate Subcommittee

John Flory reported on the results of the internal ballot to update "The Box" and the warning label of each published document. This would go to the Board for final approval.

Braided Ropes Subcommittee

Sarah Padilla reported for Rafael Chou that CI 1312 – Standard: Nylon (Polyamide) Fiber Rope, 12-Strand Single Braid Construction would be updated for the next internal ballot.

Coatings Subcommittee

Koen Van Goethem reported no updates.

Cut Protection Guideline Task Group

Sarah Padilla reported no updates on behalf of Greg D'Elia.

Fiber Suppliers Subcommittee

Stuart Smith reported that a draft of CI 1507 – Standard: Test Method for Tensile Properties of Synthetic Fibers for Ropes would require further work before the next internal ballot.

Guidelines Subcommittee

Andrej Babrnak reported no updates.

High Tech Constructions Subcommittee

Danielle Stenvers reported that CI 1909 – Standard: LCP Rope Standard – High Tech Construction and CI 1910 – Standard: Aramid Rope Standard – High Tech Construction would be developed. Work is needed on the documents prior to an internal ballot.

ISO Subcommittee

Loet Hoppe reported on the following documents and progress regarding work being done within ISO:

- ISO 10325 - HMPE 8 and 12-Strand Braided and Covered Ropes would be updated with a warning text and revised tolerances for diameter and weight would be established.
- ISO 9554 - General Fibre Rope Specification has been opened, Forrest Sloan from Kuraray is the project leader.
- ISO 18692-1 – Offshore Mooring – General Standard would be submitted as a final draft.
- ISO 18692–2-5 – Offshore Mooring – Standards for specific fiber rope types - revisions would start soon.
- ISO 18821 (MEG4 lite) is now active. Experts within WG21 have reached out to NEN for assistance and a decision on how to proceed with issues from the document.
- CEN 1492-4 Lifting Slings (Braided Ropes) is being finished including updates to terminology, using high-modulus fibers, and engineered lifts.

Life Cycle Management Subcommittee

Koen Van Goethem reported no updates.

Life Safety Applications Subcommittee

Josh Walls reported that CI 1805 – International Standard: 3 Strand Life Safety Rope Moderate Stretch completed the internal ballot. There were several negative votes that would need to be resolved prior to the next internal ballot.

OCIMF MEG4 Task Group

Sarah Padilla reported for Amy Jenkins that the MEG4 FAQ document was approved by the Board. This document was presented to OCIMF; minutes of the meeting have not been released. Members who have completed the recertification process were asked to share their experiences and details to support further discussion of the 5-Year Recertification Process.

Reduced Recoil Risk Rope Subcommittee

Elizabeth Huntley reported that negative ballots were received for CI 1502 – Guideline: Test Methods for High-Modulus Reduced Recoil Risk Ropes. This would be discussed in person during the Joint Conference prior to the next internal ballot.

Slings, Lifting, and Material Handling Subcommittee

Sarah Padilla reported for Greg D’Elia that CI 1702 – Standard: Soft Shackles had 5 negatives on the last internal ballot and work would continue to resolve those negatives before another internal ballot.

Small Cords and Twines Subcommittee

Sarah Padilla reported no updates on behalf of Andrew Jencks.

Terminology Subcommittee

Patrick Yerger reported that the subcommittee would begin to review new terms to be included in CI 1202 – Standard: Terminology.

Testing Procedures Subcommittee

Shawn Davis reported that CI 1500A – Test Methods for Fiber Rope, Physical Properties would go out for external ballot. It was also reported that CI 1500B – Test Methods for Fiber Rope, Performance Properties was approved by the Board of Directors and published.

Yarn-on-Yarn Task Group

Loet Hoppe reported that CI 1503 – Standard: Test Method for Yarn-on-Yarn Abrasion: Polyamide and Polyester, CI 2009N – Guideline: Performance Requirements for Marine Grade Nylon Yarn for Fiber Rope, and CI 2009P – Guideline: Performance Requirements for Marine Grade Polyester Yarn for Fiber Rope received negative votes from the last internal ballot.

Loet reported that CI 1503 received a negative ballot from Albert Zueras from Brilen regarding the testing and results. The negative ballot was ruled non-persuasive by the subcommittee as it was not believed to be within the scope of CI 1503 and should instead be addressed in CI 2009N and CI 2009P. On motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the Technical Committee upheld the non-persuasive ruling for CI 1503.

Loet also explained that scopes of CI 2009N and CI 2009P should be reopened and expanded to include more testing after the next publication of the document in its current format. On motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the Technical Committee upheld the non-persuasive ruling for CI 2009N and CI 2009P negative ballot from Brilen based on the current scope for the documents. More testing would be done in future versions.

The negative votes from Maurice van der Nat from TP Industrial Yarns were withdrawn after editorial comments were made. Editorial changes would be made and the documents would go for external ballot.

The Technical Committee and Board of Directors would next meet as part of the Cordage Institute and Eurocord 7th Joint Conference on June 14-17, 2026, in Portugal.