



GUIDELINES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS FAQ

What is a GMG Guideline?

GMG guidelines are peer-reviewed documents that offer best practices, advise on the implementation and adoption of new technologies, or develop industry alignment. They are the product of industry-wide collaboration based on experience and lessons learned. The guidance aims to help identify key considerations, good practices, and questions to ask on the topic covered and enable operational improvements for safe, sustainable, and productive mines. Once the guideline is reviewed and accepted by the project group, working group members peer review and approve draft documents prior to their approval by the GMG Executive Council.

What is a GMG White Paper, and how is it different from a guideline?

GMG white papers are educational documents that provide broad knowledge and identify further reading on a topic that is new to or not well-understood in the industry. These documents are reviewed throughout development and editing but do not undergo the working group review and voting process as guidelines do.

What is the difference between a guideline and a standard?

GMG Guidelines are not industry standards and use of GMG guidelines is entirely voluntary. The guidelines are intended to be informative so that they can be used to assist the global mining community with practices to improve their operations and/or implement new technologies. They aim to supplement, not replace, or alter existing standards, regulations, and company policies. Guidelines can also be a first step in identifying common and successful practices and feed into standardization efforts before there is a chance for a comprehensive body of standards to be developed.

GMG supports standardization efforts but does not develop standards. A few key differences are outlined below:

Guideline	Standard
Descriptive	Prescriptive
Identifies and recommends common practices and supports standardization	Informs policy and regulation
Broader/general	Specific
Shorter development process	Longer development process