



ISO's Stakeholder Category Definitions

When adding a U.S. expert as a member of an ISO Working Group (WG), ISO requires several pieces of information in order to make the registration in the ISO system. Those are the expert's Full Name, their Email Address, their Organization and their ISO Stakeholder Category.

We are providing, for your information, the full definitions of those 7 categories, as provided by ISO:

Industry and Commerce – manufacturers; producers; designers; service industries; distribution, warehousing and transport undertakings; retailers; insurers; banks and financial institutions; business and trade associations

Government – international and regional treaty organizations and agencies; national government and local government departments and agencies, and all bodies that have a legally recognised regulatory function

Consumers – national, regional and international consumer representation bodies, independent of any organization that would fall into the "industry and commerce" category, or individual experts engaged from a consumer perspective

Labour – international, regional, national and local trades unions and federations of trades unions and similar bodies the main purpose of which is to promote or safeguard the collective interests of employees in respect of their relationship with their employers (this does not include professional associations¹)

Academic and Research Bodies – universities and other higher educational bodies or professional educators associated with them; professional associations¹; research institutions

Standards Application – testing, certification and accreditation bodies; organizations primarily devoted to promoting or assessing the use of standards²

Non-governmental Organization (NGO) – organizations that usually operate on a charitable, not-for-profit or non-profit distributing basis and that have a public interest objective related to social or environmental concerns. This category does not include political parties or other bodies whose main purpose is to achieve representation in government or governmental bodies.

Notes:

¹ Professional associations are regarded as:

- associations of individuals practicing, or being closely associated with the practice of, specific professional skills or sets of closely related skills; and
- having a purpose, at least in part, to advance the development of those skills and the understanding of the arts, sciences and technologies to which they relate.

² 'Accreditation' refers to the accreditation of testing and certification bodies.

About the ANSI ISO Team (ISOT)

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is the U.S. member body to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). To ensure a strong and effective U.S. voice in international standardization, the ANSI ISO Team (ISOT) acts as the primary interface for U.S. Stakeholders—between ANSI-accredited U.S. Technical Advisory Groups (U.S. TAGs) and their related ISO Committees, and as the main contact for ANSI-delegated U.S. held ISO secretariats.

ISOT daily operations include monitoring and recording of ISO documents, processing votes on behalf of U.S. TAGs, accrediting delegates to attend international meetings, nominating experts to participate on working groups, coordination with key group such as the ANSI ISO Forum (AIF), ANSI ISO Council (AIC), and the ISO Technical Management Board (TMB), administering ANSI Virtual Technical Advisory Groups (VTAGs), facilitating training programs, among many other functions. In addition to daily responsibilities, ISOT is available to assist with any committee specific issues U.S. TAGs or U.S. held secretariats may be facing. ISOT staff is well versed in the ISO procedures, ANSI International Procedures, and has experience in all aspects of the ISO process.

For organizations that are new to ISO or want additional support with ISO related activities, ANSI's ISOT staff provides hands-on, practical guidance on all aspects of administration of U.S. TAGs or ISO Secretariats through its fee-based Enhanced Services program. For more information, contact isot@ansi.org.

Additional resources can be found on ISOT's SharePoint site (<https://share.ansi.org/isot>).