

ANSI's Role in Conformity Assessment

ANSI, the coordinator of the U.S. Standards system, is also responsible for voluntary conformity assessment* policy issues within the context of the:

- **ANSI Mission and Principles,**
- **ANSI National Standards Strategy, and**
- **ANSI National Conformity Assessment Principles**

In conformity assessment areas, ANSI is committed to two (2) related but distinct efforts:

1. The ANSI Conformity Assessment Policy Committee (CAPC) addresses conformity assessment policy issues. The CAPC:

- a. develops consensus among all stakeholders and advocates policy nationally, regionally, and internationally.
- b. coordinates U.S. positions via the ANSI International Conformity Assessment Committee (ICAC) and ensures that these positions are considered in the development of conformity assessment guides and standards within the International Organization for Standardization's (ISO) Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO).
- c. promotes widespread education and understanding of conformity assessment.

2. The ANSI Accreditation Programs provide effective and comprehensive accreditation of conformity assessment bodies. ANSI Accreditation Programs:

- a. serve the needs of the market in an open, flexible and efficient manner that maintains technical rigor and upholds the highest level of integrity.
- b. strengthen relationships with government agencies to enhance the recognition and use of private sector conformity assessment processes for foreign and domestic regulatory needs.
- c. operate in conformance to relevant international standards.
- d. support mutual recognition programs where such recognition promotes the interests and competitiveness of U.S. industry.

CAPC
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*(ISO/IEC DIS 17000: Conformity assessment is the activity that provides demonstration that specified requirements relating to a product, process, system, person or body are fulfilled. Conformity assessment covers such activities as, **testing**, **inspection** and **certification** as well as the **accreditation** of conformity assessment bodies.)