What is ANSI?

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is a private non-profit organization that facilitates standardization and conformity assessment activities in the U.S. and around the globe. ANSI is not itself a standards developing organization. Rather, the Institute oversees the creation, promulgation, and use of thousands of standards, guidelines, and conformance measures that directly impact businesses and consumers in nearly every industry. ANSI empowers organizations to strengthen their position in the global economy, while helping to assure the safety and health of consumers worldwide and the protection of the environment.

Representing the diverse interests of more than 125,000 companies and organizations and 3.5 million professionals around the world, the Institute provides a neutral forum for collaboration between the private and public sectors. As the voice of the U.S. standardization system, ANSI works with stakeholders from both industry and government to identify consensus-based solutions to global priorities.

ANSI is the official U.S. representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) via the U.S. National Committee, the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), and other international and regional fora.

ANSI
American National Standards Institute

STANDARDS AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT SOLUTIONS FOR:

Trade Growth

Business Development

Technology and Innovation

Human Health

Consumer Safety

Sustainability

Protection of the Environment

Homeland Security

Import Safety

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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ANSI

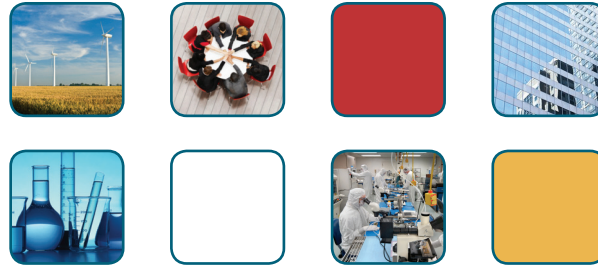## THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

An Introduction

STANDARDS OPEN
THE CHANNELS TO
GLOBAL COMMERCE

The U.S. Standards System

In many countries, the standardization system is top-down, with a single body – often a government agency – driving all national standardization activities. The U.S. system is bottom-up, allowing standards users to drive development. This approach promotes speed and flexibility in delivering and implementing solutions to market. It also encourages participation from a wide spectrum of stakeholders, considers input from all interested parties, and helps to prevent unnecessary or overly burdensome requirements.
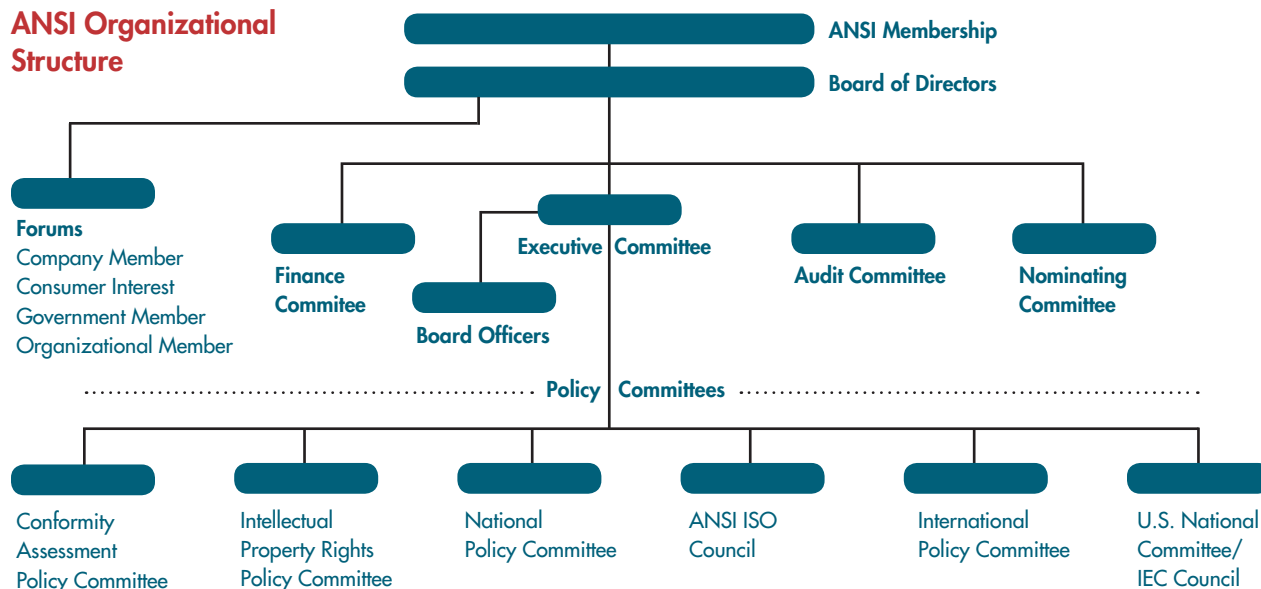
Most U.S. standards developing organizations operate as independent, private-sector organizations under the ANSI umbrella. ANSI serves as the coordinator of private-sector technical standardization activity; the overseer of the development, promulgation, and use of thousands of standards and guidelines in nearly every industry; and the facilitator of the public-private sector collaborations that make for the most robust solutions. The U.S. government often looks to private-sector-developed standards for incorporation into regulation.

Conformity Assessment

Conformity assessment provides demonstration that a product, process, system, person, or service fulfills the requirements identified in a specific standard. ANSI is involved in a large number of conformity assessment activities, including third-party accreditation of organizations that certify that products, processes, personnel, services, systems, and certificate programs meet recognized standards. These activities frequently receive U.S. government recognition and enhance the confidence of consumers, buyers, sellers, regulators, and other interested parties while avoiding the creation of unnecessary barriers to trade.

ANSI Organizational Structure

ANSI Membership

Board of Directors

Forums
Company Member
Consumer Interest
Government Member
Organizational Member

Finance Commitee

Executive Committee

Board Officers

Audit Committee

Nominating Committee

.... Policy Committees ....

Conformity Assessment Policy Committee

Intellectual Property Rights Policy Committee

National Policy Committee

ANSI ISO Council

International Policy Committee

U.S. National Committee/ IEC Council

Examples of Key ANSI Standards and Conformance Programs

ANSI China Program for global manufacturers, organizations, and individuals doing business in China

StandardsPortal.org: an online resource for global trade for the U.S., China, Korea, and India (and more regions to come)

ANSI Accreditation Programs for greenhouse gas verifiers, product and personnel certifiers, laboratories, and many others

Education offerings including university outreach, domestic and international training, and topical webinars

Identity Theft Prevention and Identity Management Standards Panel for standards coordination related to ID fraud

ANSI Homeland Security Standards Panel for standards coordination related to homeland safety and protection

Approval and designation of American National Standards and accreditation of standards developers

U.S. Representative to ISO, to IEC via the USNC, to IAF, and to other international and regional fora