Thank you and good evening. It is a pleasure to be here representing ANSI at the eleventh Global Standards Collaboration conference. I hope you all have had a productive week.

The Institute has been participating in the GSC as far back as 1996 in Korea. Of course, Chicago is a lot more convenient than Korea, for me in particular. Since I began my new position as ANSI's president and CEO in January, I have been traveling back and forth between Washington, DC—where ANSI's headquarters are located—and my home here in the Chicago area.

Like most professionals that have a heavy travel schedule, I have become increasingly dependent upon an amazing array of electronic devices. From cell phone to laptop to blackberry, I am always "connected." Of course, my friend Dan Bart of TIA, who graciously invited me to speak here tonight, is notoriously connected. It's absolutely impossible to predict at what time of the day or night he'll be checking and sending his e-mail! And for years I've heard stories of Dan connecting from unusual places . . . I understand that he's even been known to take his laptop and cell phone on family camping trips.

Well, it may be getting easier and easier for Dan to stay connected while he's vacationing in the wild. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns announced at the Telecom 2005 meeting in Las Vegas last October that his department is investing more than $5 billion in loans and grants to promote broadband service in rural areas. FCC chairman Kevin Martin and Ambassador David Gross, U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy at the Department of State, added their commitments to fostering communications and making sure that people who live in rural and high-cost areas continue to get affordable IT and telecommunications services.

At the same conference, Assistant Commerce Secretary Michael Gallagher announced that his department is working with the private sector to help predict and plan for future communications technologies. From our perspective, it is important that plans for the future be set as a partnership between the private and public sectors.

-pause-

In preparing for my remarks this evening, I read a [1999 report from a professor at Columbia University](#) who said that the basic building blocks of every communications device we have today existed twenty years ago.   But today those devices are cheaper, faster, smaller and more widely spread through society.

This same professor cited [Moore's law](#), the 1965 observation by a co-founder of Intel that the complexity of integrated circuits, with respect to minimum component cost, doubles every two years. In 2000, it was predicted that 100 trillion transistors would be produced around the world, with many of them crammed on silicon wafers. If Moore's law remains valid, by the year 2020 these chips will have 1,000 times more power than today, or be 1,000 times cheaper, or a combination of the two.

But, rather than speak to you about the things you already know, I decided I would share with you a few things that might be somewhat outside your normal sphere of reference.

- First, I'm going to give you an update on the *United States Standards Strategy* and how it is being implemented.
- Second, I'm going to tell you about some of ANSI's efforts to engage certain stakeholders that fall outside of the traditional standardization process and what this means for you.
- Finally, I'm going to talk a little about some of ANSI's important initiatives going on in the field of security standards.

-pause-

Let me begin by stating that, as an electrical engineer, I have always been intrigued and impressed by the technological advances in the areas that you all represent.   Now, as the new president of NSI, I have a special appreciation for your industry. Companies in the information and communication technology community represent over 13% of ANSI's membership. And – at last count – the ICT standards that have been produced by many of the organizations in the room tonight number more than 11,200; this is nearly 15% of the total inventory in ANSI's eStandards Store.

Obviously the _needs_ that drive standards and conformity assessment activities are unique to your industry, but the _values_ that support them are shared by many.

It is ANSI's role and responsibility to consider the unique needs and concerns of _each_ industry that we represent. This is why we stepped forward to play such an active role in the development of the *United States Standards Strategy*.

-pause-

The U.S. standardization model is one of many in the world. The very diversity that sets us apart from other nations is also one of the qualities that make our system so effective. It is extremely flexible and allows autonomy. But in order for the U.S. to continue to compete viably in the global marketplace, this diversity must be integrated into a coordinated standards plan for the entire nation.

In 2000, the *National Standards Strategy for the United States* was published with an understanding that it would evolve over time. Over the course of 2004 and 2005, I had the honor of serving as chairman of the United States Standards Strategy Committee, an independent group convened by ANSI to lead the review and revision of the NSS. Our job was to ensure that the U.S. standards strategy would reflect the current standardization landscape.

The two documents from 2000 and 2005 have a lot in common. They both articulate a framework that can be used by all stakeholders to address trade issues in the global marketplace, advance U.S. viewpoints in regional and international arenas and, at the same time, enhance consumer health and safety.

The USSS is designed with the numerous needs of many stakeholders in mind. It takes a broad view to accommodate the wide range of opportunities that are presented to standardization stakeholders – both here in the U.S. and abroad. It contains the specific principles and concrete goals that drive the U.S. standards system and make it unique. I'll tell you about a few of them:

First, the USSS reinforces the advantages of government use of voluntary consensus standards. The ten year milestone of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) shows how far we've come in getting the public sector involved and ever more reliant on voluntary standards.

Second, the USSS calls for responsiveness to emerging national priorities, new technologies, and consumer interests. ANSI's standards panels are an excellent example of how the Institute is responding to the critical needs of the nation, embracing emerging technologies and protecting consumer interests. The panels are actively addressing standardization issues in healthcare information technology, nanotechnology and homeland security, which I'll talk more about in a few minutes.

Finally, the *United States Standards Strategy* calls for improved cooperation and coherence within the U.S. system. To accomplish this, we need to reduce duplication of effort and eliminate areas of redundancy. We must also broaden the scope of stakeholders, and reach out to non-traditional standards developing groups such as consortia and other forums.

Just as there are many different standardization systems throughout the world, there are various approaches here in our own backyard which are meeting the marketplace needs.

This brings me to my second topic for this evening. As ANSI's president and CEO, engaging other stakeholder groups – both from the manufacturing community and the ever-growing services sector – is one of my top priorities.

For ANSI to remain an effective focal point organization for the U.S. standardization community, and to effectively represent our interests globally and in a holistic fashion, we must reach out to new constituencies, embrace them and bring them into the fold.

On May 18, the chairman of ANSI's Board of Directors formed an ad hoc group to explore opportunities to expand and enhance relationships with the broader spectrum of U.S. based standards and conformity assessment stakeholders.

Groups like those in the food sector. Or pharmacopeia. Or those in the transportation and tourism industries. Or in banking and insurance groups. They all need standards and have to demonstrate compliance. They all are impacted by Congressional actions and need to connect to their focal federal agencies. They all have international activities and global counterparts that they need to connect to via international standardization organizations.

ANSI can help.

In just three weeks, the Institute will host an Open Forum for Standards Developers of all kinds—not just for ANSI-accredited organizations, but also for consortia and many other sectors that are either minimally or not at all engaged with ANSI. The goal of this Forum is to identify more opportunities for cooperation, collaboration and harmonization.

This discussion was launched last year in Boston during a sector caucus that brought together representatives from SDOs and consortia for frank discussions about our respective activities and values as related to the developing *U.S. Standards Strategy*. We found we had much in common. The Open Forum is going to build on the positive dialogue that was set into motion last year, and will help us define even more common ground.

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Consumers are another constituency that the standardization community needs to engage more actively.

In your industry, the rapid pace of innovation combined with the proliferation of telecommunications equipment demands ongoing consumer input. It would be nice if the term "consumer" only pointed to one kind of person. If that were true, they would be easy to satisfy. But consumers include people with special needs, therefore many products and the standards that guide them must take into account considerations for the disabled or aging. The older population represents about 13% of the U.S. population—that means about one in every eight Americans is over 65. By 2030, there will be about 71.5 million older persons in the U.S., most of us among them.

The aging population is the group that will be driving most of the accessibility, dexterity and other special needs issues that we face in our standardization work. We are already seeing the results for example in improvements in hearing aid compatibility with cell phones and web browsers for the visually impaired.

At times, our community responds to consumer needs that go beyond product safety or accessibility, and instead speak to a much wider national priority. In 2004, President Bush called for a widespread network of interoperable standards in our nation's healthcare system. The Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel that I mentioned earlier is stepping forward in a coordination role to provide the standards that will plug our healthcare system into the 21st century. The HITSP is coordinating standards work to enable and support widespread interoperability, access, privacy and security of shared health information for all. In this case, harmonization is not just a goal – it is a necessity.

The HITSP a great example of a complex standardization problem that almost everyone can identify with. Every one of us has been a patient, and we all want our information to be safe, private, and in the hands of the people and software systems that will manage it best.

After all, information security is an everyday concern now. The Internet is always open for business. As a result, there will be problems of fraud, misrepresentation, and theft. Today, security is an area of extremely rapid growth and activity in the standards world– some would argue it is the most active area.

Standards improve security by providing tools to assess risks, and defining measurement methods and test levels to detect threats. They establish equipment performance and design requirements for devices, systems and infrastructure. And, as we are seeing with the integration of biometric requirements into our passports and other IDs, standards define uniform methods for identification of individuals.

In 2003, ANSI was called upon to respond the critical security needs of the nation, and the ANSI Homeland Security Standards Panel—the first of ANSI's three standards panels—has been a case study for

success. It embodies the spirit of "standards collaboration" as it addresses standardization in the areas of emergency communications, business continuity, and preparedness.

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One of America's greatest computer scientists, Alan Kay, once said: "The best way to predict the future is to invent it."

With an effective standards strategy in place and the boldness to reach beyond today's boundaries, I feel confident in saying that we are beginning to invent our future. To reach our goal, we will need to capitalize on the immense talent of the individuals that make up our standardization community, individuals like those present here today at GSC-11.

Thank you all very much for your attention. I welcome any questions you might have.

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