## Frances Schrotter Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer American National Standards Institute 2007 Bio U.S. Ch Washington

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Panelist remarks

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Good afternoon everyone. On behalf of the American National Standards Institute, it is my pleasure to join this panel, and to have the opportunity to speak with you today.

As you well know, alternative fuels have received increasing attention both at the national and global levels. They have the potential to diversify energy supplies and to propel economic development.

The successful rollout of alternative energy resources depends upon a reliable and broad set of standards and related compliance programs. This work begins on the world's farms and ends in our machinery and vehicles.

(pause)

Since many of you may not be too familiar with ANSI and the U.S. standards community, a few words about who we are and what we do might help set the stage for this discussion.

- The Institute is responsible for coordinating the voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems in the United States.
- ANSI accredits not only standards developing organizations, but also the certification bodies in the product, personnel, and quality management system areas.
- We are the national member body for ISO, the International Organization for Standardization and, via the U.S. National Committee to the IEC, the International Electrotechnical Commission.
- We represent the U.S. in regional organizations in the Americas, the Pacific Rim, and the European Union.
- And in January, we joined the Chamber's Biofuels Initiative Steering Committee as the focal point for standards and conformance-related discussions

As the umbrella organization for the U.S. standardization community, ANSI offers an open and consensus-based forum in which all who are affected by an issue can come together to take action.

Over the past few years, we have been actively engaging stakeholders in a series of standards panels. These groups are successfully harmonizing and coordinating standards activities for national and global priorities.

The Biofuels Standards [coordination] Panel, launched on May 9<sup>th</sup>, is the latest addition to a family that already includes Homeland Security, Nanotechnology, Healthcare Information Technology, and Identity Theft Protection.

(pause)

The Biofuels Standards [coordination] Panel will not itself engage in the development of standards or the accompanying compliance programs, reference materials and test methods.

Rather, the Panel will rely on the organizations that have expertise in these areas – whether those organizations are national in scope, or whether they are regional or international standards bodies. The panel's goal is to work toward alignment and greater compatibility among standards while mitigating duplication and overlap.

Along the way we expect to identify that many solutions are already in place. ASTM International, for example, has already completed a tremendous amount of work in the area of fuel quality specifications. Other standards and code developing organizations – the American Petroleum Institute, the Society of Automotive Engineers, the Canadian Standards Association, the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, the National Fire Protection Association, Underwriters Laboratories, and others – have also completed a great deal of work in their respective areas.

But there are many other areas where work needs to be done. At the Panel's inaugural meeting two weeks ago, we continued a dialogue that began in January at an ANSI and DOE-hosted workshop to identify existing standards, active organizations (private and public sector), gaps and project timelines.

One of our breakout groups focused on needs from the field to the processing plant – this includes topics ranging from feedstock to pretreatment and initial processing.

The second group looked at areas of need from the processing plant to end-use – including distribution as well as vehicular and stationary uses.

We agreed that we need to develop a "process map" that will help us to identify any gaps in the standards and conformity assessment portfolio. An ad hoc group is being formed to build upon a series of seven process diagrams that have already been developed by DoE for various feedstocks.

We will prioritize these identified needs, and we will continue to work with the relevant organizations to coordinate, catalog, accelerate and promote the creation of the appropriate deliverables.

Our goal is to move quickly, focusing on areas where rapid and decisive progress can be made. Building upon existing resources such as the DoE pathways will help us to achieve this goal.

(pause)

It would be unwise of us to view the diversification of energy supplies and the large-scale commoditization of biofuels only from a national perspective. By working together with partners around the globe, the U.S. standards community will propel economic development in the biofuels industry.

ANSI's Panel must coordinate with regional and international standards setting bodies – whether through new or existing bilateral or multilateral initiatives. Our work is already underway.

Earlier this year, ABNT, the national standards body for Brazil, proposed to partner with ANSI to introduce a biofuels activity within the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The scope of work may include a broad spectrum of issues – from test methods to specifications and classifications to measurement standards.

It is not intended that the proposed ISO work would duplicate any existing global standards, but perhaps would normatively reference them in a new performance-based standard. This would give the ISO imprimatur to the documents and open the door for acceptance by many nations who adopt ISO publications as their national standards.

(pause)

Whether we're talking about the Biofuels Standards [coordination] Panel or the activities of an international committee, strong partnerships will be key to our success as we work to achieve convergence and mitigate duplication or overlap.

As you heard from Greg Manuel, the U.S. government's interface with bilateral and multilateral initiatives around the world is helping to accelerate the widespread commoditization of biofuels. Standards developed with a private-sector lead are the fuel of this economic engine.

(pause)

As a member of the Chamber's Biofuels Steering Committee, ANSI will be working closely with you and with top U.S. business and government leaders to set the U.S. biofuels agenda as it pertains to standards and conformance.

We are pleased to continue this successful relationship as we explore biofuels standardization needs.

I look forward to your questions. Thank you.