What is an American National Standard (ANS) anyway?
And how can I participate in the ANS development process?

Speaker: Anne Caldas - Senior Director, Procedures & Standards Administration (PSA), ANSI

PLEASE NOTE:

- Everyone is MUTED for the duration of the webinar.
- You will not hear anything until the webinar starts at 2:00 pm Eastern.
- Please send questions via "Q&A option to all"; questions will be addressed in writing during the webinar, or after, via email.
- A copy of the slides will be sent to you after the webinar along with useful urls.

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Tip if you are using your computer and cannot hear

- When Cisco Webex launches from the e-mail link, it does NOT automatically launch the computer audio…

- If this is how you launched and you have no computer audio

  - activate the audio via the "more options" ("…") button at the bottom of the screen

  - then activate computer audio via the "audio connection" option

- *Alternative:* click communicate – audio- and then you'll be asked to pick "I will call in" or "Call using computer"

- *Before we get started...on behalf of ANSI, I'd like to send everyone our best wishes for health, strength and perseverance...*

- *I'd also like to recognize and thank everyone on the front lines – emergency responders, health care professionals, manufacturers, scientists, grocery store workers, delivery people and all who are allowing our world to continue*

  - *Standards matter in their world, like they do for all of us*

- *I hope that if you don't yet recognize the critical role of standards, you'll soon begin to see how important they are to us all*

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Standards are critical during this COVID-19 pandemic

- ANSI updates this page to alert you to standards activity relevant to the pandemic (https://www.ansi.org/COVID-19/)

- ANSI COVID-19 Resource Webpage
  - Links to many standards developers that have special information about their relevant standards work and published standards
    - e.g., PPE standard: ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2010 *American National Standard for Occupational and Educational Personal Eye and Face Protection*
  - Link to the ANSI portal, *Freely Available ISO and IEC Standards to Help Address COVID-19 Crisis*
    - now includes 36 international standards covering medical equipment and devices – including ventilators and respiratory equipment; protective clothing used in health care settings; and business continuity management, security, and resilience.

Let's get started…

- On behalf of ANSI, thanks very much for joining us today
  - A huge thank you to those of you who are already involved in standards…you literally make the world a better place

- My goals for the next 60-90 minutes:
  - Connect you to the world of standards and pique your interest
  - Share information about ANSI and the "American National Standards" (ANS) process
  - Spread the word about the value of standards in our daily lives and to the U.S. economy
  - Encourage you to get involved

- *So much to say and so little time*…but please know that I – and ANSI – am available to you as a resource going forward, so please consider today the start of our conversation in this new world…

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Today is a review of the basics

- What is a standard?

- A bit about the U.S. Standards System

- What is ANSI? For more: www.ansi.org/WhatIsANSI?

- Why do standards matter and who creates them?

- What are American National Standards (ANS)?

  – What requirements apply to the ANS consensus process?

  – Who develops ANS?

  – How can you participate in the development of ANS?

- Where to learn more/training: www.standardslearn.org

- *Standards Boost Business:* over 30 partners working together on this campaign. SBB concepts are woven throughout this webinar www.standardsboostbusiness.org

So let's begin with some context relevant to today's focus…

What is a standard? A VCS? An ANS?

- **Standard*:** a document that tells you how to do or say or make or test or organize or design something

  - **Voluntary Consensus Standard (VCS)* (definition to follow):** a private sector standard developed in a specifically defined open and fair environment with general agreement by stakeholders (OMB A-119, NTTAA)

    - *see https://www.nist.gov/standardsgov/what-we-do/federal-policy-standards/key-federal-directives*

  - **American National Standard (ANS):** a VCS developed in accordance with the "*ANSI Essential Requirements: Due process requirements for American National Standards*" and subject to ANSI's unique: 1) accreditation of consensus procedures; 2) neutral oversight; 3) approval process; 4) appeals process; and 5) procedural audit.

* Simplified definition

For reference…

- ◆ OMB Circular A-119: *Federal Participation in the Development and use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities*

  - – "The policies of Circular A-119 are intended to encourage Federal agencies to benefit from the expertise of the private sector, promote Federal agency participation in standards bodies to support the creation of standards that are useable by Federal agencies, and minimize reliance on government-unique standards where an existing standard would meet the Federal government's objective."

- ◆ National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTAA)

  - – This law directs all federal government agencies to use, wherever feasible, standards and conformity assessment solutions developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies in lieu of developing government-unique standards or regulations.

Definition of VCS from OMB Circular A-119

What Are Voluntary Consensus Standards?

- "Voluntary consensus standard" is a type of standard developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies, through the use of a voluntary consensus standards development process as described in Section 2e.

  - These bodies often have intellectual property rights (IPR) policies that include provisions requiring that owners of relevant patented technology incorporated into a standard make that intellectual property available to implementers of the standard on non-discriminatory and royalty-free or reasonable royalty terms (and to bind subsequent owners of standards essential patents to the same terms).

  - In order to qualify as a "voluntary consensus standard" for the purposes of this Circular, a standard that includes patented technology needs to be governed by such policies, which should be easily accessible, set out clear rules governing the disclosure and licensing of the relevant intellectual property, and take into account the interests of all stakeholders, including the IPR holders and those seeking to implement the standard.

- *ANSI's Patent Policy that applies to American National Standards (section 3.1 of the ANSI Essential Requirements) fulfills this requirement and has existed for more than 50 years old*

Definition of VCS Body
OMB Circular A-119

e. **"Voluntary consensus standards body"** is a type of association, organization, or technical society that plans, develops, establishes, or coordinates voluntary consensus standards using a voluntary consensus standards development process that includes the following attributes or elements:

(i) Openness: The procedures or processes used are open to interested parties. Such parties are provided meaningful opportunities to participate in standards development on a non-discriminatory basis. The procedures or processes for participating in standards development and for developing the standard are transparent.

(ii) Balance: The standards development process should be balanced. Specifically, there should be meaningful involvement from a broad range of parties, with no single interest dominating the decision-making.

(iii) Due process: Due process shall include documented and publically available policies and procedures, adequate notice of meetings and standards development, sufficient time to review drafts and prepare views and objections, access to views and objections of other participants, and a fair and impartial process for resolving conflicting views.
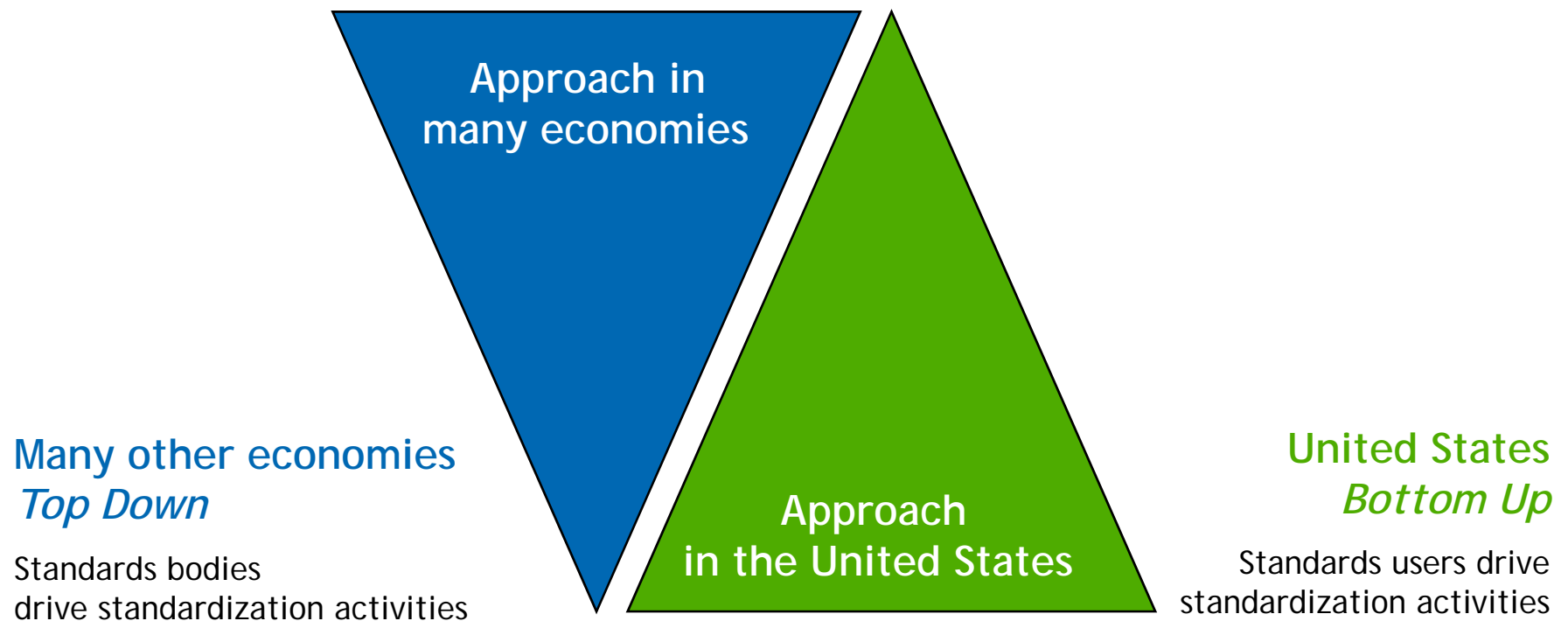
(iv) Appeals process: An appeals process shall be available for the impartial handling of procedural appeals.

(v) Consensus: Consensus is defined as general agreement, but not necessarily unanimity. During the development of consensus, comments and objections are considered using fair, impartial, open, and transparent processes.

Let's briefly review some background about standards development...

U.S. approach to standards development is different from that of many other countries

Approach in many economies

Approach in the United States

Many other economies
Top Down

Standards bodies
drive standardization activities

United States
Bottom Up

Standards users drive
standardization activities

U.S. Standardization System
comparison with many other economies

◆ Emphasizes private-sector **standards solutions**

◆ Relies on private-sector **compliance verification** (conformity assessment) for both regulatory and non-regulatory functions

◆ Provides a strong voice and greater authority to standards users and individual stakeholders

Let's look at some key actors in standards development in the U.S.

	ANSI	Standards Developers	Companies & Other Stakeholders	Consumers & Other Stakeholders	Government & Other Stakeholders	NIST
Coordinates U.S. system and policy development	X					
Independently runs standards development activities		X				
Coordinates and monitors USG use of and participation in VCS activities. Develops NIST standards.						X
Legal metrology and WTO-TBT enquiry point						X
Provides technical input for standards development			X	X	X	X
Participates in U.S. policy development	X	X	X	X	X	X

Let's take a minute now to review ANSI's roles…

- **ANSI** coordinates standards, conformity assessment, and related activities in the United States of America.
  - Founded in **1918**, ANSI is a private, not-for-profit organization (501(c)3)
  - ANSI is not a government agency, standards developer or certifier

- **ANSI's mission** is to enhance the global competitiveness of U.S. business and the American quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems and ensuring their integrity.

- ANSI represents the U.S. globally
  - ISO, IEC, Regional (next slide)
- Accredits standards developers, and through the *ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB)*, conformity assessment bodies
  - And ensures the integrity of related systems

- Approves Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) as ANS (more on this soon)
- Offers neutral forum to address issues of national importance
- Coordinates partnerships between U.S. public and private sectors
  - In support of standards-based solutions

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- U.S. national body member to the ISO (International Organization for Standardization www.iso.ch)

- U.S. national body member to the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission www.iec.ch) via the U.S. National Committee (USNC)

- a U.S. member of IAF and ILAC (International Conformity Assessment)

- member of regional forums in the Pacific Rim and the Americas

- liaison with groups in Europe, Africa and the Middle East

- bilateral agreements with other national standards and conformity assessment bodies
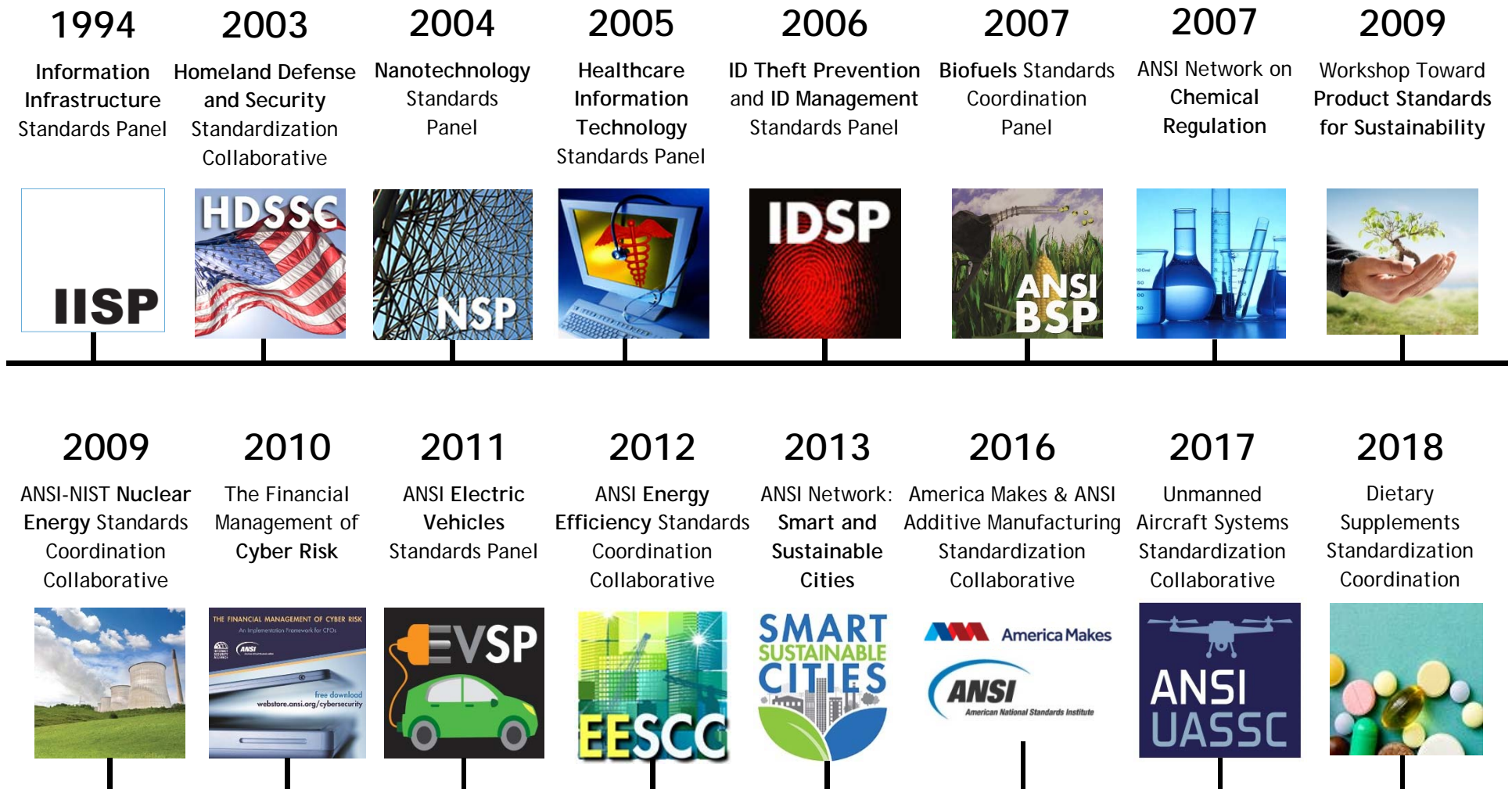
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As the bridge between public-sector policies and private-sector solutions, ANSI has a vital role to play in strengthening U.S. competitiveness and quality of life.

Let's look at some examples…

ANSI Collaboratives and Workshops...a bridge

Addressing issues of national importance via standards and conformity assessment solutions

1994	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007	2009
Information Infrastructure Standards Panel	Homeland Defense and Security Standardization Collaborative	Nanotechnology Standards Panel	Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel	ID Theft Prevention and ID Management Standards Panel	Biofuels Standards Coordination Panel	ANSI Network on Chemical Regulation	Workshop Toward Product Standards for Sustainability

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2016	2017	2018
ANSI-NIST Nuclear Energy Standards Coordination Collaborative	The Financial Management of Cyber Risk	ANSI Electric Vehicles Standards Panel	ANSI Energy Efficiency Standards Coordination Collaborative	ANSI Network: Smart and Sustainable Cities	America Makes & ANSI Additive Manufacturing Standardization Collaborative	Unmanned Aircraft Systems Standardization Collaborative	Dietary Supplements Standardization Coordination

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Let's briefly review ANSI's role as an Accreditor:

- *Standards developers*

- *Conformity assessment bodies*

ANSI as an "Accreditor"
Standards Developer vs. Certification Body

- ANSI accredits standards developers and through ANAB - a wholly owned subsidiary of ANSI - conformity assessment bodies, e.g., certifiers of products, people and systems (see next slide)

  ➢ ANSI is not a standards developer or certifier

- We've talked about standards, but let's clarify the term "Conformity Assessment", which relates to the application of standards (not our focus today):

  ➢ **Conformity Assessment is an activity concerned with determining directly or indirectly that relevant requirements (including specified standards) are fulfilled** (see ISO/IEC 17000:2004)

  ➢ For example, a label on a product might make a statement of conformance with a standard: x product meets *ANSI/ABC 1-2013 (How to build a widget)*

    ➢ *But ANSI itself did not certify that product or develop the referenced standard*

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ANSI, through ANAB, as an Accreditor: Conformity Assessment

- "Conformity assessment" provides assurance and confidence

    – to consumers, businesses and government when personnel, products, systems, processes, or services are evaluated against the requirements of a voluntary standard

    – www.ansi.org/ncap (*see* U.S. Conformity Assessment Principles)

- ANSI, through ANAB, offers many accreditation programs for conformity assessment bodies:

    – www.anab.org

    – many standards, including some ANS, form the basis of conformity assessment programs

- While standards are among the documents used in conformity assessment programs, the accreditation requirements for standards developers vs. conformity assessment bodies are distinct and the programs are separate…

ANAB Accreditations – Conformity Assessment (www.anab.org)

ANSI National Accreditation Board

ANAB

	client	standard
Conformity Assessment Programs (ISO 17011)	Product Certification Body	ISO/IEC 17065
	Personnel Certification Body	ISO/IEC 17024
	Certificate Issuer	ANSI-ASTM E2659
	GHG Validation/Verification Body	ISO/IEC 14065
	Management Systems Certification Body	ISO/IEC 17021
	Laboratory	ISO/IEC 17025
	Inspection Body	ISO/IEC 17020
	Proficiency Test Provider	ISO/IEC 17043
	Reference Material Producer	ISO Guide 34
	Medical Lab	ISO 15189

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Now let's narrow our focus to ANSI's role as the Accreditor of standards developers in connection with American National Standards (ANS) and what this means …

ANSI as an "Accreditor" of standards developers

- Accreditation by ANSI as a standards developer is a pre-condition for submitting a standard for approval as an American National Standard (ANS)

  - ➢ In other words, individual standards can only be submitted to ANSI for approval as an ANS by an ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer (ASD) – www.ansi.org/asd

- ANSI accreditation as a standards developer is based on a defined process that is overseen by neutral standards experts who are ANSI Members (ANSI ExSC)

  - Application, public review & comment, approval of compliant consensus procedures, multi-level appeals process, reaccreditation when procedures are revised, annual compliance certification, regular procedural audits of ANS

Accreditation as a Standards Developer: for American National Standards (ANS)

At ANSI:

➤ Accreditation **as a standards developer** relates to the procedures used in relation to American National Standards (ANS) only.

➤ Accreditation means that a standards developer's procedures with respect to **proposed and approved ANS** meet the due process based criteria established in a document called the "*ANSI Essential Requirements*" (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements)

➤ Once accredited, a standards developer uses those procedures to develop evidence of consensus with respect to the content of a proposed ANS.

Let's remind ourselves why standards are important…
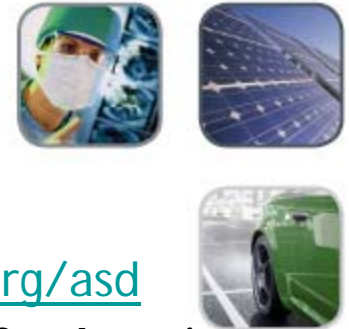
Why are standards important?

- Standards facilitate trade, commerce, and innovation

- Standards give us common language

- Standards help to advance scientific discovery and keep people safe by minimizing injuries and protecting key environmental resources

- Standards reduce costs in the public and private sectors

- Standards support interoperability in all areas of life

- Standards make everyday life and the economy work, for example:

  - Product standards: banking cards, washing machines, face shields, goggles

  - Safety standards: lifejackets, eyewear, boiler pressure vessel code, national electrical code, life safety code, standards for first responders

  - Performance standards: food and toy safety

  - Prescriptive & performance standards (some can be both): indoor air quality

  - Management systems standards: quality, environmental & energy management

  - Personnel standards: food handlers, crane operators, welders

  - Built environment standards: plumbing, mechanical and building codes

  - ICT standards: underpin almost everything

ANSI
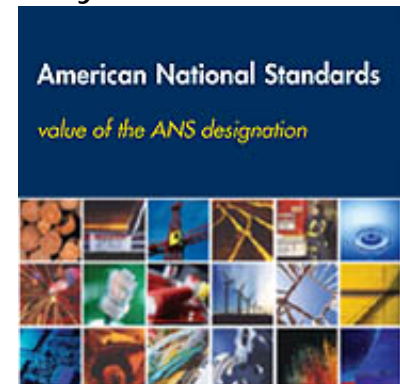American National Standards Institute

Who creates standards?

- Companies, government, consortia and other standards developers, like trade associations and not-for-profits, create standards (domestic & international):
    - some are for limited or internal use, e.g., in a company or within a government agency
    - some are produced for broader use
    - some are created as voluntary consensus standards (VCS)
        - an American National Standard (ANS) is a voluntary consensus standard
            - Unless mandated by law, compliance is voluntary

- In the US, the standards process is market driven, sector based, industry led, and government supported
    - All who are directly and materially interested in a standard under development, including consumers and the general public, can have a voice in the ANS process

Let's focus on:
American National Standards (ANS)

- 240+ ANSI-accredited standards developers (ASD) www.ansi.org/asd
  - *ANSI Essential Requirements: due process requirements for American National Standards (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements)*
    - "ANSI Essential Requirements" <u>and</u> an ASD's accredited procedures govern the ANS process
  - Only ASDs may submit standards for approval as ANS
    - Accreditation by ANSI is a pre-condition for submitting a standard for approval as an ANS
    - All ANS are maintained on a regular cycle to ensure currency
  - Approximately 12,500 American National Standards
  - All ASDs are subject to ANSI's neutral third-party oversight including a regular procedural audit
    - Not all standards developed by these organizations are approved as ANS
    - ANSI's rules apply only to ANS
- Learn more: www.ansi.org/ansvalue

American National Standards
value of the ANS designation

Where can I find ANS information?

www.ansi.org/asd

1. List of ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers (ASD) with a scope and contact
2. List of **proposed** ANS (point-in-time)
3. List of **approved** ANS (point-in-time)

www.ansi.org/StandardsAction

➤ ANSI's public notice vehicle for ANS
➤ Published weekly on Friday afternoon
➤ Includes proposed ANS and open public comment opportunities

Who makes decisions about ANS-related actions?

3 main committees populated by ANSI members:

➢ ANSI Executive Standards Council (ExSC)

➢ ANSI Board of Standards Review (BSR)

➢ ANSI Appeals Board

  – All serve as fiduciaries and neutral, knowledgeable professionals

  – Oversight role and decision-making is subject to conflict of interest procedures

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What is ANSI's role in the ANS process?
ANSI Members/Program Oversight Committees

- Oversee the integrity of the ANS consensus process by assessing evidence of procedural compliance with ANSI's *Essential Requirements*

- Accredit (and reaccredit) standards developers (procedures) - ExSC

- Approve individual standards as American National Standards (ANS) - BSR

- Audit ANS for procedural compliance - ExSC

- Hear procedural appeals related to ANS

  - Were procedures followed?

  - Was a comment afforded due process?

  - Is a developer in compliance with ANSI's requirements?

- Consider whether an ANS designation should be withdrawn for cause (at any time, after ANS approval) - BSR

- Maintain and revise the procedures that govern the ANS process - ExSC

Let's take a quick look at the

"ANSI Essential Requirements: Due process requirements for American National Standards"

www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements

- For ANS, all ASDs are bound by the *ANSI Essential Requirements* <u>and</u> their ANSI-Accredited Procedures
  - Living document, updated each January

- Broad flexibility in consensus process models used by ASDs, some variables:
  - Layers of review and approval
  - Numerical requirements
  - Votes at meetings or via ballot
  - In-person meetings, webinars, teleconference, mail/hard copy
  - Concurrent or sequential steps, e.g., vote and public review
  - Use of electronic systems to support the consensus process
  - Starting with a draft standard or from scratch
    - Any document that is not yet an "ANS" is "draft" or "proposed"

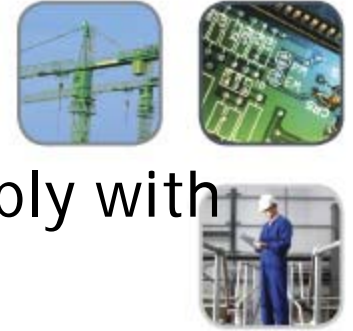# Overarching Consideration of ANS Process: Due Process

- Due process means that any person (organization, company, government agency, individual, etc.) with a direct and material interest has a right to participate by:
  - expressing a position and its basis
  - having that position considered
  - appealing if adversely affected
- Due process allows for equity and fair play
  - Fairness and consistency are safeguards

ANSI Essential Requirements - *Criteria for ANS consensus*

- ANSI's *Essential Requirements* (see sections 1.0 & 2.0)
  - Openness
  - Lack of dominance
  - Balance
  - Coordination and harmonization
  - Notification of standards development
  - Consideration of views and objections
  - Consensus body vote
  - Procedural appeals
  - Written procedures

ANSI Essential Requirements

- All ASDs and accredited procedures must comply with ANSI's requirements related to:
  - ANSI Patent Policy (3.1)
  - Commercial terms & conditions (3.2)
  - Antitrust policy (3.3)
  - ANS record retention/evidence of compliance (3.4)
  - Metric policy (3.5)
  - Interpretations policy (3.6)
  - Publication (4.4) & maintenance requirements (4.7)

What rules apply to the ANS process?

- **In addition to the *ANSI Essential Requirements*:**

  - The Standards Developer's ANSI-accredited procedures

    - Often available from ASD's website (*but must be available upon request*)

    - Provide the details of processes related to public notice, voting, comment consideration, appeals, etc.

    - May include ANS consensus body participation requirements

  - Standards Developer's electronic tools (vary): requiring use of online systems or specific forms/formats is acceptable

  - Membership application, code of conduct, etc. (vary)

  - Typical default when procedures are silent: *Roberts Rules of Order, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (or similar)*
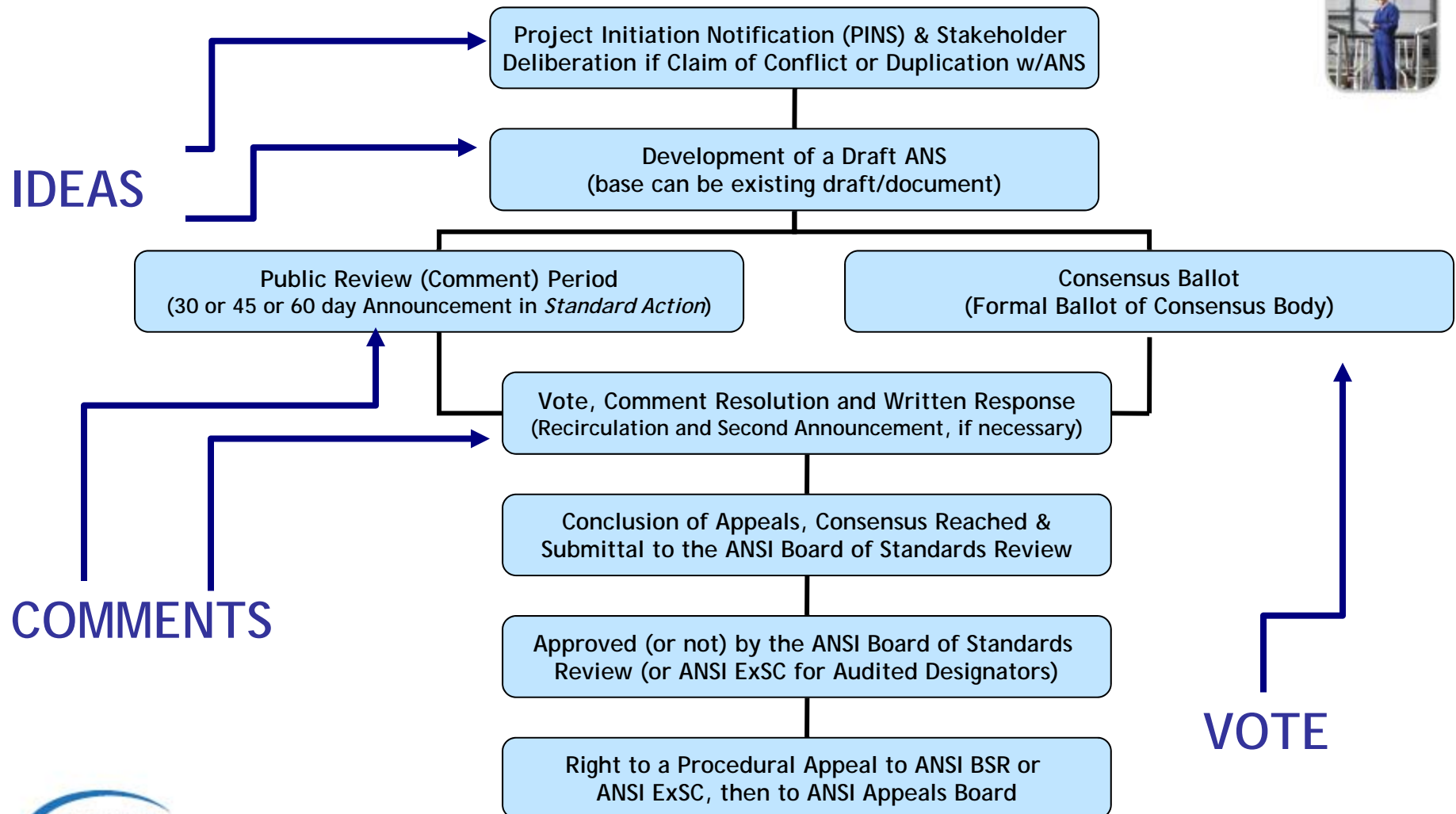
What does the ANS development process entail?

2 summary views follow

ANS Development Cycle – Routine
some processes can be concurrent

IDEAS

COMMENTS

VOTE

Project Initiation Notification (PINS) & Stakeholder Deliberation if Claim of Conflict or Duplication w/ANS

Development of a Draft ANS
(base can be existing draft/document)

Public Review (Comment) Period
(30 or 45 or 60 day Announcement in *Standard Action*)

Consensus Ballot
(Formal Ballot of Consensus Body)

Vote, Comment Resolution and Written Response
(Recirculation and Second Announcement, if necessary)

Conclusion of Appeals, Consensus Reached & Submittal to the ANSI Board of Standards Review

Approved (or not) by the ANSI Board of Standards Review (or ANSI ExSC for Audited Designators)

Right to a Procedural Appeal to ANSI BSR or ANSI ExSC, then to ANSI Appeals Board

ANS Key Steps

www.ansi.org/anskeysteps

ANSI recognizes "multiple paths" to standards development

- – Not every standard needs to be an ANS, but this presentation highlights the basis for the credibility, integrity and confidence an ANS designation reflects

Approval as an
American National Standards (ANS)

- Approval as an American National Standard (ANS)
  - Means the sponsoring standards developer VOLUNTARILY subjects a standard to ANSI's
    - Neutral oversight and approval process
    - Public notice and comment requirements
    - Document maintenance requirements – documents are current, regular review required
    - Appeals process: time-tested, credible and fair procedural review
    - Procedural audit process, which addresses the integrity and the "plumbing" of the consensus process
  - Short-hand for compliance with OMB A-119 and the NTTAA

Standards that hold ANS status are used globally too

- When they meet an international marketplace need

- Because the procedures used by ASDs to develop consensus for ANS meet globally accepted criteria

    - ANS designation indicates compliance with the *World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Code of Good Practice (CGP)* criteria for openness, transparency, impartiality and consensus, relevance and effectiveness

    - ANS serve as the basis for many ISO, IEC or other international standards

    - Many ISO, IEC and ISO/IEC JTC 1 standards are nationally adopted by ASDs as ANS

Recap...and then, how to participate...

US Standards System Model:
Strength through Diversity

- "Standards are the building blocks for innovation and competitiveness"

- Standards bring consistency, predictability and credibility to a process and give users a common language and framework

- No matter the challenge, solutions cannot be developed in a vacuum

- The robust U.S. standards and conformance systems are a powerful example of how a consensus-based public-private partnership can work to develop concrete solutions to real-world problems
  - For Consumers
  - For Companies
  - For Organizations
  - For Government

STANDARDS
BOOST
BUSINESS

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American National Standards –
Hallmarks of the ANS process matter

- Integrity and inclusiveness of the ANS process result in high quality standards that help to protect the public interest and foster commerce

- ANS designation indicates market and stakeholder recognition and acceptance: "quality"

- ANS designation = open, credible and fair process with respect to an individual standard

- ANS process, when properly conducted, provides potential legal safeguards: helps to avoid antitrust and other issues
  (see www.standardslearn.org for *"Legal issues in standards setting"*)

American National Standards –
Why they matter...

- Standards address important topics

    - users and the public should have confidence that they are based on a consensus of views arrived at through a fair and open process

- Consistent with our democratic principles, *i.e.*, everyone with a direct and material interest who chooses to participate (in accordance with the rules) can have a voice

- Consensus and comment consideration in a due process-based (fair) environment lead to standards that will be better accepted and more widely used

- ANSI's oversight is unique: ASDs – who <u>voluntarily</u> seek accreditation and approval of ANS - are subject to regular review and procedural audit by ANSI *(ANSI BSR, ANSI ExSC, ANSI Appeals Board – subject to COI provisions)*

- ANS designation = short-hand that the consensus process satisfies the Federal Government's definition of voluntary consensus standard (VCS)

So how can I participate?

- On almost any given day, a standards group or technical committee (aka *consensus body*) is working on standards and making decisions that could affect the bottom line of our national economy, individual and public safety, innovation – and you and/or your organization

Shouldn't you be involved?

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Let's review some tools and data that will help you decide where you need to be represented...

How to ID the sponsor of an ANS?
Which ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer (ASD)?

- Identify the standard(s) via the unique alpha-numeric designation, e.g., ANSI/ABC 123-2019
  - Not all ANS include "ANSI" in the designation
  - All ANS are labeled on the cover or front matter
    - "an American National Standard" or use the ANS logo

- Designations frequently include the acronym of the ASD: e.g.,

  NFPA, ASHRAE, ASME, UL, IAPMO, INCITS, ASTM, NSF, NEMA, IEEE, ASIS, IES, CSA, ATIS, ISEA, API, CTA, SCTE, AAMI, AAFS, ADA, Acoustical Society of America (ASC S1, S12, etc.)...

- Visit www.ansi.org/asd to identify standards that are or are intended to become (proposed) ANS (*also review Standards Action*)
  - "BSR" in the designation of a standard on ANSI's website, indicates that the standard is proposed as an ANS, but not yet approved as such

How to search for
American National Standards (ANS)?

- www.ansi.org/asd
  - Contact an ASD directly, identify an ANS or proposed ANS

- www.ansi.org/StandardsAction
  - Published every Friday & it's free
  - Project initiation notices (PINS), Open public comment opportunities, recently approved ANS

- http://ibr.ansi.org/ - ANSI IBR Portal
  - Posting of some standards referenced in regulations or urls to link to developer sites where drafts may be posted for review

- https://webstore.ansi.org/ – ANSI Webstore
  - many ANS (and other standards) available for sale

How to participate?

- **Apply for membership on the ANS consensus body (voting group): apply to the ASD directly**
  - some ASDs also offer participation on a sub-group
  - reasonable fees for participation may apply (fees vary)

- **Submit public review comments during an open ANSI public review period** (www.ansi.org/standardsaction):
  - submit comments to the ASD directly and you may copy psa@ansi.org
  - some ASDs post public review drafts online during an open comment period while others charge a fee to obtain a copy of a draft to defray development and production costs
  - electronic submittal of public comments may be required in a specific format or via an online system
  - comment deadline dates apply and are enforced

How to participate?
More options…

- **Submit proposal to develop an ANS or revise an existing ANS**

  – Submit to the ASD in accordance with its procedures

- **Research other options that <u>may</u> be available through the ASD including:**

  – Informational member, observer, etc.

  – Liaison, Affiliate, etc.

  – Working group or task group or drafting group participation, etc. (contributor, but non-voting option)

ANS Participation tips...
Be informed and prepared

- Review and familiarize yourself with the
  ANSI Essential Requirements (www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements)

- Obtain a copy of the ANSI-Accredited Standards
  Developer's (ASD) accredited procedures
  - Check online or contact ASD staff directly

- Review the sponsoring ASD's website
  (websites are included at www.ansi.org/asd)

- Identify a staff person/E-mail at the developer who is
  able to serve as a resource, e.g., "committee
  secretary"

ANS Participation tips...
Be pro-active and timely

- Review *ANSI Standards Action* (www.ansi.org/standardsaction) each Friday to see what standards are being proposed (*Information Concerning*) or open for public review (*Call for Comment*)
  - Some limited revisions are published in Standards Action itself (up to 5 pages)
- Understand which portions of a standard are under review (not always the entire document)
  - Sometimes only a few sections or a very limited revision, etc.

ANS Participation tips…
Be pro-active and timely

- Adhere to deadlines and formatting requirements to ensure that your votes or comments are properly received and considered

  – When a public comment/public review period is announced *in Standards Action*, deadlines for commenting are specified and matter!

  - This is the only time when ANSI's public comment consideration and response rules apply

  – If you are a voting member, submit votes by established deadlines

  - Respond to ballots per ASD's instructions

ANS Participation tips...
Participate productively

- Participate in good faith and in accordance with procedure
  - Familiarize yourself with any applicable "Code of Conduct"

- If you have a concern, speak with ASD staff to understand your rights to informal dispute resolution options and, if needed, appeals rights
  - all ASDs offer a **procedural appeals** option
  - to preserve your right to appeal **a procedural issue** to ANSI concerning a specific ANS, you must conclude the procedural appeals process at the ASD first

- For information about ANSI's appeals options, go to www.ansi.org/ASD for guidance documents or psa@ansi.org

Let's circle back to ANSI's role...

✓ *If you are interested in participating in the development of a specific standard, then contact the sponsoring ASD directly.*

✓ *If you are also interested in working together as part of a broad public-private partnership to develop standards-based solutions to all kinds of challenges, then please consider joining ANSI.*

ANSI Members...

- Support a strong U.S. public-private partnership

- Network with strategic thinkers

- Contribute to solutions for standardization and conformity assessment issues of national importance

- Learn more about standards and conformity assessment and how they influence trade, the national economy and the public interest every day

- Gain exposure to standardization and conformity assessment issues that affect trade, business, consumer protection, the environment, and everyday life – domestic & international

- membership@ansi.org or www.ansi.org/membership

ANSI Engagement Vehicles

Accreditation - Standards
- Standards Developers
- U.S. Technical Advisory Groups to ISO

Accreditation – ANAB
- Product Certification Bodies
- Personnel Certification Bodies
- Management Systems Registrars
- Forensic Test and Calibration Service Providers
- Inspection Bodies and Laboratories
- Greenhouse Gas Verification Bodies
- Certificate Programs
- Reference Material Producers, more…

Coordination Activities
- Standardization Coordination / Collaboratives
- Member Forums / Issues-Based Meetings
- Workshops and Networks

International Connectivity & Policy
- International Trade Policy
- Advocacy and Business Facilitation
- Secretariat and U.S. TAG Management
- ISO & IEC P Membership Support
- Regional and Bilateral Activities in
- Asia Pacific / Americas / Europe / Africa
- China Programs
- International Development Activities

Legal Issues
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
- Patents
- Copyrights
- Legal Issues Forum

Government Outreach and Relations
- Congressional Presentations
- Legislative Issues Monitoring
- Monitor Federal Policy/Regulatory Proposals
- Joint ICSP/GMF Meetings
- IBR Standards Portal

Consumer Outreach and Relations

Sales, Marketing and Distribution
- Retail & Subscription Publications Sales
- Advertising, Marketing, & Distribution
- Social Media & Networking Activities
- Customized Digital Rights Management (DRM) Solutions
- Partner Solutions

Editorial and Publishing Services
- News Publications, Press Releases, Periodicals

Education and Training
- Instructor-Led In-person, Webinar, & Online Training

Registration Programs

Helpful Resources...

- ANSI COVID-19 webpage with links to related ASD and ANSI initiatives: https://www.ansi.org/COVID-19/

- *ANSI Essential Requirements*: www.ansi.org/essentialrequirements

- List of approved ANS and proposed ANS: www.ansi.org/asd

- List of ANSI-Accredited Standards Developers: www.ansi.org/asd

- *ANSI Standards Action* (weekly information about proposed and approved ANS): www.ansi.org/standardsaction

- Summary of ANS process steps: www.ansi.org/anskeysteps

- ANS Value Brochure: www.ansi.org/ansvalue

- Standards Boost Business: www.standardsboostbusiness.org

- Online and in-person training options: www.standardslearn.org

- Staff are available via psa@ansi.org

Some closing thoughts…

ANSI
and the US Standards System represent...

- A public-private partnership developing strategies and standards-based solutions for a strong nation and a safer, healthier world...

  - STRENGTH – openness, fairness and diversity make the US standards system strong

  - INNOVATION – standards spur and support innovation

  - ACTION – standards are responsive to human and market needs

  - GROWTH – standards facilitate economic growth and keep us competitive

  - PRODUCTIVITY – standards promote and support productivity

  - SOLUTIONS – standards-based solutions address issues of national, regional and international importance

  - PARTNERSHIP – everyone has a voice and all are welcome

  - COLLABORATION – stakeholders work together to develop solutions

- Interested in case studies? See www.standardsboostbusiness.org

ANSI
American National Standards Institute

Now more than ever...we hope that you will decide to participate in standards development and be part of the solutions being developed every day...

Thanks so much for your interest…please keep my contact information if ANSI can help you or your organization…

for more information

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