



United States  
National Committee  
of the IEC

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# Why **IEC Standards Work** Is Important to My Company

Get involved in IEC/USNC  
activities and reap the  
strategic rewards



[www.ansi.org/usnc](http://www.ansi.org/usnc)

# IEC and USNC

## An Introduction



The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that publishes consensus-based International Standards and manages conformity assessment systems for electric and electronic products, systems, and services, collectively known as electrotechnology.

The United States National Committee (USNC) is the official U.S. member to the IEC and related regional standardization bodies. It represents the interests of the U.S. electrotechnical industry before its international counterparts in the standardization arena.



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The USNC/IEC is a committee of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Furthermore, the USNC Serves as the U.S. point of contact for industry, government, consumers, academia, and others stakeholders in the electrotechnical industry.

### In Their Own Words

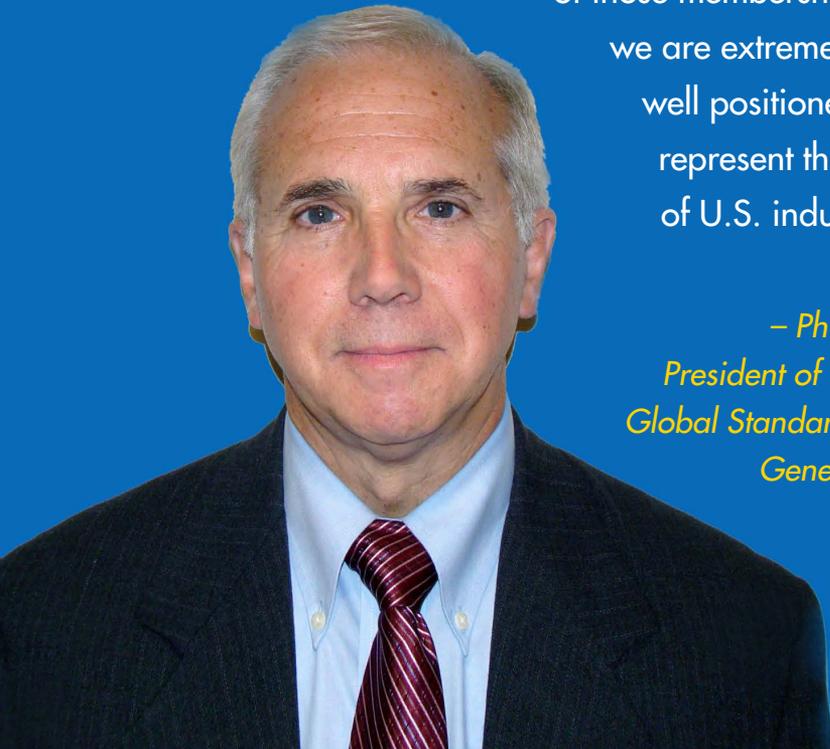
Read on to hear first-hand accounts from business leaders whose companies are reaping the **powerful advantages of USNC participation**



**In Their  
Own  
Words**

“The USNC serves as the U.S. point of contact for industry, government, consumers, and academia in the international electrotechnical industry. We also represent U.S. interests before the IEC by being members of the IEC Council Board, IEC Standardization Board, and IEC Conformity Assessment Board. As a result

of those memberships, we are extremely well positioned to represent the interests of U.S. industry.”



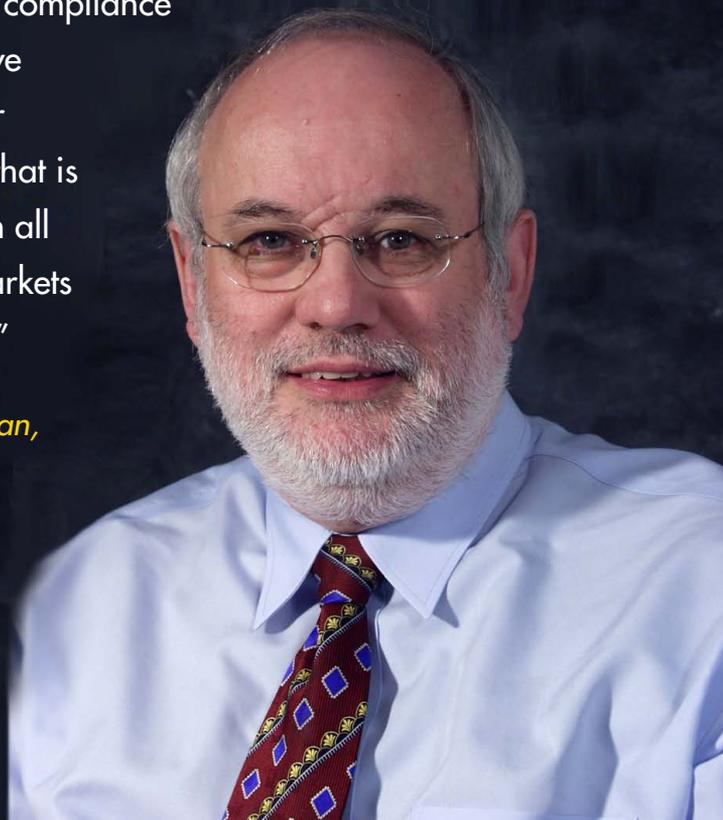
*– Phil Piqueira,  
President of the USNC;  
Global Standards Leader,  
General Electric*

**In Their  
Own  
Words**

“We have sales offices in 87 countries, over 50 manufacturing locations, 10 development centers, and 5 R&D centers around the world. That tells you why the USNC/IEC is important to our company.

We really do want to have a single standard along with a single compliance system that we can build our products to, that is acceptable in all the major markets of the world.”

*– Alec McMillan,  
Director of  
Global  
Standards  
and Trade,  
Rockwell  
Automation*



# USNC and IEC Activities

## Shaping Electrotechnology Worldwide



The USNC and IEC help to improve the quality of products and services covered by their standards. The USNC and its members participate in approximately 90% of the IEC's 177 Technical Committees and Subcommittees. If your technology is electrotechnology, it is somewhere within the IEC.

Every year, hundreds of U.S. delegates representing numerous private and public organizations participate in USNC and IEC activities, directly affecting the development of international standards.

A broad range of activities are represented, from mature technologies like light and lighting, to the newest, such as wind and wave, and many more including:

- A/V and multimedia
- Alternative energies
- Assembly technology
- Capacitors and resistors
- Connectors
- E-Mobility
- Electric cables
- Electroacoustics
- Fiber optics
- Industrial process automation
- Information technology
- Nanotechnology
- Power systems management
- Railway equipment and systems
- Safety of household appliances
- Smart Grid
- Solid electrical insulating materials
- Renewables



**In Their  
Own  
Words**



“We recognize that participating in IEC standards activities allows us to be a part of the process that determines the product testing and performance requirements.

As Eaton continues to grow internationally, IEC standards continue to be more and more important to our business. We are proud to be a member of the USNC.”

*– Kevin Lippert,  
Manager of Codes and  
Standards,  
Eaton Corporation*

# USNC/IEC Participation

## GET INVOLVED



Organizations that get involved in IEC standardization activities gain the advantage of representing their interests at the tables where technological developments are shaped.

Active participation in international and regional standards-setting activities provides U.S. electrotechnical industry experts with . . .

- The opportunity to influence domestic and international policy
- The chance to benefit from unique networking opportunities and learn from international colleagues
- A forum for the presentation of U.S., corporate, or, in some cases, personal positions
- The opportunity to comment upon proposals submitted by others

There are a number of ways you and your organization can get involved in international electrotechnical standardization and the activities of the USNC/IEC:

- Individual Technical Advisory Group (TAG) participation (currently \$295 a year – ANSI membership is not required)
- ANSI members (companies, organizations, and government agencies) can become USNC Sponsoring Members for an annual fee of \$6,450 – Individual TAG participation fees are waived for any employee of that company, organization, or agency
- Buy from ANSI: When you purchase IEC standards from ANSI, you are making a commitment to bolstering U.S. leadership at the IEC table

for more information, visit [www.ansi.org/usnc](http://www.ansi.org/usnc)



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**In Their  
Own  
Words**

"I can tell you by past experience, if you follow a reactive strategy you'll end up putting in 10 times the effort. You'll just be following things as they go down the river, and you won't know where you're going.

By choosing active participation you can influence domestic and international policy, gain valuable networking opportunities, and learn from international colleagues about what kinds of things are coming, long before they show up in the documents themselves. That's the strategy I would strongly advocate."

*—Jim Matthews,  
Director of Technical Standards  
and Standards Policy,  
Corning Incorporated*



**MORE INFORMATION**

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