

NSSC Subgroup Structure

The NSSC has four subgroups, which are active committees formed to advance particular aspects of the NSS Revision process. The subgroups are chaired by NSSC members.

NSSC SG 1 – National Priorities and Processes – Public/Private Sector Cooperation

Chair: Stephen Lowell

SG 1 will address issues concerning how the U.S. responds to key standardization needs and national priorities, how the private sector and government can work together effectively to address these needs and priorities, and how best to improve and facilitate standardization processes.

In the course of its deliberations, SG 1 will examine current NSS strategic initiatives, as well as topics identified by the ANSI Executive Committee and the NSSC, to determine if any additional topics need to be addressed as part of the revision of the NSS. Specifically, SG 1 will consider:

National aspects of NSS #1 - Build on the trend in government to use voluntary consensus standards through existing public/private partnerships

National aspects of NSS #2 - Address the ongoing need for standards in support of health, safety, the environment, homeland security and other national priorities

NSS #3 - Improve the responsiveness of the standards system to the views and needs of consumer interests

National aspects of NSS #6 - Work to harmonize the use of standards worldwide as a tool for meeting regulatory requirements

NSS #8 - Improve the standards process within the U.S. to address customer needs for efficiency

NSS #9 - Improve the standards process within the U.S. to address customer needs for coherence

In addition, SG 1 shall:

- Review the recently released Department of Commerce report “Standards and Competitiveness – Coordinating for Results” and develop new recommendations to align, where appropriate, the NSS.
- Focus on the alignment of the NSS with the principles outlined in Annex 4 for the second triennial review of the WTO/TBT agreement.
- Review the summaries from the Department of Commerce’s Industry Roundtable discussions.

NSSC SG 2 - International

Chair: William Primosch

SG 2 will address issues associated with U.S. priorities, policies, participation and performance in international and regional standardization activities.

In the course of its deliberations, SG 2 will examine current NSS strategic initiatives, as well as topics identified by the ANSI Executive Committee and the NSSC, to determine if any additional topics need to be addressed as part of the revision of the NSS. Specifically, SG 2 will consider:

International aspects of NSS #1 - Build on the trend in government to use voluntary consensus standards through existing public/private partnerships

International aspects of NSS #2 - Address the ongoing need for standards in support of health, safety, the environment, homeland security and other national priorities

NSS #5 - Work to improve processes internationally to more closely reflect our principles and vision,

and related issues of:

- International Trade with focus on areas of current concern (e.g., China)
- Better alignment of standards developing mechanisms in international fora so that U.S. interests can participate more effectively and have a greater impact
- Need to encourage national adoption of international standards in sectors where this is value-added, and overcome the related impediments
- Trade capacity building

International aspects of NSS #6 - Work to harmonize the use of standards worldwide as a tool for meeting regulatory requirements

NSS #7 - Provide an outreach program to show those outside the U.S. the value of U.S. technology, standards and processes,

and related issues of:

- Need to provide technical assistance that meets the needs of developing countries and helps them to expand their technical capacities

In addition SG 2 will consider:

- Expansion of the standards umbrella to include all types of standardization activities, including consortia (ref. NSS #4)
 - Examine the role that consortia play in the development of globally accepted specifications

NSSC SG 3 - Education and Communication

Chair: Don Purcell

SG 3 will address issues associated with standards education, and to develop a communications plan to widely disseminate the amended Strategy.

In the course of its deliberations, SG 3 will examine current NSS strategic initiatives, as well as topics identified by the ANSI Executive Committee and the NSSC, to determine if any additional topics need to be addressed as part of the revision of the NSS. Specifically, SG 3 will consider:

NSS #10 - Improve communications between various public and private elements of the U.S. standards system

NSS #11 - Make the value of standards development both apparent and real by educating public and private sector decision-makers about the value of standards and how to take advantage of the process,

Specifically:

- Consideration of education and e-learning programs, and increased outreach to higher education (colleges and university) institutions regarding the importance of standards.

NSSC SG 4 - Funding the Standards System, Intellectual Property Rights and Patents

Chair: James Shannon

SG 4 will address financial issues related to the funding of the U.S. standardization system, Intellectual Property Rights and Patents.

In the course of its deliberations, SG 4 will examine current NSS strategic initiatives, as well as topics identified by the ANSI Executive Committee and the NSSC, to determine if any additional topics need to be addressed as part of the revision of the NSS. Specifically, SG 4 will consider:

NSS #12 - Establish a stable funding mechanism for the standardization infrastructure

Specifically:

- How the NSS should address:
 - Copyright in standards as documents
 - Embedded essential intellectual property (such as patents, software, etc) in standards
 - Better educate and inform public policy makers about the intellectual property rights and ownership rights related to the products of private-sector standards developing organizations.