

**Technical Co-operation Agreement
(TCA)
between
the NATO Standardisation Agency (NSA)
and
the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)**

WHEREAS ANSI, is recognized as a coordinating and approval agency for voluntary national consensus standards in the United States, and as the National Standards Body representing the United States in ISO and IEC, COPANT and PASC; and is ready to provide assistance and support in standards, military specifications (MilSpecs), regulations and related services; and,

WHEREAS ANSI, working through its Accredited Standards Developers, has already demonstrated through the performance of various activities an ability to render assistance and support to NATO and its member nations in carrying out their respective objectives and missions; and,

WHEREAS ANSI has demonstrated through a long and mutually beneficial relationship with the United States Department of Defense (DOD) Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), the United States Department of Homeland Security, and other U.S. federal agencies an ability to provide standards, customized databases and search engines, and standards search services on demand, delivered across multiple platforms and systems, to a variety of government clients; and

WHEREAS ANSI has been listed by the U.S. General Services Administration as an approved U.S. government provider of standards and standards services; and,

WHEREAS ANSI maintains one of the worlds largest, fully-searchable databases of standards and military specifications, including the entire collections of ISO, IEC as well as the standards, and information on pending standards of hundreds of other U.S. and international standards developing organizations.

WHEREAS NSA is an independent NATO Agency having the scope of initiating, coordinating, supporting and administering Standardization Agreements (STANAGs) and activities conducted under the authority of the NATO Committee for Standardization (NCS). The NSA is also the NATO Military Committee's (MC) lead agent for the development, coordination and assessment of operational standardization. NSA also promotes the development and implementation of concepts, doctrines, procedures and designs to achieve and maintain the required levels of compatibility, interchangeability or commonality in the operational, procedural, material, technical and administrative fields to attain interoperability of forces within the whole NATO framework, including the Partnership for Peace, the Mediterranean Dialogue and missions not covered by the application of the Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

ANSI and NSA have agreed upon the following:

1. There is mutual value in cooperating in all fields of standardization directly or indirectly related to their relative scopes of work.
2. Besides work on standards, co-operation between ANSI and NSA may also include the following:
 - Regular information exchange on standards, standards' projects and standards panels, in principle through the central offices;
 - Joint or cooperative programs and projects of mutual benefit, including contribution of expertise on standards' projects;
 - Mutual co-operation in international and regional organizations relating to standardization;
 - Participation in conferences, symposia, courses, workshops, exhibitions and other joint meetings of mutual interest;
 - Exchange of technical data and information relating to standardization and conformity assessment;

- Joint training or education programs to raise competency in standardization;
 - Other forms of co-operation as agreed by the Parties, including meetings between the two Parties on a regular basis.
3. Co-operative activities under this TCA shall be subject to the availability of funds and personnel. The terms of financing shall be agreed upon in writing by the Parties before the commencement of activities.
 4. Whenever more than the exchange of technical information or exchange visits of individuals or promotion activities is planned to take place, such activity shall be described in a Project related to this TCA which shall set forth as appropriate to the activity, a work plan, staffing requirements, cost estimates, funding source, and other undertakings, obligations, or conditions not included in this TCA.
 5. Both Parties agree to consult regularly at senior management level on the operation and possible improvement/amendment of this TCA.
 6. Both parties confirm that this TCA can be terminated upon written notice to the other party.

For the American National Standards Institute



Dr. Mark W. Hurwitz, CAE
President & CEO
American National Standards Institute

For the NSA



Julian Maj
Brigadier General, POL (A)
Director, NATO Standardization
Agency