

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)  
TO ESTABLISH AN INDIA – U.S. STANDARDS PORTAL  
BETWEEN  
THE BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS (BIS),  
THE CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN INDUSTRY (CII)  
AND  
THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE (ANSI)**

Recognizing the desirability of global cooperation in standards and conformity assessment, the Bureau of Indian Standards (hereinafter referred to as BIS), the Confederation of Indian Industry (hereinafter referred to as CII) and the American National Standards Institute (hereinafter referred to as ANSI) agree to facilitate the sharing of information on standards, conformity assessment, technical regulations (SCATR) and other trade related information in India and the United States, with the aim of facilitating understanding of the market access requirements in each market.

BIS, CII and ANSI agree to cooperate and establish Indian and U.S. content on a U.S. – India Standards Portal, hereinafter referred to as “the Portal.”

The Portal will demonstrate a commitment by BIS, CII and ANSI to facilitate the sharing of information with the aim of enhancing Indo-U.S. trade.

**Article 1**

BIS, CII and ANSI agree to:

Set up a common Standards Portal for sharing the information related to:

- Standards
- Conformity Assessment
- Technical regulations
- Trade

**Article 2**

The Portal will consist of a single opening web page giving details of the objective of the Portal with brief overviews of BIS, CII & ANSI. The Portal will include hyperlinks to the websites of BIS, CII and ANSI, and to other relevant organizations in India and the U.S., including standards development organizations (SDOs), bodies engaged in conformity assessment, technical regulations, government organizations, industry associations, and trade promotion organizations. ANSI will identify appropriate links to be included on the U.S. portion of the Portal, and BIS and CII will identify appropriate links to be included on the Indian side of the Portal.



Each organization shall additionally develop new resources in support of the Portal. These resources shall be stored separately on the respective organizations' servers, and shall be made available to Portal users through hyperlinks from the Portal. Maintenance and expansion of these resources shall be the responsibility of the organization that initially developed the resource.

The mechanism to make the Portal operational would be worked out jointly by BIS, CII and ANSI.

### **Article 3**

BIS, CII and ANSI agree to:

1. Exchange views on the activity and operations of various programs of work related to standardization and conformity assessment in the U.S. and India as well as in regional and international organizations;
2. Encourage and support the cooperative engagement of technical experts (e.g. representatives of industry consumer groups, government etc.) from each other's economies. Such engagement could include formal or informal information sharing; working to develop mutually supportive positions in international fora; or organizing delegation visits, conferences, workshops and technical symposia on standardization and conformity assessment-related subjects of mutual interest;
3. Identifying and enabling communication between counterpart groups within the respective memberships and constituencies of BIS, ANSI and CII for the purpose of establishing sector or technology-specific relationships;
4. Work together on efforts to clarify and make easily available the market access requirements of each other's economies as they pertain to standards, conformity assessment (testing, certification etc.) and technical regulations with the goal of facilitating Indo-U.S. trade;
5. Where appropriate, in all of the above, seek and share ideas for business opportunities for each other's members.

### **Article 4**

Any issues arising from the interpretation and implementation of this MoU will be settled through mutual consultation between BIS, CII and ANSI or such other means as mutually decided.

## Article 5

The agreement is effective from the date of signature.

The MoU may be amended by a written protocol for exchange of needs by all the three parties.

Any of the parties may terminate the MoU by providing the other parties a written notice at least six (6) months in advance.

Signed in New Delhi on the 20<sup>th</sup> Day of December, 2007 in triplicate in the English language:

For the Bureau of Indian  
Standards (BIS)



Mr. Sayan Chatterjee  
Director General

For the Confederation of  
Indian Industry (CII)



Lt. Gen S.S. Mehta (Retired)  
Director General

For the American National  
Standards Institute (ANSI)



Mr. S. Joe Bhatia  
President and CEO