Standards and conformity assessment play a critical role in removing barriers to trade, enforcing free trade agreements, and expanding foreign markets for U.S. goods and services. They impact more than 80% of global commodity trade – in 2012, an estimated 14 trillion dollars. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 2014 Student Paper Competition examines the ways in which standardization activities serve as a powerful tool for boosting business competitiveness.

Your paper must use specific examples to demonstrate the role standards and conformance play in addressing emerging business challenges related to your discipline. Please note that in this context, business could mean company, organization, educational institution, etc. Your paper should also include a critical reflection on the broader societal dimensions of standards and conformance.

All entries must be submitted by 5 pm ET on April 30, 2014, to lrajchel@ansi.org, and adhere to the following:

- Must be written and submitted by student(s) (associate, undergraduate, or graduate, in any discipline) enrolled full- or part-time during the period of August 2013 to April 2014 in a U.S. higher education institution
- Must have a title, a list of names of all contributing authors and their contact details, and affiliated academic institution
- Must be prefaced with an abstract of no more than 400 words
- 2,000 words maximum (not including notes, tables, charts, and bibliography, which may not exceed 3 pages)
- In English and suitable for publication (assistance will be offered for final editing before publication of winning paper)
- Electronic format only, preferably Microsoft Word or other revisable format, in 12-point type size
- Must be original and not previously published (copyright will remain with the author; winners grant publication rights to ANSI, as well as the right to release entries to other media)

All submissions will be reviewed by top-level industry experts, and winning papers will be published on ANSI.org, StandardsBoostBusiness.org, StandardsLearn.org, and potentially in other media outlets. Winning submissions will be read by a large number of members of the standards community, including experts in government, industry, professional societies, and academic institutions. Prizes will be given to first- and second-place winners; ANSI reserves the right to award no prizes based on the determination of the judges. Winning papers will be announced in late May or early June 2014.

MORE INFORMATION
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