Today's communications and business environment is rapidly evolving. Using today's tools, we can share more information faster and further than was ever possible before. Paper documents are being rapidly replaced by electronic records and file sharing. And all of these innovations upon which we now rely have been made possible by standardization.

To help foster greater awareness about the importance of standardization, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 2018 Student Competition asks you to describe “Standards in a Changing World.”

Your entry should consider how standards have contributed to making modern communication possible, particularly as media and resources become increasingly visual or image-based, rather than text-centric. Think of innovations like smart phones and the Internet of Things, which rely upon standards to create a whole new way of communicating and interacting with the ever-expanding world around us. Your entry may also wish to consider how standards could push things even further in the future, or how standards themselves – which can be very text heavy, technical, and dense – could change to reflect the visual nature of global communications today.

Your entry can take one of two forms: a paper (maximum 2,000 words) or a video (maximum 2 minutes). You may enter both categories if you wish, but an individual can only win one category. Regardless, all entries must be submitted by 5 pm ET on April 27, 2018, to Irajchel@ansi.org
Paper Requirements

Must be written and submitted by student(s) (associate, undergraduate, or graduate, in any discipline) enrolled full- or part-time during the period of September 2017 to April 2018 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)

Video Requirements

Must be produced by student(s) (associate, undergraduate, or graduate, in any discipline) enrolled full- or part-time during the period of September 2017 to April 2018 in a U.S. higher education institution

Must be uploaded to a private, unlisted YouTube link for consideration by the panel; submission should include URL only, not actual video file

Must be accompanied by a document that includes (1) a written abstract of no more than 400 words and (2) the names of all contributors, their contact details, and affiliated academic institution

2 minutes maximum

In English (please make sure to include accurate closed captions)

At least 1080p

Must be original and not previously shared (copyright will remain with the author; winning videos will be uploaded to ANSI’s YouTube account and may be promoted on other accounts and websites as well)

All submissions will be reviewed by top-level industry experts, and winning entries will be published on ANSI.org, StandardsBoostBusiness.org, StandardsLearn.org, and potentially in other media outlets. Winning submissions will be read and watched by a large number of members of the standards community, including experts in government, industry, professional societies, and academic institutions. Cash prizes will be given to a first-place winner in each category; ANSI reserves the right to award no prizes based on the determination of the judges. The winning paper and the winning video will be announced in June 2018.