Dr. Mark W. Hurwitz, CAE

Remarks and Introductions

ANSI Annual Conference 2003
Homeland Security: Collaboration, Innovation and Standardization

October 1, 2003
Marriott at Metro Center Hotel – Lower Level
Washington, DC
Good morning. I am Mark Hurwitz and I have the honor to serve as President and CEO of the American National Standards Institute. It is my pleasure to welcome you, on behalf of the Board of Directors, members and staff of the American National Standards Institute, to the 2003 ANSI Annual Conference, "Homeland Security: Collaboration, Innovation and Standardization."

Today we will explore key issues focused on protecting U.S. citizens and enhancing our national security infrastructure. We are extremely fortunate to have a distinguished and diverse gathering of experts who represent academia, government, business and industry, standards-setting organizations and conformity assessment bodies. Their insight will guide our examination of the challenges and potential solutions to urgent priorities that our nation is facing, across virtually all industries.

We will explore up-to-the-moment insights on projects related to:
- biological and chemical anti-terrorism systems,
- reducing the vulnerability of critical infrastructure systems,
- minimizing damage to built environments,
- equipment and systems to protect and assist first responders, and much more.

(pause)

It is difficult to imagine a more critical time than now for our cooperation and collaboration for a common good. But the voluntary standardization community has a long history of stepping forward to assist in meeting the needs of both the government and the private sector when coordination challenges have come about.

As an example, when the Department of Homeland Security was formed earlier this year, 22 federal agencies merged in the largest coordination effort the government has seen since the creation of the Department of Defense in 1947. Everyone seemed to recognize early on the
critical role that standards would play in this new era of national security and civil protection. ANSI and the standards community quickly rose in response to the call for action.

During today’s first panel discussion, you will learn more about the creation of the ANSI Homeland Security Standards Panel. Working closely with the Department of Homeland Security, this cross-sectoral group is making important progress in unearthing existing standards solutions and identifying needs that have yet to be met. We recognize that there already exists a wealth of material that is available for immediate use, and we hope to draw upon those resources.

Today’s panelists represent a diverse range of sectors and groups, some of whom are from organizations outside the traditional voluntary standards system. We hope that the conference discussions will help you, as leaders of industry and government, to understand the critical role we each play in the identification and development of standards that support homeland security efforts.

In gratitude to those that have made this event possible, I would like to give special thanks to our conference sponsors, who are also identified in the conference program. If I may acknowledge them now:

Our **Platinum Sponsors** include:

- Deere & Company
- IEEE Standards Association, and
- Underwriter’s Laboratories, which is also the host of the World Standards Day reception event.

And our **Gold Sponsors** include:

- the Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Institute
- ILI, Inc.
- Information Handling Services, and
- NCSL International.
It is through their generous contributions that ANSI is able to present such a top-quality event. We thank them for their support, and each of you for your participation. I look forward to a very informative and productive conference.

(pause)

Now, it is my pleasure to introduce and welcome today’s keynote speaker . . .

Mr. James S. Gilmore III.
Introduction of Mr. James S. Gilmore III.

James S. Gilmore, III, served as governor of the State of Virginia from 1998 to 2002, and is currently chairman of the Congressional Advisory Commission on Terrorism Involving Weapons of Mass Destruction. Commonly known as the “Gilmore Commission,” this national panel was established by Congress in 1999 to assess federal, state, and local governments’ capability to respond to the consequences of a terrorist attack. The panel played an integral role in the early planning for the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Gilmore received an undergraduate degree in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia in 1971. After a three-year tour as a U.S. Army counterintelligence agent in West Germany, he entered the University of Virginia Law School, graduating in 1977. After working for a decade in community service and as a lawyer in private practice, he was elected Commonwealth’s Attorney in his home county of Henrico in 1987 and 1991. He was elected Virginia attorney general in 1993 and governor in 1997.

Mr. Gilmore . . .

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