

East Meets West

facing challenges making connections



Free Trade, Fair Trade, and WTO Compliance

Comments based on Eaton Electrical Experience and the Third U.S. – China Standards and Conformity Assessment Workshop (Beijing August 18-19, 2004)

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Background

Statement made at the Third U.S. – China Standards and Conformity Assessment Workshop:

"A Workshop involving the World's largest developed country and the World's largest developing country."



Background (continued)

From the standpoint of the largest developed country (and also for the E.U.):

Opportunities offered by the largest developing country (China) include:

- Manufacturing (for the Chinese Market)
- Manufacturing (for export from China)



Background (continued)

From the standpoint of the largest developing country:

Opportunities offered by the largest developed country (U.S.A.) include:

- Jobs
- Internal growth
- Export growth
- Process expertise (including, for example, codes for safe installations, standards & conformity assessment)



Background Experience

Eaton Electrical, in common with many U.S. companies, has positioned itself for opportunities with China via:

- Relationships with Chinese companies
- An Eaton Electrical manufacturing plant, with custom engineering capability for the Chinese market, within China (Suzhou).



Free Trade (within China)

Initial Eaton Electrical experience was with a former state-owned enterprise

 Residual "quota" culture rather than "Free-Market" culture.

The present Eaton Electrical experience is with a new plant, including engineering.

"Competitive" culture



Fair Trade and WTO

For Eaton Electrical, business realities for the Chinese market are:

 Distribution & Control products must be designed to GB standards—based on IEC ("International") standards with added safety requirements as required.

(reinforced at the Third U.S. – China Workshop)

- Low Voltage products must bear the CCC Mark.
- Intellectual property rights must be honored



Fair Trade and WTO - CCC Mark

Eaton Electrical first gained experience with the Great Wall Mark (imported product was treated differently from domestic product)

 Obtained Great Wall Mark via direct test within China.



Fair Trade and WTO - CCC Mark (continued)

Eaton Electrical now applies the CCC Mark (WTO change).

- Based on IECEE CB Reports submitted to China's conformity assessment authorities.
- Plant reviews are necessary to obtain certification
- For export from the U.S., plant reviews are necessary and are often impacted by visa problems)



Summary

- China represents a large, highly competitive, (Free Trade) market opportunity (the largest developing country).
- Internal markets for electrical distribution and control products are influenced by WTO.
 - IEC based standards including IEC 60364 "Electrical Installations for Buildings"
 - Enforced CCC Mark (Fair Trade).

