



ANSI Workshop:
*Generating U.S. Input
on the ISO Strategic Plan
2011-2015*



REPORT OF BREAKOUT SESSION 2(a)

Conformity Assessment

June 25, 2009

11:00 am to 12:30 pm

ANSI Workshop: *Generating U.S. Input on the
ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015*
June 25-26, 2009

Conformity Assessment (CA)

Key Discussion/Consensus Points

- ❑ **Suggestions for more consistency, comprehensiveness...**
 - **Existence of IAF/ILAC Guidance docs indicate shortcomings**
 - **Problem: inconsistency amongst Accreditors**
 - **Solution: more participation at CASCO by Labs and CBs**
 - **Need for better education of role of CASCO (& Directives)**
 - **TC's confused about boundaries between Stds/CA**

- ❑ **Neutrality Policy?**
 - **Good, but...**
 - **Important distinction: Directive (1/2/3 party) vs. ISO in CA**
 - **Confusion between tools (standards) and application (CA)**

Conformity Assessment (CA)

Key Discussion/Consensus Points

- **CASCO's expanded involvement with Stakeholders?**
 - **ANSI ICAC (Int'l Conformity Assessment Committee)**
 - **US Mirror Committee to CASCO (ANSI member benefit!)**
 - **Concern: proliferation of Liaisons at ISO possibly dilutes primary input from member bodies (Mirror Committees)**

- **ISO involvement in Mutual Recognition Agreements?**
 - **One suggestion: "IEC CB-like" scheme for Accreditors**
 - **(tools for MRA operation)**
 - **Counterpoint: "not another QSAR!"**
 - **Educational role: better informed users can facilitate the availability and understanding of attestations of conformity**

Conformity Assessment (CA)

Key Discussion/Consensus Points

- ❑ **ISO involvement in Market Surveillance & CA Claims?**
 - **No, ISO should not be involved in Market Surveillance**
 - **Yes, ISO should defend its Brand against misrepresentation**

- ❑ **Implications of link between Standards and CA?**
 - **Good (and important) to promote understanding of connection**
 - **Further implications (educational opportunity)**
 - **Awareness of alternatives, methods and potential conflicts**
 - **1st/2nd/3rd party; origins of assertions/attestations**
 - **Define value: internal (improvement) vs. external (validation)**
 - **Critical Need: Int'l Acceptance of Test Results**