



ANSI Open Forum  
Building Bridges across the  
Standards Ecosystem

October 9, 2012



# Developing Standards for the Global Market

*Presented by*

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ANSI Open Forum: Building Bridges across the Standards Ecosystem  
October 9, 2012

Part of the World Standards Week 2012 series of events

# Overview

- ❑ Objectives of ASTM's Global Outreach
- ❑ WTO/TBT Principles Compliance
- ❑ The ASTM International MOU Program
- ❑ Other Global Programs
- ❑ Is the Outreach Successful?



# Objectives of ASTM's Global Outreach

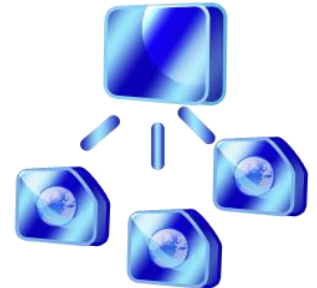
- ❑ Broad based use and application of ASTM standards worldwide
- ❑ Input from technical experts worldwide to ensure market relevance and high technical quality



# WTO/TBT Principles Compliance

□ ASTM is committed to demonstrating compliance with each of the WTO/TBT Principles for Development of International Standards

- Transparency
- Openness
- Impartiality and consensus
- Effectiveness and relevance
- Coherence
- Consideration of developing nations



# The ASTM International MOU Program

- ❑ Implemented in 2001; has established 78 MoU partnerships consisting of 75 nations and three regional bodies
- ❑ Facilitates communication and provides resources
  - Full collection of ASTM International Standards annually
  - Offers membership to technical experts in-country at no cost
  - Provides access to workshops, symposia and member discounts
- ❑ Requires provision of an annual report by signatory NSB



# Programs for ASTM MoU Partners

## □ Standards Expert Program

- ASTM sponsored, on-site educational programs for up to 3 NSB staff members from signatory MoU partners
- Implemented in 2005; have hosted 21 experts from 18 nations
- Enables exchange of ideas and hands-on orientation about ASTM, its development procedures and e-tools
  - Includes site visits to manufacturers, ASTM Committee Weeks, and Washington, DC agencies and associations
  - Provides networking opportunities



# Programs for ASTM MoU Partners

## □ Technical Assistance Program

- Addresses specific ASTM standards or collection of standards
- Discusses and demonstrates content and application
- Entails sending a technical expert on-site
- Implemented in 2007; 33 programs held for 40 nations
  - Popular topics include petroleum products, concrete and cement, textiles, and the environment
- Program is transitioning away to virtual, on-site and hybrid events
  - More targeted topics in conjunction with associations, industry and NSBs



# Other ASTM Global Programs

- Targeted Technical Presentations in New Format
  - Virtual only events; sometimes with translations
  - Implemented in 2011; conducted 19 events to 40 nations for 1,500 participants
  - WTO presentations
    - Manuel Lascarro (2009) and Jim Thomas (2010)
  - Regional meetings such as COPANT and PASC





# Other ASTM Global Programs

## □ Open House Events

- Opening ASTM's doors to the chief executives of NSBs in four regions
  - Promoted the multiple path concept of international standards development
  - Encouraged discussion of issues and challenges of standardization in developing nations
- Implemented in 2001; hosted delegations from:
  - Latin America and the Caribbean (2001)
  - Asia Pacific – co-sponsored with ASME and UL (2003)
  - Middle East, North Africa and South Asia (2005)
  - Sub-Saharan Africa (2007)



# Other ASTM Global Programs

## ❑ Office/Consulting Arrangements

- Conduct outreach and follow-up and provide local contact point
  - China Office, Mexico, Europe and India

## ❑ Intensive Training Programs

- Tailored training for selected technical experts funded by industry or government
- Focus on sector or collection of ASTM standards
- Implemented in 2009; conducted 11 programs in 7 nations



# Other ASTM Global Programs

## ☐ Attachments

- NSB sponsors an individual to join the ASTM staff on-site
- Implemented in 2011
  - Botswana
  - South Africa

## ☐ Delegation Visits

- ASTM International welcomes the opportunity to meet with delegations
- Meet in DC or at ASTM Headquarters
- Approached directly or coordinated through agencies and USTDA
- In 2011, ASTM hosted 11 delegations from 7 nations



# Is the Outreach Successful?

- ❑ Steady incremental growth in use of standards and MoU memberships
- ❑ 24,239 citations by MoU nations
  - Includes adoptions, references, consultations, used as basis of national standard, and referenced in regulation
- ❑ 5555 individual standards applied/used by MoU nations
- ❑ ~1,000 MoU memberships
- ❑ MoU and other global programs have resulted in key contacts and long-lasting relationships with our MoU partners

