

DRAFT AGENDA

THE STANDARDS LAB: TESTING NEW DEVELOPMENT APPROACHES

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Grand Hyatt Denver
1750 Welton Street, Denver, CO 80202

Advance Registration Required: www.ansi.org/summit

The U.S. standards community is pioneering new approaches to accelerate consensus-based processes while maintaining rigor. This interactive session explores how standards developing organizations (SDOs) and consortia are using AI, collaboration tools, agile review mechanisms, and fast-track pathways to transform standards development—particularly for rapidly evolving technologies. Attendees will leave with practical strategies for modernizing their own development processes.

Times	Discussion and Speakers
2:30-3:35	<p>The Standards Lab: Testing New Development Approaches</p> <p>Emcee: Mary Saunders, Senior Vice President, Government Relations and Public Policy, ANSI</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Jesse Dunietz, AI Standards, Policy, and International Engagement Lead, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)</p> <p><i>AI Standards Zero Drafts: Accelerating Standardization, Broadening Input</i></p> <p>The AI community has indicated that it wants standards more quickly than ever given the pace of technological change, yet also incorporating more voices than usual given the wide-ranging use cases and impacts. How can both long-standing needs be addressed simultaneously? This talk will use the case study of NIST’s AI Standards Zero Drafts pilot to explore how extensive work prior to the formal SDO process might be able to help even if standardization processes themselves remain the same.</p> <p>Casey Granata, Senior Program Manager, Grid, National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)</p> <p><i>The Provisional Process: Expediting Standards Development Without Losing Trust</i></p> <p>In a world where technology leaps ahead in months while standards take years, we face a choice: adapt our process or become obsolete. What if standards development could move as fast as innovation, without sacrificing trust or rigor? Enter the “standards sandbox,” a new approach where emerging technologies are safely test-driven under provisional guidelines aligned with NEMA’s tech roadmap. It’s a space to fail fast, learn faster, and iterate standards in real time, bridging the gap between breakneck innovation and formal consensus. This talk challenges the comfort of slow consensus and presents a bold provocation: speed up standards or risk irrelevance.</p>

	<p>Jason Wampler, Managing Director of IT, International Society for Automation (ISA)</p> <p><i>An LLM that Works for SDOs</i></p> <p>AI tools are fast evolving, and users are exploring new ways of learning, automating workflows, and finding creative uses for this technology. But when it comes to voluntary consensus standards being uploaded into large language models (LLMs) like ChatGPT and Claude, most SDOs have significant concerns. The IP is compromised, the LLM may hallucinate and provide inappropriate information, and there are very real risks for health, safety, and security.</p> <p>There's a better way: let's explore how an LLM can be an effective tool for SDOs for content and knowledge sharing, membership growth, and even community building. Meet Mimo® from the International Society of Automation (ISA).</p> <p>Jory Burson, Vice President of Standards, The Linux Foundation; General Manager, Joint Development Foundation Projects</p> <p><i>Abstract forthcoming</i></p>
<p>3:35-3:55</p>	<p>Moderated Q&A</p> <p>Moderated audience Q&A with all presenters.</p>
<p>3:55-4:00</p>	<p>Closing</p>
<p>4:00-5:00</p>	<p>Networking Reception</p>

Speaker Bios



Mary Saunders (Emcee)

Saunders is senior vice president, government relations and public policy at the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). She serves as ANSI's spokesperson and liaison to federal, state, and local government agencies and to Congress, supporting the ANSI National Policy Advisory Group and the ANSI Government Member Forum. Prior to joining ANSI in 2017, Saunders served as associate director for management resources at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), where she had previously directed the Standards Coordination Office. Earlier in her career, she was deputy assistant secretary for manufacturing and services in the International Trade Administration (ITA), managing more than 200 industry specialists, economists, and trade experts.



Jesse Dunietz

Dunietz is a computer scientist at NIST, where he serves as Acting Group Lead for the AI Standards and Guidelines Group within the Information Technology Laboratory (ITL). He oversees and participates in NIST's work on standardization for AI, as well as ITL's AI frameworks and guidelines, international engagements on AI, and technical assistance on AI policy. He holds a bachelor's from MIT and a Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon University, both in computer science. His technical background includes research in AI at multiple universities and technology companies. He has also worked extensively in science communication and international technology policy.



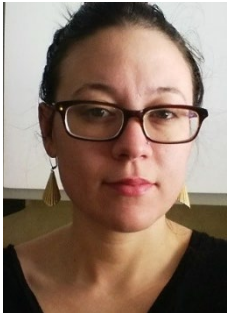
Casey Granata

Granata is a senior program manager at the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), recognized for a collaborative, strategic approach to advancing codes, standards, and technical programs. With over 13 years of experience, Granata brings deep expertise across the full standards lifecycle, including project initiation, stakeholder engagement, consensus building, balloting, and publication. He specializes in aligning technical priorities with industry needs while fostering collaboration among manufacturers, regulators, and standards development organizations. At NEMA, Granata leads national and international initiatives focused on energy storage systems, data centers, and grid infrastructure. His work supports safety, reliability, and innovation, positioning standards as key drivers of system performance and market growth. Granata also serves on the ANSI Board of Standards Review, evaluating standards for designation as American National Standards. Additionally, he is a Director at Large for the SES Board and a Certified Standards Professional, contributing to strategy and advancing best practices across the global standards community.



Jason Wampler

Wampler, CAE, is an IT leader with over two decades of technology experience in nonprofits and associations. He earned his Certified Association Executive designation while working across prominent associations including the Association Forum of Chicagoland and the Society for Vascular Surgery. After relocating to Raleigh, North Carolina, he deepened his expertise on the software vendor side, leading North American IT operations for a SaaS platform serving both government and nonprofit sectors, before bringing that rare blend of business acumen and technical leadership to his current role at the International Society of Automation (ISA). A firm believer that technology should serve people and purpose, Wampler's career is defined by his combination of association management expertise, technology leadership, and a genuine passion for mission-driven organizations.



Jory Burson

Burson is the vice president of standards for the Linux Foundation, where she helps projects identify opportunities for standardization and collaborate on specifications. An open source developer turned standards practitioner, she is passionate about bringing the best of open source and standards-making practices to bear in open projects. With over a decade of experience in the field, Burson has worked with several private and nonprofit organizations including OASIS Open, W3C, Ecma International, and the web standards consultancy Bocoup. She is known for her expertise in web standards, open source governance, and community management, and has played a role in shaping the open source ecosystem through her work with critical projects such as jQuery, Node.js, and MDN Content. Burson is a passionate advocate for open source software, diversity, and inclusion in the tech industry.