



Activity Report on Biofuels Standardization Coordination

Compiled by the American National Standards Institute

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The ANSI Biofuels Standards Coordination Panel (ANSI-BSP) is a cross-sector initiative established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) in May 2007 to promote the development and compatibility of voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment programs necessary to support the large-scale commoditization of biofuels. This report provides an update on activities that were either introduced during the inaugural meeting or that have been launched during the past three months.

Items for Review and Action

Biofuels Standards Roadmap

On March 28, 2007, ANSI and NIST convened an urgent meeting to develop input on biodiesel and bioethanol standardization issues for the U.S. delegation to the EU-U.S. Summit on April 30. Participants developed a biofuels standards roadmap that recommended a compatible set of international standards to promote the use and acceptance of biofuels in a global market. The roadmap's primary objective was to achieve greater compatibility among existing standards by the end of 2007.

During the summer, the U.S., Brazil, and E.U. have been collaborating informally to move this agenda forward. ASTM International has taken the lead to develop a draft document that demonstrates several areas of potential international convergence, as well as key regulations already in place that will prevent harmonization on certain issues. The resulting document is not intended to be a new standard; rather, it will be a non-binding report that identifies areas of convergence upon which individual countries must act.

New ISO Activity Proposal

Solid Biofuels

The Swedish Standards Institute (SIS) has submitted a proposal to ISO for a new field of technical activity on the subject of solid biofuels. In addition to offering to administer the new activity, SIS has suggested that, if formed, liaison be established with groups that have undertaken similar work (i.e., ISO TC 27, *Solid mineral fuels*; CEN TC 292, *Characterization of waste*, and CEN TC 343, *Solid recovered fuels*).

A public [request for comment](#) on the [proposal](#) has generated no input.

Action Required

Members of the ANSI-BSP are now invited to develop a recommended position that will be presented to the ANSI ISO Council (AIC) for approval and transmittal to ISO.

Comments from members of the ANSI-BSP are requested **by August 30, 2007**.

A teleconference of interested members of the ANSI-BSP will be held from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. (EDT) on **September 5, 2007**, to consider any comments received from the Panel and develop the recommended U.S. position.

New ISO Activity Proposal

Liquid Biofuels (within ISO TC 28)

ANSI and ABNT, the national standards body for Brazil, have submitted a proposal for a new subcommittee within ISO TC 28 - *Petroleum products and lubricants*. The scope of the subcommittee would span terminology, classification, and specifications for liquid biofuels, as well as analysis and testing for pure liquid biofuels. Initially, the subcommittee would be structured with two working groups: one to address ethanol, the other biodiesel.

July 31, 2007 marked the close of a national consultation period during which all stakeholders were [invited](#) to submit their comments. The proposal has now been submitted to ISO, and the email review and comment period for members of the ISO Technical Management Board (TMB) ends on Friday, August 31, 2007.

Barring substantial comments, the proposal will go to ISO TC 28 for voting in early September. If comments are extensive, the ISO/TMB will discuss the proposal during their September 17-18, 2007 meeting.

Meetings

ANSI Biofuels Standards Panel (ANSI-BSP)

On May 9, 2007, the first meeting of the ANSI-BSP was convened with the goal of working toward alignment and greater compatibility among standards while mitigating duplication and overlap. Ninety-six stakeholders from the public and private sectors attended.

To view proceedings from the meeting, please [click here](#).

To help all stakeholders understand the work that has already been accomplished, a number of SDOs are currently working together on a graphic that illustrates existing biofuels standards. Covering storage and distribution infrastructure, the graphic identifies each organization's specific standards and where they fit within the larger picture. In addition, ANSI is pleased to administer the Biofuels Events Calendar, an online resource about upcoming biofuels conferences and meetings. Please visit our [website](#) to view the calendar, and email bsp@ansi.org to share an event.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Biofuels Initiative Steering Committee

On May 22, 2007, the Chamber hosted a Biofuels Dialogue Series to discuss the technological challenges and opportunities within the biofuels industry from a holistic perspective, starting with where we currently stand and looking at how we can achieve the ambitious goals set by Congress and the Administration.

To watch a webcast of the meeting, please [click here](#).

Since January 2007, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Biofuels Initiative Steering Committee has brought together stakeholders at the policy, trade, and infrastructure levels to discuss issues affecting the biofuels industry. ANSI serves as the coordinator of any standards and conformance related discussions.

Department of Commerce International Trade Administration (ITA) – Building Biofuels Infrastructure

On June 19, 2007, the International Trade Administration held a public/private sector discussion on the development of biofuels infrastructure for both domestic and international markets. The discussion was focused to provide U.S. biofuels industry members with information on government programs that advance biofuels development both internationally and domestically, and also to provide U.S. government representatives with information on the challenges that the biofuels industry is facing as biofuels infrastructure is quickly growing.

To view presentations from the meeting, please [click here](#).

NIST/INMETRO Symposium on Biofuels

On June 26-29, 2007, NIST and INMETRO jointly hosted a Symposium on Biofuels in conjunction with the 11th Annual Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference in Washington, DC. Attendees at the NIST/INMETRO Symposium presented and discussed international perspectives with respect to both biofuels R&D, and associated reference standards and measurement needs. This Symposium was a follow-up to the Workshop held in Rio de Janeiro in September 2006, where attendees discussed measurements and standards needed to facilitate the transition of biofuels to global commodities.

ITA/INMETRO U.S.-Brazil Digital Videoconference Series on Standards

On July 20, 2007, the U.S.-Brazil Commercial Dialogue turned its attention to biofuels standardization issues, with particular emphasis on bioethanol. These videoconference dialogues are conducted regularly to exchange information on standardization topics; earlier sessions have explored each country's approach to regulation, standards, and conformity assessment.