“How To Win Friends And Influence People”
Dale Carnegie, 1936

Options for Action Summit
Gaithersburg, Maryland
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Agenda

- The European standards system and its UK version
- Our capacity-building programme
- How the US standards system is perceived
European structures

- National Standards Bodies
  - Covering most/all sectors
  - Combining SDO and ANSI roles
  - Standards committee members from trade associations and other stakeholders
  - Also some independent work by trade associations etc.

- European Standards Bodies
  - Context - single market – has led to a regulatory focus for standardisation
  - Loose federations
  - Standards committees with national delegates
  - Work outsourced to national bodies
  - Standards adopted by national bodies
The UK version

- National Standards Body – BSI
- Non-profit distributing, member service organisation
- Independent of Government – but a close relationship
- Most standards on commercial basis – Government funds only specific projects
- Key benefits of standards seen as innovation and productivity – regulatory focus is secondary
UK National Standardisation Strategic Framework

- 3 year programme 2004-07
- £1.5m per year ($2.75 million)
- “Pump-priming” – will become business as usual from 2007.
- Promoting better understanding and better standards-making in the UK …
- … and promoting British standards abroad – £250k per year ($450k)
UK’s capacity-building work

- Geographical focus reflects
  - priorities of BSI members
  - priorities of Government

- Areas of activity
  - China
  - South East Asia
  - Indian subcontinent
  - Gulf States
UK-China – our engagement

- 2004 Joint Cooperation Agreement between BSI and Standards Administration of China
  - Exchange of information
  - Joint projects
  - Conferences
  - Secondments

- 2005 – further agreement with China National Institute of Standardisation
UK-China – delivery

- Six month secondment to BSI by Vice-Administrator, SAC (2004-05)
- Return secondments by BSI staff
- Seminar on EU Construction Standards (Eurocodes) – Shanghai and Beijing, April 2005
- BSI/SAC Joint Conference on Environment, Energy Conservation and Sustainability – Beijing, June 2005
- Follow-up – variety of information exchange
- Further subjects being considered
UK – promoting Eurocodes

- Construction (design) standards
- Driven by new European regulatory regime
- Replacing national standards in Europe
- Also impacting exports
- BSI conferences and outreach efforts
  - Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam committed to adopt Eurocodes
  - Working with further countries from Pacific Rim to Middle East
European outreach

- Commission funding – largely delivered through European standards bodies
- Focus on
  - infrastructure-building
  - regulatory aspects
- Geographical focus reflects EC political priorities
  - Eastern Europe
  - Mediterranean
  - Latin America
Perceptions of America’s standards

O wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ither see us!
It wad frae monie a blunder free us
An foolish notion

Robert Burns – “To A Louse”
Perceptions of America’s standards

- Commercial drive
- Market relevance
- Integration with international standards system
- Links between standards, certification and testing
- Approach to international outreach activity
Thank you for your attention