Biofuels have the potential to contribute up to thirty percent of the world’s energy mix.
The ANSI Biofuels Standards Panel (ANSI-BSP) is a cross-sector coordinating body established to promote the development and compatibility of voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment programs necessary to support the large-scale commoditization of biofuels.

From field to engine, biofuels developments are progressing at a rapid pace. Private and public sector stakeholders the world over are keen to address a broad spectrum of topics ranging from feedstock properties to performance specifications. By establishing a framework of fundamental issues, the ANSI-BSP will:

- Evaluate the inventory of existing biofuels specifications to determine relevant standards and conformity assessment programs
- Identify gaps where new or revised standards and compliance programs need to be developed; work with the relevant organizations to coordinate, catalog, accelerate and promote the creation of these deliverables
- Identify the need for testing procedures, analytic methods, and reference materials; work with the relevant organizations to satisfy these needs
- Promote positive, cooperative partnerships between the public and private sectors and among stakeholders on the global stage

The ANSI-BSP will provide a neutral venue where interested parties can collaborate to define needs, determine work plans, and establish priorities for updating or creating new voluntary consensus standards and compliance programs. The ANSI-BSP will not itself engage in development; rather, it will work with national, regional, and international bodies to achieve convergence and mitigate duplication or overlap.
Biofuels represent an important viable alternative to fossil fuels and support the diversification of the global energy infrastructure. Seeking to improve climate protection, energy and economic security, stakeholders in the United States, the European Union, Brazil and other nations are taking steps to turn these organic energy products into a commodity for trade. Standards bodies around the globe are joining in the effort.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) predicts ethanol alone has the potential to make up 30% of world gasoline use by 2050.

Brazil is the largest producer of sugar-based ethanol, totaling 3.52 billion gallons per year.

The U.S., the world’s second-largest biofuel producer, is expected to produce 11.7 billion gallons of ethanol per year by the end of 2008.

Biomass fuels provide approximately 3% of the energy used in the United States.

Biodiesel production generates 93% more energy than is required to make it.

More than 75 commercial biodiesel plants are already in production in the United States.

1 bushel of corn equals 2.7 gallons of ethanol; switch grass yields twice as much ethanol per acre as corn.

1 acre of soybeans can produce 48 gallons of biodiesel; 1 acre of rapeseed can produce up to 127 gallons.
MEMBERSHIP IN THE ANSI-BSP

The ANSI-BSP is open to participation from any affected stakeholder, including representatives of industry, trade/professional associations, standards developing organizations, code developing organizations, conformity assessment bodies, government agencies, consumer groups, organized labor, and academia.

The intent is to create a highly inclusive forum with participation from a range of perspectives that is not disproportionately dependent upon any single interest, organization, or stakeholder group.

Though strongly encouraged, membership in the American National Standards Institute is not a prerequisite for participation on the ANSI-BSP.

UN INTERNATIONAL BIOFUELS FORUM

In the first quarter of 2007, the U.S. and Brazil came together with the European Union, China, India, and South Africa to form the United Nations International Biofuels Forum. The Forum’s major tasks for this year include drafting global standards for the production of biofuels, and finding ways to open markets and encourage investment in those countries with the potential to further develop the industry.

Among the panel’s initiatives, the ANSI-BSP will support the work of the International Biofuels Forum, accelerating efforts to achieve convergence among existing standards and identifying areas where updated or new standards are needed.
PRINCIPLES
The ANSI-BSP shall work to ensure that compatible voluntary consensus standards are developed to support biofuels as a commodity for international trade. Organized so that it shall not be disproportionately dependent upon any single organization or group, the Panel will operate under the following principles:

- **Transparency** Information concerning governance, activities, and Panel decisions is accessible to all parties on a timely basis.

- **Openness** Panel participation is open to all affected interests.

- **Stakeholder Representation** Panel governance and activities shall include broad stakeholder representation without regard to ANSI membership or accreditation.

- **Impartiality and Balance** No single interest dominates the process or is favored over another.

- **Effectiveness and Relevance** Decisions are relevant and effectively respond to regulatory and market needs, as well as technological developments.

- **Coherence** Encouraging coherence avoids overlapping and conflicting standards.

- **Consensus** Agreement by more than a simple majority, but not necessarily unanimity. All objections and views must be considered and an effort must be made toward their resolution.

- **Performance-Based** Standards specify essential characteristics rather than detailed designs.

- **Due Process** Decisions include due process so that all views are considered and a dispute resolution process exists.

- **Timeliness** The timeframe meets market expectations.

- **Flexibility** Decision making may incorporate variation in process to meet the needs of different sectors, so long as the other principles are not compromised.

For more information, or to join, please visit [www.ansi.org/bsp](http://www.ansi.org/bsp)
The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance U.S. global competitiveness and the American quality of life by promoting, facilitating, and safeguarding the integrity of the voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. Comprised of government agencies, organizations, companies, academic and international bodies, and individuals, ANSI represents the interests of more than 125,000 companies and 3.5 million professionals.

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