



Throughout its history, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has maintained as its primary goal the enhancement of global competitiveness of U.S. business and the American quality of life by facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems and promoting their integrity.

The Institute provides a forum for hundreds of ANSI-accredited standards developers that work cooperatively to develop American National Standards. ANSI is the official U.S. representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and, via the U.S. National Committee, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC); the Institute is also a U.S. representative to the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

Comprised of businesses, professional societies and trade associations, standards developers, government agencies, and consumer and labor organizations, the ANSI Federation represents the diverse interests of more than 125,000 entities and 3.5 million professionals worldwide.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

Homeland Security Standards Panel





Since its launch in early 2003, the American National Standards Institute's Homeland Security Standards Panel (ANSI-HSSP) has proactively addressed a broad spectrum of homeland security challenges at home and abroad.

Formed in response to standardization needs identified by national security experts, the panel brings together representatives from the private and public sectors to assist in the identification of consensus standards and compliance programs needed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and other stakeholders. When gaps or new requirements are identified, the panel helps to accelerate the development and adoption of standards-based solutions to those needs.

The ANSI-HSSP has become the forum where stakeholders turn for consideration of high-level homeland security standardization matters. Well-recognized for its ability to connect people and groups, the panel also maintains a comprehensive online database of homeland security standards information (www.hssd.us).

Participation

Directly and materially-affected representatives of industry, government agencies, standards development organizations, trade and professional associations, consumer groups, academia and other groups are encouraged to engage actively in the panel's work.

Help to ensure that the nation's homeland security needs are being addressed.

Areas of Work

The ANSI-HSSP discusses, coordinates and makes recommendations on homeland security-related standardization topics via Plenary meetings and Workshops. Topics that have been addressed – and continue to be monitored – include:

- Private Sector Emergency Preparedness and Business Continuity
- "Lessons Learned from Hurricane Katrina" (preparedness, response and recovery in the event of a disaster)
- Perimeter Security
- Enterprise Power Security and Continuity
- Biometrics
- Biological and Chemical Threat Agents
- Training Programs for First Responders for WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) Events
- Emergency Communications

Additional topics under consideration include:

- Transit Security
- Credentialing/Access Control
- Security/Emergency Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities
- Mobilization of Private Sector Resources to Disasters

The panel also plays an active role, via ANSI, in regional and international activities relevant to homeland security. ANSI-HSSP members serve in leadership roles, introducing and facilitating exploration and cooperation within a global context.