



## HOMELAND SECURITY STANDARDS PANEL

**T**hroughout 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 (ANS).

ANSI is the official U.S. representative to the International Accreditation Forum, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), via the U.S. National Committee.

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 120,000 entities and 3.2 million professionals worldwide.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

American National Standards Institute  
25 W. 43rd Street, Fourth Floor  
New York, NY 10036  
T: 212.642.4992  
F: 212.398.0023  
E: [mdeane@ansi.org](mailto:mdeane@ansi.org)

[www.ansi.org/hssp](http://www.ansi.org/hssp)





**T**he American National Standards Institute's Homeland Security Standards Panel (ANSI-HSSP) has as its mission to identify existing consensus standards, or, if none exists, assist the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and those sectors requesting assistance to advance the development and adoption of consensus standards critical to homeland security.

### Objectives

The ANSI-HSSP promotes a positive, cooperative partnership between the public and private sectors in order to meet the critical needs of the nation in the area of homeland security.

Established by ANSI in February 2003, the Panel's scope of work includes cataloging, promoting, accelerating and coordinating the timely development of consensus standards that are intended to meet identified homeland security needs. Standards within both the national and international voluntary standards systems are considered. The ANSI-HSSP also communicates the existence of these standards appropriately to governmental units and the private sector.

### Areas of work

The Panel is initially focusing its activities on responding to the most immediate standards needs of DHS. As such, the ANSI-HSSP has convened, or plans to convene, workshops in areas including, but not limited to:

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- Private Sector Emergency Preparedness and Business Continuity
- Biometrics
- Biological and Chemical Threat Agents
- Training Programs for First Responders for WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) Events
- Emergency Communications

The common goals of the workshops are to identify the existing standards, standards under development, gap areas, and any related existing or required conformity assessment programs. The ANSI-HSSP Steering Committee welcomes input for new security subjects for the Panel to explore via workshops.

### Participation

The inclusive nature of the ANSI-HSSP enables it to capitalize on work that has been completed or that is currently underway within the wider standards-setting community.

Participation on the Panel is open to all directly and materially-affected representatives of industry, government, professional societies, trade associations, standards developers, and consortia groups directly involved in U.S. homeland security standardization. A single organization may choose to designate multiple staff for involvement.

Though membership in the American National Standards Institute is strongly encouraged, it is not required for membership in the ANSI-HSSP.