

Good morning everyone.

My name is Fran Schrotter, and I am Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). On behalf of ANSI's Board of Directors, members, and staff, I am pleased to welcome you to this Eighth Plenary of the ANSI Homeland Security Standards Panel, and to call this meeting to order.

For any of you who may not be familiar with ANSI, we serve as the coordinator of this nation's private-sector led and public sector-supported voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment system. In early 2003, and in the aftermath of the 9-11 attacks, ANSI's Board Officers saw that there was an important role for the voluntary consensus standardization community to play in addressing the critical need for standards and compliance programs regarding the safety and security of our nation and its citizens. This need was underscored in the National Strategy for Homeland Security. As a result, the Homeland Security Standards Panel was formed as a private-public sector collaborative effort.

From the beginning, ANSI-HSSP has worked closely with the Department of Homeland Security to address those priority areas that have been identified by DHS as most critical.

Looking around the room this morning, I'm pleased to see so many of our nation's leading standards and compliance bodies sitting side-by-side with representatives of government and industry. Your sustained interest in the panel's work has made its many achievements possible.

You have collaborated with the Department of Homeland Security, the 9-11 Commission, the national standards bodies of other countries, the International Organization for Standardization, and a host of others in both the public and private sectors. You've produced a number of very impressive, high-level accomplishments, including several exceptional activities over the past year that we'll hear more about during today's meeting sessions.

We'll open this Plenary with a keynote address from Bradley Buswell from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Next we'll hear introductory remarks from our two co-chairs:

- Gordon Gillerman of the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and
- Christian Dubay of the National Fire Protection Association.

Chris and Gordon together personify the effectiveness of this panel's public-private partnership and will offer us their insights on the state of standards and conformity assessment in addressing the nation's – and the world's – homeland security priorities.

Dr. Bert Coursey of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will then provide an update on standards activities and standards programs within his agency.

The five meeting sessions to follow will cover the many different approaches and strategies for homeland security-related topics and the great strides made by HSSP over the past year, including:

- the high-level findings resulting from the January 2009 ANSI-HSSP Workshop on Transit Security Standardization;
- priorities identified at the February 2009 ANSI-HSSP Workshop on Emergency Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs;
- the progress of work addressing issues related to cyber risk;
- the status of standards proposed for the Private Sector Voluntary Certification program;
- further applications of homeland security standards for the private sector;
- and an introduction to the hierarchical resources cataloging data related to homeland security standards and equipment.

It should be a most informative series of discussions identifying the initiatives that are working and how to capture those successes, build upon them, and make further advancements.

Before we begin our program, I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge our sponsors and thank them for their support of today's Plenary:

- Booz Allen Hamilton;
- The Homeland Security Studies & Analysis Institute;
- The National Fire Protection Association;
- Phillips Nizer LLP;
- and Vidient.

And I would like to thank all of you for coming and for your attention and insights.

I wish you a very successful and productive meeting and look forward to participating in the discussions as we continue to examine the standards and conformity assessment needs in the homeland security arena.

Fran Schrotter
Vice President and COO
American National Standards Institute

Opening Remarks
ANSI-HSSP 8th Plenary Meeting
October 21, 2009 9:00 am

It's now my great pleasure to welcome Bradley Buswell, Acting Under-Secretary for Science and Technology at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Buswell is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a retired submarine officer who has served in numerous posts at sea and in Washington, including his positions as Congressional Liaison for Navy Research and Development Programs in the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs; Assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations for Force Transformation; and Executive Assistant to the Chief of Naval Research.

Following his retirement from the Navy, Mr. Buswell served in the private sector as Manager of Government Relations for GE Global before joining the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate in October 2006.

Please join me in welcoming Mr. Buswell to the podium.

[END]