

<p><b>S. Joe Bhatia</b>  President and CEO  American National Standards Institute</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>IDSP – First Plenary Meeting</b>  Arlington, VA  Opening Remarks – November 16, 2006</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>650 words – approximately 5.5 minutes speaking time</i></p>
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- Good afternoon everyone. My name is Joe Bhatia and I am president of the American National Standards Institute.
- On behalf of my friend Steve Cole, president of the Better Business Bureau, it is my pleasure to call to order the inaugural meeting of the Identity Theft Prevention and Identity Management Standards Panel . . . better known as the IDSP.
- Unfortunately, Steve has been called to Chicago to attend the funeral of a long-standing BBB colleague. I know he wanted very much to be here to personally extend his wishes for a successful meeting.

*(pause)*

- When Steve approached the Institute with the idea for this panel, the BBB was already actively engaged in an education and outreach campaign on ways to mitigate ID theft and fraud.
- Many consumer and industry groups – and some federal agencies – were also pursuing separate identity-related solutions and strategies.
- A collaborative cross-sector effort to address the issue was needed.
- This is why Steve asked ANSI to get involved.
- We are honored to partner with the BBB as co-sponsor of the IDSP.

*(pause)*

- The Institute serves as the umbrella organization for the U.S. standards and conformity assessment community. We offer an open and consensus-based forum in which all who are affected by an issue can come together to take action.
- ANSI is also well-recognized for our successful track record of establishing and administering standards panels to address national and global priorities.
- Our three other panels are defining standards-based solutions for needs in the areas of homeland security, nanotechnology and healthcare information technology.

- In meeting these goals, our panels:
  - coordinate the efforts of the private and public sectors,
  - identify existing standards and compliance programs, and
  - define where gaps exist and recommend where additional work is needed.
- ANSI has considerable experience bringing together disparate groups for the development of standards that benefit specific industries or that are viable for cross-industry application.
- With all this in mind, the IDSP was born.

*(pause)*

- Like its siblings before it, this Panel will achieve its success through cooperation and collaboration.
- We expect a wide range of interests to become involved: from financial services to the IT community; from government regulators to consumers, and many more.
- Together, we will identify standards and compliance programs that already exist or that are currently under development.
- Some of these activities may come from groups outside the “traditional” standards-setting arena. That’s fine, too. Our goal is to identify appropriate solutions – regardless of their source.
- We need to act quickly and decisively.
- More than 18 million Americans have been victimized by ID theft and fraud over the past two years, costing U.S. consumers and businesses more than \$100 billion.
- ANSI and the BBB felt it was important to select as chair of this Panel an industry expert with a broad knowledge of the issues, the players, and the types of solutions that are needed.

*(pause)*

- Ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to introduce you to the newly appointed IDSP chairman, Mr. Joseph Gurreri.
- Joe brings to the IDSP more than twenty years of relevant experience. Currently, he is vice president of solutions development and consulting at TransUnion where he oversees a team of subject matter experts responsible for the delivery of comprehensive tools and strategies relating to identity fraud and identity management, collections and risk management.

- ANSI and the BBB are confident that Joe will provide great leadership, advice and guidance to the IDSP.
- Joe, we thank you for accepting this very important responsibility.
- And we thank each of you for your participation, dedication and contributions to the advancement of the work of this panel. I look forward to many positive results from your first meeting.

*(pause)*

- Mr. Chairman, it's my pleasure to turn the podium over to you . . .