

ANSI ISO Council  
August 30, 2004

Comments on the Retirement of Dr. John Bergen  
Presented by Dr. Mark W. Hurwitz

During my career, and especially during my time with ANSI, I have had the opportunity to work with hundreds of volunteers who dedicate themselves to advancing the cause of the organizations they support.

I know that all you who have had a chance to work with **Dr. John Bergen** will agree with me that he is a statesman, a consensus-builder, and a man of great integrity. We clearly see that he has dedicated himself to the cause of international standardization.

John has been an effective leader of the ANSI ISO Council since it was formed at the beginning of 2003 – and he has provided outstanding service as its chairman.

I would be remiss, however, if I did not also acknowledge his role as chairman of ANSI's Task Force on Governance – the group that was

charged with evaluating and re-designing ANSI's complex governance and structure.

Dr. Bergen offered his wisdom and insights throughout a long and complex process. Upon approval of the Task Force's final recommendations by the Board of Directors, the Institute implemented a new governance structure that has led to greater effectiveness, additional efficiencies and enhanced value for all of ANSI's members. The formation of this very Council is a direct result of the Task Force's recommendations.

(pause)

Looking more broadly, John's efforts have advanced the development and dissemination of ISO standards, guidelines and best practices that can be adopted and implemented on a global scale – whether in his own area of expertise within the medical and healthcare arena, or on behalf of the broad and diverse ANSI Federation.

His wisdom and insights have enabled ANSI to develop and promote within ISO numerous positions that will have an incredibly positive long-term impact. The adoption by ISO of its first-ever Global Relevance, and also its invitation for national bodies to participate actively in the development of a long-term strategic planning initiative, serves as testaments to the *era of change* that is underway.

It is through the efforts of individuals like Dr. Bergen that ISO is transforming itself into a better, stronger, more nimble, and flexible organization.

(pause)

John, we are grateful to you for the invaluable advice and guidance that you have provided to ANSI, to this Council, to the Institute's Board of Directors, and to the ISO community. You have provided extraordinary service to all who are impacted by global standardization. For this we are thankful. Your presence will be missed at this table – and many others.

*(pause)*

Please join me in extending appreciation to Dr. Bergen.

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