

ANSI-NIST Meeting on Biofuels Standardization
Washington, DC
March 28, 2007

Opening Remarks by Frances Schrotter
Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, ANSI

- Good morning everyone! On behalf of the American National Standards Institute and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, it is my pleasure to welcome you to this important meeting on biofuels standardization.
- Because compatible standards will be among the chief topics of discussion at the upcoming EU-U.S. Summit, we have an urgent deadline to meet. It was short notice — and we are pleased that so many of you were able to arrange your schedules to be here in person or to participate via teleconference.

(pause)

- The subject of alternative fuels has received increasing attention both at the national and global levels because of its potential to diversify energy supplies and to propel economic development. Greg Manuel, Special Advisor to the Secretary of State and International Energy Coordinator, and Jonathan Shrier, Director for International Energy Security at the National Security Council, will tell us later this morning about some of the major national and international activities that are driving the commoditization of biofuels.
- As you well know, our work is critical.
- Current estimates indicated that biofuels — if successfully capitalized as a commodity for trade — have the potential to contribute up to thirty percent of the world's energy mix.

(pause)

- It is no accident that ANSI and NIST came together to co-sponsor this meeting today. Both organizations understand that a proactive private and public sector partnership is essential to address strategic issues of importance to the standards and conformity assessment community.
- For those of you who may not be familiar with ANSI:
 - the Institute is responsible for coordinating the voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems in the United States.
 - We accredit standards developing organizations in hundreds of industries, and certification bodies in the product, personnel, and quality management system areas.
 - We are the national member body for ISO, the International Organization for Standardization and, via the U.S. National Committee to the IEC, the International Electrotechnical Commission and regional organizations in the Americas and the Pacific Rim. We also have direct interface with the standards organizations of the European Union.
- The ANSI Federation represents the interests of more than 125,000 companies and 3.5 million professionals worldwide. The principle tenets of our organization include openness and balance.
- This is why – in conjunction with NIST – we knew it was so important to reach out broadly within both the public and private sectors to engage a good cross section of interests in today's meeting.

- We recognize that a substantial body of standardization work has already been done to support the biofuels industry. We applaud the collaborative efforts of all the different stakeholders who are already actively engaged.
- However, a number of issues still need to be addressed. The pace is accelerating and there is considerable work to be done.
- Our meeting today is focusing very specifically on the fuel quality specifications for bioethanol and biodiesel. But we recognize that these make up only one segment of the much broader topic of biofuels standardization.
- ANSI intends to establish a multi-stakeholder forum to address coordination of the broader issues through the creation of a Biofuels Standards Panel. We will talk more about that this afternoon when we address next steps.

(begin conclusion)

- In summary, our purpose today is to hear from industry and other stakeholders before any serious bi-lateral or multi-lateral discussions are undertaken.
- Our path forward will be laid out during our discussions today. Let me assure you that this is the beginning of a collaborative effort, not a “rubber stamp” on a plan that has already been set in motion.
- This morning’s presentations will lay the ground work by recapping recent events that have helped to propel biofuels-related issues to the top of domestic and international trade discussions. Our group discussion this afternoon will be critically important in shaping any next steps that may be taken.
- Thank you for coming. I look forward to working with you today and encourage your active participation in our discussions.

(pause)

- Now it is my pleasure to introduce you to Neil Rossmeissl, Technology Manager for the Integrated Biorefinery awards within the Office of the Biomass Program at the U.S. Department of Energy.
- No stranger to the standards community, Neil worked for many years as the DOE Manager for the Safety, Codes and Standards SubProgram within the Office of Hydrogen, Fuel Cells and Infrastructure Technologies.
- Neil joined the DOE in 1992, after spending several years working in the more traditional aspects of the energy industry.