

In This Issue

- Featured Article: Joseph L. Koepfinger, "Symposium Investigates Need for International Standards for Ultra High Voltage"
- Latest from the IEC
- USNC News
- Save the Dates

In late 2006, the Chinese National Committee (NC) of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) asked IEC Sector Board 1 (SB 1) to consider an urgent request for standards to address the Ultra High Voltage (UHV) transmission systems that were being considered for installation in several Asian countries. Commercial operation for 1100 kV AC is scheduled to begin in China during 2008 and during the period of 2009-2010 for 800 kV.

Symposium Investigates Need for International Standards for Ultra High Voltage

by Joseph L. Koepfinger,
CEO, Koepfinger Consulting

Sector Board 1 recommended to the IEC Standardization Management Board (SMB) that IEC Technical Committees be given a 2010 delivery date for new and updated standards that would accommodate ultra-high-voltage transmission for both 1000 kV AC and 800 kV DC. Recognizing that the scope of work would affect standardization activities in areas ranging from voltages to dielectric values and other insulation coordination matters, and would call for new and updated requirements such as common parameters for equipment, the SMB ruled that it was premature to act on such a broad request without attaining additional information.

Working in concert with the International Council on Large Electric Systems (CIGRE), a UHV Symposium was organized and held in Beijing, China, in July 2007. The four-day event was attended by more than 100 participants from nearly 20 nations who came together to collaborate on the need for International Standards for both UHV AC and HV DC.

UHV AC is defined as maximum equipment voltages greater than 800 kV alternating current (AC).

HV DC is considered to be a maximum voltage greater than ± 800 kV direct current (DC)

Nearly 50 papers regarding the status and plan for UHV AC and HV DC in China, Brazil, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Russia, and the United States of America were presented. Many pointed out the great potential for the use of UHV AC and HV DC in the developing world, where there is a rapid growth of generation capacity and a similar rapidly increasing demand for electrical energy. In China, India, and Brazil, there is often a large load generation capacity located remotely (1000 km or more) from the Load Center; in other cases, there is a need for stiff ties between control areas that consist of tens of GigaWatts of generation and load.

In developed economies such as the U.S., a large imbedded transmission infrastructure and a proven Extra High Voltage (EHV) transmission system pushes the need for UHV transmission several years into the future.

Research discussed at the Symposium shows that between 1997 and 2010 the generation capacity will

grow at a rate of 5% per year, but between 2012 and 2020 the rate of growth is expected to accelerate to 22% per year, for an overall average growth rate between 1997 and 2020 of 16% per year.

Such projected growth in generation and load demand provides some insight into the urgency being expressed by the Asian community for an increased effort in UHV AC and HV DC standardization. The Symposium demonstrated that there is a clear market need for International Standards to support the global roll-out of UHV AC and HV DC transmission. A summary of findings is included at the end of this article.



LATEST FROM THE IEC

IEC Develops Global Relevance Toolbox

One of the obligations in adopting the World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement (TBT) is to develop, adopt, and publish IEC International Standards that are globally relevant.



This implies that IEC standards are expected to facilitate trade on an international level. Standards should do away with unnecessary trade barriers and enable the broadest possible acceptance in all countries. In turn, standards need to respond fairly to regulatory and market needs as well as scientific and technological developments.

By thinking globally as opposed to nationally or locally, publications can be used and adopted by as great a number of stakeholders as possible in all markets around the world. IEC Technical Committees (TCs) have adopted a number of techniques to take into account those differences—such as mains voltages—which could not realistically be removed to permit adoption of a single unified standard.

To aid all TCs in meeting this challenge, the IEC has developed a global relevance toolbox that contains a broad variety of techniques and examples. The toolbox has been published in the form of an administrative circular, AC/22/2007.

The circular provides examples of different issues which can arise during the development process and posits guidelines as to how each of these cases can be addressed.

Should the guidelines offered in AC/22/2007 fail to anticipate a particular need, TCs are encouraged to explore and agree upon other solutions.

Further information

To view the circular, visit:

http://www.iec.ch/tiss/ac_cl/200722e.pdf ■

FEATURED ARTICLE (continued)

Joseph L. Koepfinger: Symposium Investigates Need for International Standards for Ultra High Voltage

The development of UHV

From 1960 to 1990, a large body of research, testing, and installation was developed in Canada, Europe, and the U.S. This activity was stimulated by the rapid increase in the demand for electric energy following the end of World War II in North America and Europe. Prior to this period, the highest transmission voltages were equal to or less than 242 kV.

In the north, hydro generation was being developed in Canada, where hundreds of kilometers often separated the production facility from the load centers. In the U.S., larger 800 MW plus nuclear plants and fossil generation plants were being constructed at a very rapid rate. Here, too, there was a developing need to transmit large quantities of electric energy from the generation plants to the load centers on the east and west coasts.

Five laboratories in the U.S. and one in Canada conducted research on voltage up to 1500 kV AC that helped to establish the bases for overhead transmission line configuration, the design of gas and oil insulated substations, and the associated equipment.

To this point, the commercialization of the HVDC and Extra High Voltage (EHV) was largely taking place without a demanding need for standardization. The adoption of the voltage levels was jointly agreed upon by the manufacturers and the electrical utilities and then standardized by ANSI-Accredited Standard Committee C84, *Preferred Voltage Rating for AC Systems and Equipment*.

The papers presented at the UHV Symposium discussed research that has been done more recently in China, India, Italy, Japan, and Russia as well as the testing

laboratories and pilot facilities that operated UHV voltages for a short period of time:

- Russia had a pilot facility that operated for a few years at 1200 kV; the transmission line is now part of the existing transmission system and is being operated at a 400 kV level.
- Italy operated a line at a maximum voltage of 1050 kV, but it is now operated at a maximum voltage of 420 kV. In this case, the line was made part of the existing grid.
- Japan built a UHV transmission system to operate at a maximum voltage of 1100 kV, but it has been operating at a maximum voltage of 550 kV; by 2010, it will start to operate at the UHV designed voltage.

In every case, the projects were considered a success: they provided considerable information regarding design of lines and substation equipment to withstand lightning and switching surge voltages. The facilities demonstrated operational performance of equipment designs and validated digital model studies.

Several also provided new data on the characteristics of lightning and switching surges. For example, the long UHV AC transmission lines create changes for the control of switching surge to levels that can be handled by circuit breakers and switches without resulting

in failure of the equipment.

The fundamental aspects of the environment, safety, and efficiency have been studied and there appear to be no barriers to the construction and operation of UHV AC and HV DC.



FEATURED ARTICLE (continued)

Joseph L. Koefinger: Symposium Investigates Need for International Standards for Ultra High Voltage

A view of the future

Discussions at the Symposium confirmed that the technology is mature for UHV AC systems of 1100 kV maximum; the goal of design, construction and operation of a UHV AC system operating at this voltage is feasible. In fact, researchers in Italy, Russia, and the U.S. indicate the feasibility of UHV operating voltages of 1200 kV and 1500 kV, though more work may need to be done in this area.

Similarly, new UHV AC and HV DC projects are being designed to transmit 40 to 70 GW per line. The magnitude of such large power transfers raises concerns about the reliability of such a transmission system that have to be taken into consideration during planning and design. Some experts predict that future generation and reactive power controls for system stability will need to employ fast-acting digital technology.

The size of UHV AC and HV DC equipment also presents some unusual logistical problems. Substation equipment may have to be re-

packaged differently than is done with HV and EHV substation equipment. The transportation infrastructure in some countries—especially those Asian nations with an immediate need—will present challenges to those who are trying to transport updated equipment for installation.

Since the Symposium, the IEC SMB has addressed some of the issues. They have established a Joint IEC-CIGRE Coordination Group to identify what standards are needed for both UHV AC and HV DC. The group is comprised of four members appointed by CIGRE and ten members appointed by the IEC.

Mr. Max Chan, director of transmission line project engineering at American Electric Power and Mr. Ron Lai, senior director at FCI USA, Inc. have been named as the U.S. representative and alternate, respectively. Mr. Chan attended the November 28 meeting in Zurich and will continue to represent the USNC/IEC and the interests of the U.S. electrotechnical community. ■

LATEST FROM THE IEC

IEC Marine Energy Technical Committee Gets Underway



The secretariat of the IEC's newly established Technical Committee 114, *Marine Energy* –

Wave and Tidal Energy Converters, has been assigned to the UK National Committee. Danny Peacock of BSI British Standards is the newly appointed Secretary.

The goal of TC 114 is to maximize the power that tidal energy offers as a competitive form of electrical energy production.

IEC National Committees are already committing to the new work program, with thirteen participating members, including Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Five National Committees are currently observing members of TC 114, including Brazil, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, and Ukraine.

The standards developed by TC 114 will recommend best practices for the effective network and integration of electricity from wave and tidal energy devices. As technologies advance, TC 114 will ensure that its standards help to make tidal energy increasingly competitive with existing energy alternatives while ensuring the transfer of expertise from traditional energy systems.

Standards to be developed by TC 114 will cover the performance of tidal and wave energy converters, how these converters will plug into electricity grid systems, and how they should be tested.

Unlike wind and solar energy, tidal power is seen as a reliably predictable renewable resource. Sites with high water speeds where water currents are concentrated are ideal, like channels, entrances to bays, estuaries, and rivers between islands.

Further information

TC 114 dashboard ■

Summary of the Symposium Findings

1. There is a market need for UHV AC and HV DC. Commercial operation is scheduled for 1100 kV AC in 2008 and for 800 kV in 2009-2010 in China.
2. The fundamental aspects of the environment, safety and efficiency have been studied. None of these appear to be a barrier to the construction and operation of UHV AC and HV DC.
3. Standards Priorities:
 - IEC TC 8, *Systems aspects for electrical energy supply*, should revise IEC 60038-2002, *IEC standard voltages*, to establish values for UHV AC DC.
 - An IEC standard should be developed to address gaps in existing IEC standards.
 - SMB should consider establishing an IEC-CIGRE Joint Coordinating Group to identify needed standards for both UHV AC and HV DC.
4. Standards Development:
 - Transmission: Most standards are already developed, but may need some modification for UHV AC.
 - Substations: Standards currently address EHV technology, but further study is needed to determine if these standards need to be modified to meet UHV needs.
 - Equipment: Since configuration may dictate that some equipment cannot be completely tested at the point of manufacture, new field testing equipment standards may be necessary.
 - HVDC: CIGRE research reinforced the need for existing IEC Technical Committees to address the standards needs for this type of system. Perhaps there is a need for a separate HVDC Technical Committee.



LATEST FROM THE IEC

Honduras Joins IEC Affiliate Country Programme

Honduras is the most recent nation to join the IEC's Affiliate Country Programme, bringing the initiative's total participation to 76 countries.



Launched in 2001, the IEC Affiliate Country Programme is aimed at developing and newly-industrializing countries around the world. The Programme offers such countries a form of participation in the IEC without the financial burden of actual membership, making full use of IEC 100% electronic environment.

The Affiliate Country Programme has three principal aims:

- to encourage greater awareness and use of IEC International Standards in developing countries;
- to help those countries understand and participate in the work of the IEC; and
- to facilitate the adoption of IEC International Standards as national standards.

The programme offers participants a form of involvement in the IEC without the financial burden of actual membership, making full use of all IT tools to reduce participation costs to virtually zero. Affiliates can use relevant IEC International Standards and learn how to monitor relevant technical work in the technical committees, thereby taking a step-by-step approach to establishing an IEC National Electrotechnical Committee, if and when appropriate.

Contact information

Consejo Hondureño de Ciencia y Tecnología
Boulevard Fuerzas Armadas
Edificio CAD - COHCIT
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
<http://www.cohcit.gob.hn>

Further information

<http://www.iec.ch/affiliates>. ■

LATEST FROM THE IEC

Green Screen: Revised IEC Standard Will Help Consumers Choose Energy Efficient Televisions

Television use makes up approximately ten percent of a household's annual electricity bill, according to Energy Star, a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.

In 2002 the IEC published IEC 62087, *Methods of measurement for the power consumption of audio, video and related equipment*, a standard that helps to determine the amount of power used by televisions and other home electronics.

Rapid technological advances in television sets and other home electronic equipment underscore the need for revisions to IEC 62087.

For example, traditional cathode-ray tube and plasma television sets, which were prevalent at the time of the standard's development, require more electricity to produce brighter images. Today's flat-panel LCDs and rear-projection microdisplays consume the same amount of power regardless of image brightness.

A reliance on static images as a test of power consumption and a lack of discussion on power saving features also limit the standard's continued applicability in today's marketplace.

Updates to IEC 62087 are expected to be published in early 2008. The revisions will incorporate tests for power saving features and will address power consumption in a variety of different modes, from live-action images and recording functions to stand-by, disconnected, and off modes.

The revised standard will also reflect the marketplace's increased demand for energy efficient electronics, helping manufacturers provide accurate energy label ratings, aiding consumers as they shop for efficient products, and reducing overall green house gas emissions.

IEC Technical Committee 100, *Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment*, developed IEC 62087 and is currently working



on the standard's second edition. The committee publishes international standards for consumer products and professional equipment ranging from digital video players to plasma technology and mobile communications.

TC 100's work addresses interfaces, interconnections, and interoperability between systems, as well as testing and measuring methods.

Further information

<http://tc100.iec.ch> ■

Power Saving Tips

- Turn the TV off when it is not being used



- Turn down the backlight on the LCD screen

- Turn on the power-saver mode

- Reduce light output with other settings

- Control room lighting

- Buy a smaller screen

- Watch TV with family and friends

- Reduce overall time spent watching TV

LATEST FROM THE IEC

Making an electrifying difference to climate change: wattwatt.com

Electricity is a form of energy that we often take for granted—in our homes, hospitals, offices, and factories. But certain ways of generating electricity can be major contributors to climate change. By using less electricity, using it more efficiently and responsibly, and looking for new or improved ways to generate it, we can all make a difference.

A Web 2.0 social networking website, wattwatt.com brings together people of all ages and nationalities interested in making a difference. It provides the means to engage the public in identifying priorities for consumers, industry and governments, and in finding the solutions—technical or behavioral—for increasing electrical energy efficiency.

Since its launch on October 26, 2007, wattwatt.com has grown into an online community of some 350 individuals from 57 countries. User contributions, or “pulses,” will be used as part of the IEC’s electrical energy efficiency efforts.

Supported by the IEC, wattwatt.com facilitates the sharing of experiences and ideas and provides an open debate on one of the biggest challenges facing mankind.

In addition, wattwatt.com puts consumers and technology experts in touch, highlighting where standards could be improved or created in areas such as electrical appliances, standby power, and lighting technologies.

care4it: The Global Challenge for Schools

As one of its first major initiatives, wattwatt.com is calling on the world’s school children for help.

The challenge, entitled care4it, is organized by wattwatt.com and the IEC, with the support of the International Energy Agency (IEA), a leading organization that advises its



member governments on energy policy. Schools from around the world are invited to submit their ideas for improving electrical energy efficiency.

The winning school will receive a \$10,000 cash prize and the chance to see their idea brought to reality. Prizes of \$3,000 and \$2,000 will be awarded for second and third place, respectively.

Detailed entry information is available on wattwatt.com and the deadline for entries is Friday, March 28, 2008. The winners will be announced in June 2008.

Commenting on the initiative, IEC General Secretary Ronnie Amit said, “This global challenge for schools will not only tap into the young minds around the world, but it will also help raise the awareness of the critical role played by electricity in our daily lives. A competition like this aims to get children involved creatively in proposing solutions for using electricity more efficiently or developing devices to use it differently, so helping modify the behaviour that will help mitigate the effects of climate change.”

“Energy efficiency is an essential part of a sustainable energy future,” added Nigel Jollands, senior policy advisor at the IEA’s Energy Efficiency and Environment Division. “The care4it competition is an excellent effort to reach out to students—our energy managers of the future.”

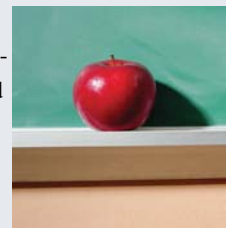
Further information

More information on care4it can be found at wattwatt.com/care4it. ■

LATEST FROM THE IEC

IEC and Academia: Teaching About Standardization

Around the world, engineering and business students graduate and are ready to begin their careers without any knowledge of standards.



Standardization is a vital part of the design process and marketing of any product, not a final entry barrier to the marketplace. Companies wishing to sell into global markets need international standards to help reduce the costs of manufacturing. Making a single product for multiple markets makes more sense and is less costly than multiple variants of the same product for several markets.

Teaching students to think about standards and conformity assessment from day one will ensure that the emerging workforce is fully educated about the process. In an effort to help both teachers and students understand the critical role of standardization in today’s global economy, the IEC has launched the Academic Centre, a new section of www.iec.ch that is dedicated to academia.

Implemented as part of the 2006 IEC Masterplan, the site aims to provide valuable higher education resources, including:

- relevant academic papers;
- a series of lectures by Don Purcell, Catholic University of America, and Tineke Egyedi, Delft University;
- audio/video presentations explaining standardization and IEC operations;
- sample working documents; and
- an example of an IEC standard.

All of the resources, papers, and presentation materials available in the Academic Centre are free and provided by the IEC as a public service.

Further information

<http://www.iec.ch/academia> ■

LATEST FROM THE IEC

Don Heirman Confirmed as Chairman of IEC/CISPR

Don Heirman was unanimously confirmed as the next chairman of the International Electrotechnical Commission Special International Committee on Radio Interference (CISPR). The confirmation took place at the CISPR plenary meeting on September 21, 2007, in Sydney, Australia.

CISPR committees are comprised of nearly 200 Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) technical experts from over 20 nations and are responsible for the development of EMC standards. Mr. Heirman has served on CISPR since 1985. He started as a member of the U.S. delegation to CISPR, moving up to chairman of Working Group 1 of CISPR Subcommittee A (Radio Interference measurements and statistical methods), and subsequently to secretary and chairman of that Subcommittee.



Don Heirman (left) is joined by Peter Kerry, outgoing CISPR chairman (right).

His term of office in his current capacity as the chairman of CISPR started on October 1, 2007, and runs through September 30, 2012.

In addition to his new role as chairman of CISPR, Don Heirman serves on the Technical Management Committee (TMC) of the USNC, is chairman of Accredited Standards Committee C63™, and the U.S. technical advisory groups for CISPR Subcommittees A and I. He has chaired the IEEE EMC Society standards development committee and is currently responsible for standards management in the EMC Society as vice president of standards and member of the EMCS Board of Directors.

The USNC congratulates Mr. Heirman and wishes him the best of luck in his new leadership role. ■

LATEST FROM THE IEC

New Joint IEC and ISO Publication Helps Governments Use and Reference International Standards

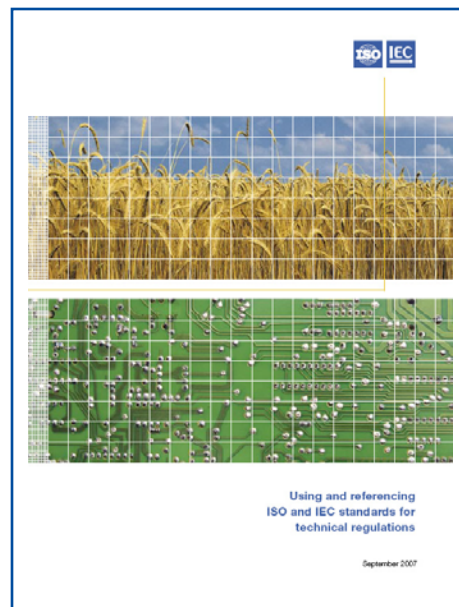
Standards are increasingly being used by governments as technical support to help implement regulation and policy. This can be seen at the national and regional level and also where there is international regulatory activity.

IEC's standards are highly suitable for use in this context as they are fully compliant with World Trade Organization (WTO) requirements, regulators avoid creating technical barriers to trade.

IEC and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) have now published an information brochure entitled *Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards for technical regulations*.

Regulators can save time and money by choosing ISO and IEC standards as solutions to policy and technical issues – solutions which have been agreed upon by a consensus reached with the involvement of all parties, including the regulators themselves.

— Introduction, *Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards for technical regulations*



Aimed at government authorities, the brochure offers examples to show how ISO and IEC standards can be used, as well as case studies that illustrate how regulatory texts can be written to give a role to standards.

According to the report, ISO and IEC standards:

- support the technical aspects of societal and environmental policies and contribute to worldwide sustainable development;
- offer the same level of consumer protection whether applied in a mature or an evolving economy;
- allow products to be supplied and used across different markets, facilitating regulatory compliance and enhancing market access opportunities for small enterprises;
- serve as a vehicle for the dissemination of new technologies and innovative practices;
- can become national standards after a national public enquiry process;
- can be used as a basis for national technical regulations without causing unnecessary technical barriers to trade;
- offer a complete range of tools for the various modes of conformity assessment;
- are used for conformity assessment to enhance confidence in products, systems, processes, services or personnel;
- are developed using procedures which ensure that the thousands of standards available avoid duplication and conflict with each other.

Further information

For more information or to read the brochure, [click here](#). ■

USNC NEWS

USNC Honors Recent Award Recipients: Don Mader ■ Jack Wells ■ Lou Costrell

At a ceremony held in Paris on October 26 during the IEC's annual General Meeting,



Don Mader was presented with the prestigious IEC Lord Kelvin Award for 2007. This honor distinguishes experts who have made outstanding contributions to electrotechnical standardization on an international scale.

Before retiring from Underwriters Laboratories (UL) in July 2007, Mr. Mader was senior vice president and chief technology officer. He had global coordination responsibility for UL's participation in the IEC's Conformity Assessment Schemes, and overseeing UL's standards harmonization work with the IEC.

The Lord Kelvin Award is offered annually to up to three experts from around the globe. The other two 2007 award winners are Per-Åke Svensson from Sweden, who was behind the development of the first IEC standards in database format; and Derek Johns from New Zealand. Chairman of IEC/TC 61, Mr. Johns specializes in the areas of safety, electromagnetic compatibility, and power quality.

Since its creation in 1994, five U.S. experts have received the Lord Kelvin Award, which has become a landmark within the global electrotechnical community.

The Award takes its name from the famous British scientist and engineer who played a major role in the founding of the IEC in 1906, becoming its first president.

The USNC congratulates Mr. Mader for this important achievement.

In early December, the IEC presented Lou Costrell with a meritorious award for his outstanding contributions to the field of Nuclear Instrumentation standardization. A physicist at the National Institute of Standards and



On the evening of October 17, 2007, members of the

U.S. standardization community gathered to honor fourteen distinguished recipients of the 2007 ANSI Leadership and Service Awards. The event was one of many ANSI-sponsored events held in conjunction with the celebration of World Standards Week 2007 in Washington, DC.



The Elihu Thomson Electrotechnology Medal made its debut that evening and Jack Wells was its first recipient.

Mr. Wells is vice president for Corporate Development at Pass & Seymour/Legrand. During his career, he has worked on many standardization initiatives relating to public safety, including the National Electrical Code.

He has also been actively involved with the USNC/IEC, currently serving as a member of the USNC Council and chairman of the USNC Communications and Continuing Education Committee (C&CEC). His achievements chairing the C&CEC include the development of a comprehensive training program to educate U.S. experts about the work of the IEC and a vast number of initiatives to improve the flow of communication between the USNC and its constituency.

The Elihu Thomson Electrotechnology Medal was established in 2007 to honor individuals who have contributed in an exceptional, dedicated way to the field of electrotechnology standardization both at the national and international levels.

On behalf of its constituency, the USNC congratulates Mr. Wells for this well deserved recognition. ■

Technology, he has been active in the standards community for more than forty years, serving in significant roles in both USNC and IEC activities. The USNC congratulates Mr. Costrell on his numerous accomplishments and thanks him for his outstanding service to the standardization community.

USNC NEWS

New USNC Payment System Online

The American National Standards Institute has developed "My ANSI," a new account management system that allows TAG Participants to log into the ANSI website and make TAG fee payments online with their personalized username and password.

Throughout this year, Participating Members of the USNC and Members of U.S. Technical Advisory Groups received membership cards and instructions for use of the new online system, which offers:

- personal account management tools;
- electronic bill (e.g., participation fee or member dues) payments;
- online event registration; and
- improved security systems, including password synchronization with the ANSI Online secure document library.

USNC constituents are encouraged to take full advantage of "My ANSI."

Any questions regarding this service should be directed to Kevin Sullivan, USNC department supervisor, at ksulliva@ansi.org, or via telephone at 212.642.4963. ■

USNC Constituent Survey

This month the USNC initiated a survey to assess the quality of the services it provides to its constituents. To complete the online questionnaire, please click here.

The survey is an excellent opportunity for the USNC constituency to make its voice heard and provide direct input to the work of the Committee. Based on responses to the 2007 survey, the USNC will evaluate its existing programs, resources, and initiatives, and determine any necessary additions or improvements.

The previous USNC constituent survey (2004) resulted in new education and training initiatives, website improvements, the *News and Notes* newsletter, membership cards, and the "MyANSI" account management system. ■

USNC NEWS

IEC National Committees of the Americas Gather in Canada

The Canadian National Committee of the IEC hosted a two-day meeting in Ottawa on October 1-2, 2007, to promote a dialogue among the IEC National Committees of the Western Hemisphere.



Representatives of the National Committees of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, and the United States attended the meeting.

Over the past five years, the IEC National Committees of the Americas have been meeting on an annual basis to exchange information and best practices on standardization issues prior to the IEC General Meetings.

During this most recent gathering, topics such as the 71st IEC General Meeting in Paris, the recently established IEC Latin America Regional Center, coordination with ISO, and the next IEC General Meeting in São Paulo were addressed.

On the second day of the meeting, a panel on conformity assessment was held with experts from the five participating countries. Each expert gave a presentation on their country's conformity assessment system and answered questions from the participants.

The next meeting of the National Committees of the Americas will be in the United States prior to the 72nd IEC General Meeting to be held on October 17-21, 2008, in São Paulo, Brazil. ■

SAVE THE DATES

Save the Dates for Upcoming Events of Interest

JANUARY 2008

USNC Technical Management Committee
Wednesday, January 16
Bothell, Washington (near Seattle)

USNC Council
Thursday, January 17
Bothell, Washington (near Seattle)

APRIL 2008

USNC Technical Management Committee
Tuesday, April 29
Washington, DC

USNC Council
Wednesday, April 30
Washington, DC

OCTOBER 2008

USNC Technical Management Committee
Tuesday, October 28
Washington, DC

USNC Council
Wednesday, October 29
Washington, DC

72nd IEC General Meeting
Monday–Friday, November 17-21
São Paulo, Brazil



For a complete schedule of upcoming meetings, or for more information on the events listed above, visit www.ansi.org/calendar.

Enter either "USNC" or "IEC" in the key word search field to narrow the list of results.

Also of Note...

On November 13, Frank Kitzantides, IEC vice president and chairman of the Standardization Management



Board, participated in a panel session at the Rockwell Automation Fair held in Chicago. The event brought together industry experts and journalists from around the world to discuss manufacturing technologies and trends.

Kitzantides was joined by Joe Bhatia, president and CEO of ANSI, James Lovegrove, managing director of the European office of the American Electronics Association, and Keith Williams, president and CEO of Underwriters Laboratories.

A white paper based on the panel discussion is available for review online. ■



Published in the
New York City Operations Office
25 West 43rd Street — Fourth floor
New York, NY 10036

www.ansi.org

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The USNC *News and Notes* newsletter is distributed to the constituency of the United States National Committee (USNC) of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). Its purpose is to provide news, information and updates on TC/SC activities among other items that may be of interest to members of the electrotechnical community.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Submit proposed news items to **Rafael Lourenço**, program manager, international policy at the American National Standards Institute and deputy general secretary of the USNC/IEC (Tel: 212.642.4892; rlourenco@ansi.org).