AM4.1

Summary of Comments Received in Response to Announcement of Applications for Accreditation of a Proposed U.S. Technical Advisory Group to new ISO Working Group on Social Responsibility

In response to a March 5, 2005 *Standards Action* announcement of the receipt of two Applications for Accreditation of a proposed U.S. TAG to a new ISO WG on Social Responsibility and Requests for Approval as TAG Administrator, only the following comment on the American Society's for Quality and CSA America, Inc.'s applications was received (this comment came in shortly after the close of the public review period). No other comment in support of either candidate was received in response to the announcement:

Mr. Knopes and Mr. Kazubski:

In the 4 March 2005 issue of Standards Action there was a posting with request for comment about your Applications for Accreditation. As part of those applications I understand that both of your organizations (American Society for Quality and CSA America Inc.) have requested to serve as the Administrator for the U. S. Technical Advisory Group for the proposed new ISO Working Group on Social Responsibility.

It is very pleasing to see such strong interest from 2 well recognized organizations. The strong voice of the United States in the arena of international standardization is based on active participation from many organizations like yours.

Social Responsibility is an all encompassing and wide ranging initiative as defined by the ISO Technical Management Board. The ultimate philosophies and final outputs from the Working Group will impact an extremely large number of groups and interests.

The U.S. TAG must represent the breadth and depth of the varied interests in Social Responsibility from across the United States. Administering that TAG is a significant responsibility. It is a role best served by an organization that has established a reputation and proven itself as one that is capable of reaching out for and appropriately responding to inputs from a large number of interests. It is a role of leadership. I believe that a more broadly based organization such as ANSI would better fulfill that role and represent the US position on social responsibility in the ISO arena.

It is essential that participation in and support for the U.S. TAG come from organizations such as yours. The key decision at this time is to determine which organization can best initiate the development of the U.S. position by serving as the US TAG Administrator.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Travis B. Unterzuber
Process Manager, Parts Information Distribution Engineering Standards Deere & Company

A number of other interested parties have contacted ANSI with messages of support for ANSI taking on the role of U.S. TAG Administrator and International Secretariat. These comments are included below:

Interested Party	Comment
Mr. Joseph Cascio Vice President, Environmental Management Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.	I'm sure you are currently considering the various communications on the outcome of the first meeting of the TMB Working Group on SR. Clearly, this effort is going to be one of the most challenging ever undertaken by an ISO constituted group. Not only is the subject matter of unprecedented complexity, emotional baggage, and political sensitivity, but we also face the challenge of a Working Group leadership that is frankly over their collective heads. Leading this group would tax the very best people you can find on the planet, let alone people who have no idea about how to follow an orderly process for advancing discussion in a group meeting. Under these circumstances, it is even more important that the US delegation be as well-prepared as it can be even if we will continue with the multi-stakeholder formula that was adopted for this exercise. In my view, it is beyond desirable, it is essential that for us to be well-prepared ANSI needs to take on the secretariat responsibility for the US mirror group. This is too important, too delicate and too complicated to be placed in the hands of any other group that has not been in the fray over the past two or three years. We're already dealing with enough challenges, we do not need another one with a secretariat that has to be brought on board, trained and adapted to this unique effort. Please share this note with whomever at ANSI that needs to know about the widespread concerns out here in the user community.
Mr. Clifford Henry Global Health, Safety and Environment Manager/ Beauty Care Business Unit Proctor & Gamble	…I wanted to take the opportunity to ask you to consider having ANSI take the responsibility to lead the US TAG. As you have undoubtedly heard, we had lots of problems with the meeting leadership and process. Unfortunately this started on Monday when the leadership was unwilling let two development country stakeholders share results from a SR conference - until I interviewed and challenged the leadership's behavior. As we found out the next day, feedback on the

	standard design was basically ignored by the leadership, and the problems continued until Friday when the meeting adjourned with a controversy over the resolutions. I truly believe this standard is in jeopardy, since no rational country delegation or stakeholder group could have left the meeting thinking that we started out on the right foot. In fact I am concerned that one particular interest group was treated so unfairly that they might decide to boycott the effort or just sit on the sidelines and watch the effort go down hill. I am not sure if the lack of leadership capability will change or if we can resolve the issue over the resolutions. However, I realized it is going to be critical that the US delegation develop our strategy, be fully prepared and reach consensus on critical issues before attending the next meeting. I can illustrate this with the fact that we only achieved one of our objectives - i.e. have Rolf Schneider serve on the resolution committee. Unfortunately, due a misunderstanding with the Canadians and Columbians we did not get to lead a TG even - though we had several strong candidates and were twining with Malaysia. Thus, we really need your leadership to move the US agenda forward. We are already behind in not having formed the US TAG, and having another organization pick up the reins and get up to speed is going to be a major set back. I also believe that your position on the TMB gives us an advantage since you can directly represent our needs having help with the formulation of our strategy directly. Again, I know this will be added effort for you and your organization, but I truly believe that only ANSI can help move this effort forward and protect the interests and aspirations of the US.
Mr. Bud Smith EH&S Management Associates, LLC	I am writing to support Joe Cascio's recommendation that ANSI take on the secretariat responsibility for the US Social Responsibility Mirror Group. I agree that the experience and leadership of ANSI and yourself in representing US interests with respect to similar and related subjects is essential for the future success of this effort.

Ms. Amy Schaffer Federal Regulatory Affairs Manager Weyerhaeuser Company	I understand that the meeting of the Working Group on Social Responsibility was a challenging one. It is clear that the US will need strong and capable leadership to both guide us through the political and complex road in developing a technical guidance document Perhaps more importantly, we need that strong leadership to ensure that US interests are well served. As such, it is essential that ANSI take on the secretariat responsibility for the US mirror group.
Mr. David Ling Regulatory Policy Manager WW Tech Regulations, Hewlett-Packard	Joe Cascio sent a note that ANSI may be willing to be the administrator for the soon to be formed TAG for Social Responsibility. I support that…
Mr. Phil Stapleton Glover-Stapleton Associates, Inc.	I'd like to second Joe's request that ANSI consider taking on the administration of the upcoming TAG for SR. This effort will be challenging and we need someone with right set of skills and appropriate knowledge of the subject matter in order for the US to be an effective voice.