The 2nd meeting of ISO/TMB/WG Social Responsibility and related events

24-30 September 2005
Bangkok, Thailand

The Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) and the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) are pleased to welcome all delegated experts to the 2nd meeting of ISO/TMB/WG Social Responsibility and related events, to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, during 26-30 September 2005.

Venue

The 2nd Meeting of ISO/TMB/WG Social Responsibility will be held at

InterContinental Bangkok

973 Ploenchit Road, Bangkok 10330, Thailand
Tel: (66 2) 656 0444
Fax: (66 2) 656 0555
Website : http://bangkok.intercontinental.com

Accomodation

A block of rooms has been reserved for the delegates on a first come first served basis at InterContinental Bangkok and Holiday Inn Bangkok. The room rates are quoted in USD, inclusive of international breakfast in the hotel restaurant, 10% service charge and 7% VAT.

Type of room	*Room rate per night*
InterContinental Bangkok	
Single Deluxe	130
Double Deluxe	140
Single Deluxe on club InterCon	200
Double Deluxe on club InterCon	230
Corner Suite	250
Holiday Inn Bangkok	
Single Standard	80
Double Standard	90

Reservation for accommodation can be made online at InterContinental Bangkok or Holiday Inn Bangkok no later than ***31 August 2005*** or contact **Ms. Angkana Tangkrachang** at the e-mail address *angkana.tangkrachag@ichotelsgroup.com*. Confirmation on the hotel booking will be sent to delegates by the hotel as soon as possible following the reservation.

Registration

Delegates are requested to complete the online pre-registration form (password protected) and submit to the Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) no later than ***31 August 2005***. In case people have problems with the electronic registration or if they wish to change anything in their registration, please contact **International Organizations Group** of TISI at e-mail addresses intrelat@tisi.go.th, nopporn@tisi.go.th or fax number (66 2) 354 3041.

Upon arrival, delegates are invited to register at the Registration desk (President 3) at the following time.

23 September	17.00 - 19.00
24 September	08.00 - 09.00
25 September	17.00 – 19.00
26 September	08.00 - 09.00

After registration, delegates will receive their name badges and meeting programme. Delegates are requested to wear their name badges during the meetings and social events.

Transportation

To reach the hotel accomodation from the airport, delegates have the following choices:

- By airport limusine
  The limousine service (http://www.airporttaxithai.com) is available at both airport terminals. Please contact counter 7 (for terminal 1) and counter 5 (for terminal 2).

- By hotel limousine

Mercedes Benz	THB 1,400/trip	Maximum 3 passengers
BMW 7 Series	THB 1,800/trip	Maximum 3 passengers
Executive Van	THB 1,800/trip	Maximum 7 passengers

  Delegates can indicate their request by contacting directly with InterContinental Bangkok.

- By taxi
  Delegates can hire a taxi by contacting the Taxi desk located at the entrance of the Arrival Lounge. The rate is according to the metre plus THB 50 service charge.

Social events

Sunday 25 September

19.00 Welcome Reception hosted by The Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) at the Grand Ballroom, InterContinental Bangkok.

Wednesday 28 September

19.0 Dinner hosted by the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) at the Grand Ballroom, InterContinental Bangkok.

Delegates are invited to indicate, in the pre-registration form, the event(s) in which they wish to participate.

Provisional timetable

The timetable for the 2nd Meeting of ISO/TMB/WG Social Responsibility is available at the ISO/WG website.

About Thailand

Thailand, formerly known as the Kingdom of Siam, lies in the heart of Southeast Asia. Its shape and geography is divided into four distinct regions: the mountains and forests of the North; the fertile land of the Central Plains; the semi-arid plateau of the Northeast; and the tropical beaches and islands of the Southern peninsula. Thailand consists of 76 provinces, which are further divided into districts, sub- districts and villages. With the friendliness and hospitality of Thai people, Thailand is widely known as the " Land of Smiles ".

Bangkok , or Krung Thep , meaning "City of Angles ", was constructed in 1782 or 222 years ago by King Rama I of the Chakri Dynasty. Bangkok , one of the biggest cities in the world, is the capital city of Thailand and home to some 7 million of Thailand 's 62 million citizens. Bangkok is also the center of political, commercial, industrial and cultural activities of Thailand . Over years, Bangkok has retained its traditional charm with a mixture of old cultural heritages and new modern architecture and facilities.

Climate
Thailand enjoys a tropical climate with a high degree of humidity throughout the year. The year is divided into 3 distinct seasons: hot (March-May); rainy (June-October); and cool (November-February). The average annual temperature is 28 degree Celsius (82.4 degree Fahrenheit). During the time of the meeting, the temperature is expected to be warm and humid, around 28-32 degrees Celsius (82.4-94.2 degree Fahrenheit). Light and loose cooton clothing is recommended.

Language
“Thai" is the official language in Thailand. However, English is widely understood, particularly in Bangkok where it is almost the major commercial language. English and some European Languages are spoken in most hotels, shops and restaurants in major tourist areas.

Religion
The major religion in Thailand is Buddhism, practiced by approximately 95 percent of the Thai people. Around 4 percent of the population, mainly in the south of Thailand, are Muslims. The remaining 1 percent adhere to Christianity, Hinduism and other religions. Thai people are very tolerant of all faiths and treat all religions with respect.

Currency & Credit cards
The Thai monetary unit is the Baht. Bank notes are issued in denominations of 10 (brown), 20 (green), 50 (blue), 100 (red), 500 (purple) and 1,000 (gray). There are also 1, 5 and 10 Baht coins and 25 and 50 Satang coins. 100 Satangs equal 1 Baht.

Major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Diner) as well as travelers' cheques in principle currencies, are generally accepted in leading hotels, restaurants, department stores and several large stores. Travelers' cheques and foreign currency notes of all major currencies may be exchanged at any commercial banks, most hotels and foreign exchange counters.

Time
The local time in Thailand is seven hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT + 7 hours).

Taxes and Tipping
There is a 7% Government Value Added Tax (VAT) applied to goods and services sold in Thailand. However, there is a VAT refund scheme for tourists. Visitors may claim a VAT refund on certain items purchased in Thailand (Look for a sign saying "VAT Refund for Tourists").
Tipping has now become usual practice in Thailand. It is customary to tip porters and hotel staff who have given good personal service. A 10% tip is appreciated in restaurants, particularly where service charge is excluded. However, it is not necessary to tip taxi drivers and cinema ushers.

Business Hours
Most private offices in Bangkok operate on a five-day week, from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm. Government offices are generally open between 8.30 am and 4.30 pm., Monday to Friday. Many stores operate daily from 10.00 am to 10.00 pm. Banks are open Monday to Friday between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm, except on public holidays. Major post offices are open Monday to Friday from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm and Saturday to Sunday from 8.00 am to 1.00 pm .

Visa for Thailand
Delegates requiring a visa for entering Thailand are kindly requested to make the necessary applications soon enough through the nearest Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate. TISI is willing to issue individual letters of invitaion upon request.
Visas on arrival can be obtained at Bangkok International Airport. Visitors must have a fully paid ticket which enable them to travel out of the Kingdom within the stipulated time. The application for a visa must be accompanied by photograph as well as the necessary fee.

Electricity supply
Thailand operates exclusively on 220 volt, 50 cycle AC power.

Useful website
- Tourist Police Tel.: 1155
  Website: http://tourist.police.go.th
- Thai Airways International Ltd.
  Website: **http://www.thaiair.com**
- Bangkok International and Domestic Airport
  Website: **http://www.airportthai.co.th**
- Bangkok Airways Co., Ltd.
  Website: **http://www.bangkokair.com**
- Bangkok Mass Transit System Public Company Limited (BTS Sky Train)

Website: **http:// www.bts.co.th**

- Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand (MRT Subway)
  Website: **http://www.mrta.co.th**
- Thai Embassies and Consulates
  Website: **http://www.thaiembassy.org**
- Tourism Authority of Thailand
  Website: **http://www.tourismthailand.org**

Optional Tour

There are variety of attractions in Bangkok as well as in the provinces. The World Travel Service Ltd. offers various tour programmes. Delegates who are interested in joining the tour programmes can contact directly at :
World Travel service Ltd.
Fax : (66 2) 236 7169 or 266 3422
E-mail : wtsconven@mozart.inet.co.th

Half-day Tours

1. ROYAL GRAND PALACE TOUR
   Seat-in-coach tour - every morning and afternoon except on national holidays
   Price per person : THB 1,000.-

   Visit the Royal Grand Palace, Wat Phra Kaew with its revered Emerald Buddha, the Golden Chedi, Pantheon of the Chakri Kings, a miniature replica of Angkor Wat in Cambodia and the eight coloured towers. Certain buildings in the Palace grounds are closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

   Wat Phra Kaew is Thailand's most sacred temple. Visitors wearing shorts, sandals without heel strap, T-shirts, sleeveless shirts, divided skirts, Bermuda shorts or tights are not allowed to enter.

2. KLONG TOUR
   Seat-in-coach tour - every morning
   Price per person : THB 700.-

   Take an early morning motor launch trip along the bustling Chao Phya River and quiet klongs (canals), passing picturesque scenes of Thai river life. Also visit Wat Arun, the Temple of Dawn.

3. JIM THOMPSON'S THAI HOUSE AND SUAN PAKKARD PALACE
   Seat-in-coach tour - Mon/Wed/Fri morning only
   Price per person : THB 850.- (Minimum 2 persons)

   Visit the famous house of Thailand's late "Thai silk king", Jim Thompson, consisting of seven very old Thai houses skillfully grouped into one, with an outstanding collection of Thai and Asian objects d'art.

   Also visit the unique Lacquer Pavilion at Suan Pakkard Palace, decorated with 17th-century murals in gold leaf and magnificent wood carvings. See old Thai

architecture and a collection of rare antiques representing every branch of Thai art.

Full-day Tours

1. ALL-DAY RIVER KWAI WITH DEATH RAILWAY
Seat-in-coach tour - every Mon/Wed/Fri/Sun only
Price per person : THB 1,500.-

Visit the War Cemetery in Kanchanaburi, 80 miles northwest of Bangkok. Then take a scenic train ride along "Death Railway", crossing the "Bridge on the River Kwai". Lunch at a local restaurant and return by coach to Kanchanaburi. Visit the War Museum, then return to Bangkok.

2. ALL-DAY DAMNERNSADUAK & ROSE GARDEN
Seat-in-coach tour - every day
Price per person : THB 1,600.-

Visit includes the bustling floating market at Damnernsaduak with a stop at Nakhon Pathom where the largest Buddhist pagoda in Thailand is located.
Proceed to lunch at the picturesque Rose Garden. Afterwards enjoy the colourful Thai Village Show - Buddhist ordination procession, sword - fighting, elephants at work, folk dance and a traditional wedding ceremony.

3. ALL-DAY RIVER CRUISE TO AYUTTHAYA
Seat-in-coach tour - every day
Price per person : THB 1,600.-

Morning coach trip to visit the picturesque ruins of the ancient capital city of Ayutthaya, then visit the nearby beautiful Bang Pa-In Summer Palace. Return to Bangkok in a leisurely cruise along the Chao Phya River in a luxurious air-conditioned river cruiser and enjoy a buffet lunch aboard.

Pre-Post Packages (3 days 2 nights)

1. 3 DAYS CHIANG MAI

Tour price per person (minimum 2 persons)
Single room THB 13,000
Sharing twin room THB 11,000

Chiang Mai, “Rose of the North”, is among the most delightful and charming cities of Thailand. It has a number of other marginal assets, including the folk art for which the North of Thailand has long been famous.

Visit to Doi Suthep Temple (3,500 feet above sea level), Hilltribe Village and traditional Khantoke Dinner, see elephants at work, beautiful orchid nursery.

2. 3 DAYS PHUKET

Tour price per person (minimum 2 persons)
Single room THB 13,000
Sharing twin room THB 9,800

Phuket, Pearl of the South, is Thailand's largest island located in the tropical waters of the Indian Ocean, and the richest province in natural resources in the Kingdom. Phuket is blessed with magnificent caves and bays, palm-fringed white sandy beaches, sparkling island-dotted seas, lovely waterfalls and parks.

Two nights in Phuket island and full day trip to an off shore islands in Phang Nga Bay, Khao Ping Kan known as James Bond Island.

3. 3 DAYS KANCHANABURI

Tour price per person (minimum 2 persons)
Single Deluxe (river wing) THB 11,000
Sharing twin Deluxe (river wing) THB 7,500

Visit to World War II Museum and also the Bridge over the River Kwai, take a short ride in a long-tailed boat upstream to visit Kaeng Lava cave and see fantastic stalactites and stalagmites. Visit the infamous Hellfire Pass built by allied prisoners of World War II, ride on elephant back at an elephant and take an exciting bamboo rafting trip.

4. 3 DAYS SAMUI PACKAGE

Tour price per person (minimum 2 persons)
Single room THB 16,000
Sharing twin room THB 13,000

Samui Island is an ideal place to relax in peace and quiet. Beside its many wonderful beaches, of which the three best known are Chaweng, Lamai and Menam, the island offers other scenic attractions, including wonderful hilltop views of the sea dotted with myriads of islands, and picturesque waterfalls. Fortunately, commercial development has been limited, so that Samui has kept its natural charm and unique island attractions.