

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

and

**The Certification and Accreditation Administration of the
People's Republic of China (CNCA)**

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) (hereinafter referred to as the Parties) hereby endorse this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Parties recognize the important role of conformity assessment for achieving high levels of health, safety, environmental and consumer protection, as well as for ensuring fair trade, economic growth and innovation in China and in the United States, and declare their intention to cooperate as outlined in this agreement.

Article I Purpose

Within ANSI's role of promoting and facilitating the U.S. conformity assessment system and CNCA's role in undertaking the unified management, supervision and overall coordination of certification and accreditation in China, the Parties will work to strengthen Sino-U.S. cooperation in the area of conformity assessment.



Article II
Areas of Cooperation

The Parties agree to:

1. Exchange information on the development, establishment and implementation of conformity assessment systems in the U.S. and China;
2. Exchange information on conformity assessment policies and procedures in the U.S. and China;
3. Exchange information and cooperate in activities in the field of accreditation.

Article III
Means of Cooperation

The Parties may use any or all of the following means of cooperation:

1. Senior- and working-level meetings;
2. Encouraging visits and communication between officials and experts in specific technical areas;
3. Organizing seminars, whenever appropriate, to update the organizations' respective constituents (e.g. industry, conformity assessment bodies, government organizations, consumers, etc.) on developments related to conformity assessment in the U.S. and China;
4. Development of online resources to educate stakeholders in the U.S. and China on the importance of conformity assessment and to provide information on the U.S. and Chinese conformity assessment systems with the objective of facilitating Sino-U.S. bilateral trade;
5. The Parties may develop additional means of cooperation.



**Article IV
Cooperation Projects**

Pursuits of cooperative activities under this Memorandum are subject to the availability of appropriated funds to each of the Parties. Funds will not be transferred between the Parties pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding.

**Article V
Limitation and Confidentiality of Information**

Cooperative activities undertaken under this Memorandum, including the exchange of information, are subject to the applicable laws, regulations, policies and procedures applicable to each of the Parties.

When a Party requires that the information that it provides to the other Party under this Memorandum be kept confidential, it shall notify the other Party of this requirement in writing. The other Party receiving such notification shall take measures to protect the confidentiality of the information and shall not disclose it to any third party unless the other Party agrees otherwise in writing.

**Article VI
Duration**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect on the date on which it is signed by the Parties. Either Party may terminate this Memorandum by providing the other Party with a written notice at least six months in advance.

Signed in duplicate on April 18, 2008 in Chinese and English.



Xie Jun
Deputy Chief Administrator
Certification and Accreditation
Administration of the Peoples'
Republic of China (CNCA)



S. Joe Bhatia
President and CEO
American National Standards Institute
(ANSI)