

# ABOUT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

## Overview

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is a private, non-profit organization that administers and coordinates the U.S. voluntary standards and conformity assessment system. As the voice of the system, the Institute works in close collaboration with stakeholders from both industry and government to identify consensus-based solutions to national and global priorities.

For more than ninety years, ANSI has worked to coordinate, facilitate, and promote the development of voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment activities that are relied upon by industry, government agencies, and consumers across the United States and around the world.

In its role as a neutral forum, the Institute has helped to forge and continues to facilitate the robust public-private partnership that now exists in the United States. The composition of ANSI's Board of Directors reflects this commitment to openness and cross-sector communication, with representation from U.S. government agencies, businesses, professional societies and trade associations, standards developers, and consumer and labor organizations.

## Mission

To enhance both the global competitiveness of U.S. business and the U.S. quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems, and safeguarding their integrity.

## History

ANSI was founded in 1918 through a public-partnership between three government agencies and five private-sector organizations.

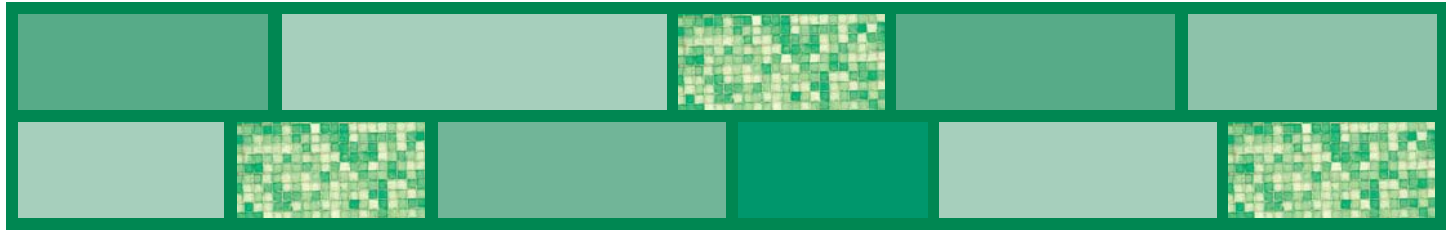
**Legal Status:** A 501(c)3 private, not-for-profit organization

**Employees:** 100+

## Membership

Government agencies (e.g. DOC, EPA, DOD, CPSC, etc.), Industry, Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs), Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs), Academic and other interests. ANSI represents the interests of more than 125,000 companies and 3.5 million professionals.





## ABOUT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

### U.S. Responsibilities

Domestically, ANSI's responsibilities include promoting and coordinating the development of U.S. policies and positions on private-sector standards and conformity assessment, and coordinating the development and revision of the U.S. Standards Strategy. ANSI is not itself an SDO. Rather, the Institute fosters the U.S. standardization system by accrediting the procedures of SDOs and subsequently approving individual documents as American National Standards (ANS).

### Conformity Assessment Activities

In the area of conformity assessment, ANSI's role includes accreditation of organizations that certify that products and personnel meet recognized standards; accreditation of organizations providing third-party validation/verification to bodies engaged in the reduction and removal of greenhouse gases; and accreditation of certificate programs for organizations that issue education and training certificates to U.S. workers. In partnership with the American Society for Quality (ASQ), ANSI also serves the marketplace in the provision of an accreditation program for quality and environmental management systems registrars (e.g., ISO 9001, ISO 14001, etc.), laboratories, reference material producers, and inspection bodies via the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB and ACLASS Brands).

### International Participation

Internationally, ANSI represents the United States in international and regional fora such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), as well as the Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) and the Pacific Accreditation Council (PAC) – two specialist regional bodies for standards and conformance recognized by APEC. For 20 years, ANSI has held a transatlantic dialogue with the European Standards Organizations of CEN, CENELEC, and ETSI together with the European Commission to address and resolve standards and conformance related issues. ANSI also has memoranda of understanding with its peer bodies (governmental and private sector) around the world.

Learn more at [www.standardsportal.org/usa](http://www.standardsportal.org/usa)

page 2 of 2



#### Headquarters

1819 L Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.293.8020  
Fax: 202.293.9287

#### Operations

25 West 43rd Street, 4th Flr.  
New York, NY 10036  
Tel: 212.642.4900  
Fax: 212.398.0023

[www.ansi.org](http://www.ansi.org)

