U.S.-SADC Exchange on Good Regulatory Practice

An overview of ANSI, the U.S. standards system and its support for technical regulations

ANSI
American National Standards Institute

Sponsored by the Standards Alliance and the Southern African Trade Hub:
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Presentation Objectives

- Introduction to ANSI

- Overview of the U.S. system for standards and conformity assessment

- Discussion of how standards support technical regulations in the U.S.

- The American National Standards Institute leads standards, conformity assessment, and related activities in the United States of America.

- Founded in 1918, ANSI is a private, non-profit organization.

- ANSI is not a government agency or a standards developer.

The ANSI Federation represents more than 125,000 companies and organizations and 3.5 million professionals worldwide

Members of the ANSI Federation include . . .

- Academia
- Individuals
- Government
- Manufacturing
- Trade Associations

- Professional Societies
- Service Organizations
- Standards Developers
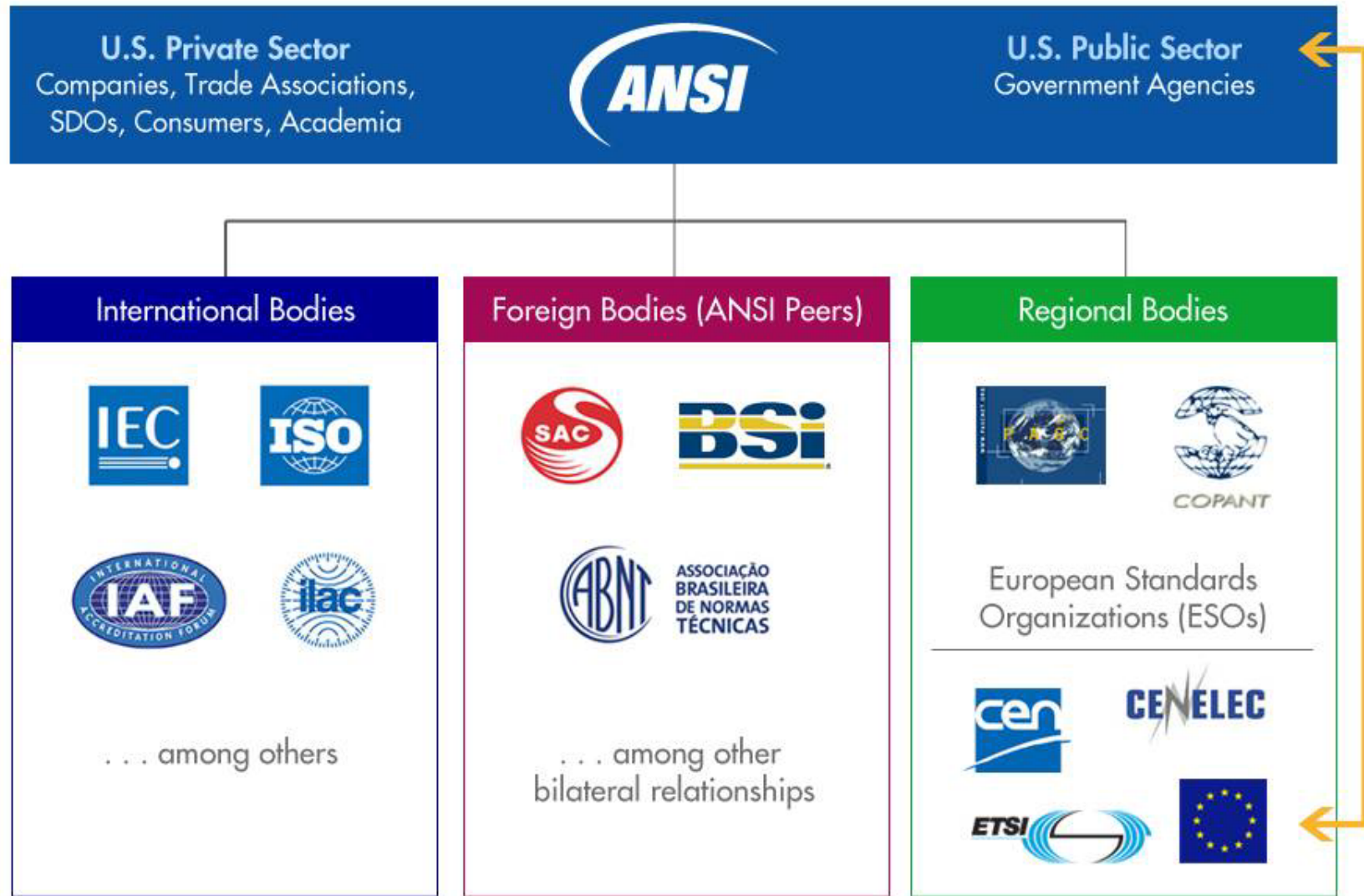- Consumer and Labor Interests
- and many more

- Represents U.S. globally

- Ensures integrity of the standards and conformity assessment system

- Offers neutral forum

- Accredits standards developers and conformity assessment organizations

- Coordinates partnership between U.S. public and private sectors

- U.S. member of ISO

- U.S. member of the IEC,
  via ANSI's U.S. National Committee

- a U.S. member of IAF and ILAC

- member of regional forums in the
  Pacific Rim and the Americas

- liaison with groups in Europe,
  Africa and the Middle East

- bilateral agreements with
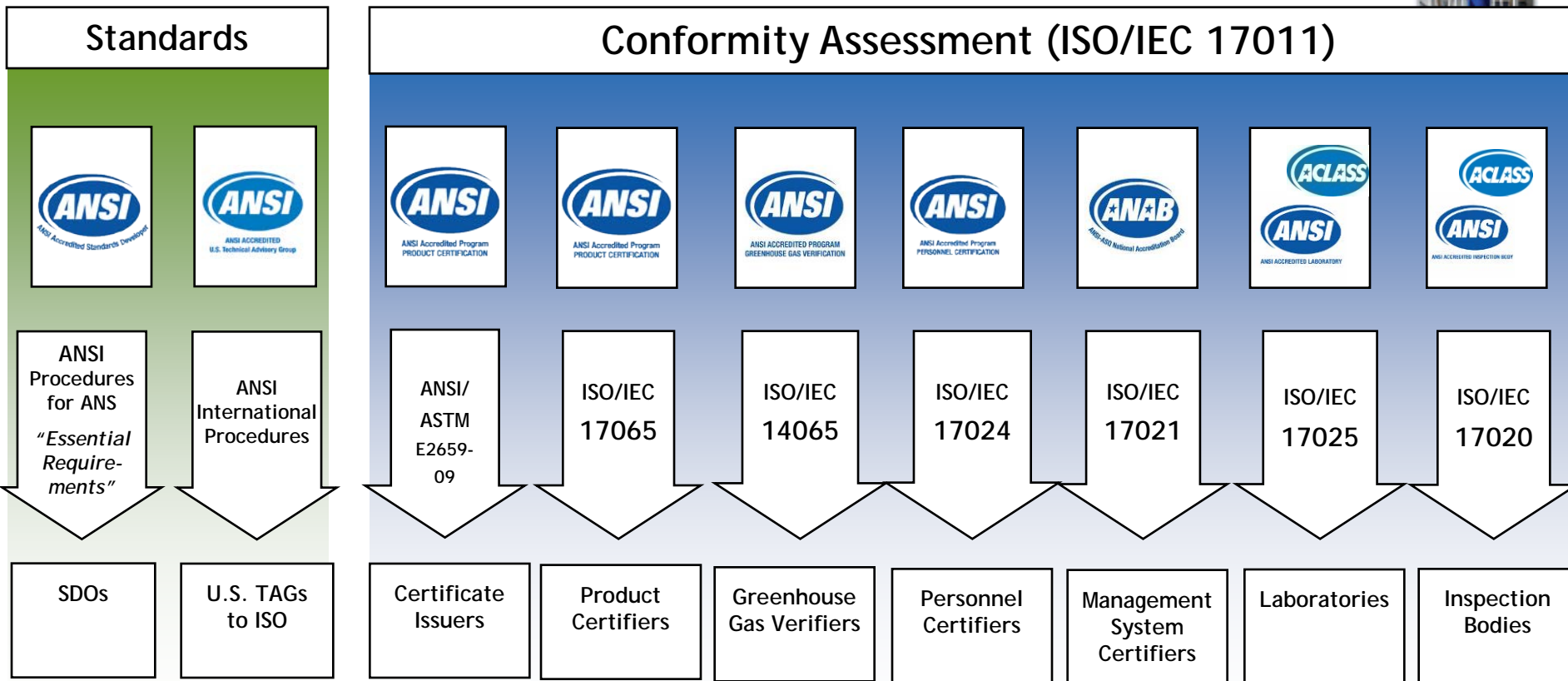 other national standards bodies

Snapshot: ANSI International, Regional, and Bilateral Activities

U.S. Private Sector
Companies, Trade Associations, SDOs, Consumers, Academia

ANSI

U.S. Public Sector
Government Agencies

International Bodies

IEC
ISO
IAF
ilac

. . . among others

Foreign Bodies (ANSI Peers)

SAC
BSi
ABNT — ASSOCIAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE NORMAS TÉCNICAS

. . . among other bilateral relationships

Regional Bodies

PASC
COPANT

European Standards Organizations (ESOs)

cen
CENELEC
ETSI

Overview of ANSI, the U.S. standards system and its support of technical regulations

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U.S. Standardization System
ANSI's accreditation roles and responsibilities

Standards	Conformity Assessment (ISO/IEC 17011)						
ANSI Procedures for ANS *"Essential Require-ments"*	ANSI International Procedures	ANSI/ ASTM E2659-09	ISO/IEC 17065	ISO/IEC 14065	ISO/IEC 17024	ISO/IEC 17021	ISO/IEC 17025	ISO/IEC 17020
SDOs	U.S. TAGs to ISO	Certificate Issuers	Product Certifiers	Greenhouse Gas Verifiers	Personnel Certifiers	Management System Certifiers	Laboratories	Inspection Bodies

The U.S. System:
standards in the U.S. and American National Standards

- In the U.S. alone, there are more than 100,000 standards

- These documents are being developed by:
  - standards developing organizations (SDOs)
  - over 500 consortia

- Currently there are approximately 234 ANSI-accredited standards developers
  - Not all standards developed by these organizations are submitted for consideration as ANS

- Over 11,000 approved American National Standards

U.S. Standardization System
examples of ANSI-accredited SDOs and U.S. TAGs

ASTM International	American Society of Mechanical Engineers	International Code Council
American Dental Association	National Electrical Manufacturers Association	National Fire Protection Association
Society of Automotive Engineers	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers	Underwriters Laboratories Inc.
American Society of Civil Engineers	American Petroleum Institute	**And more than 200 additional organizations**

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U.S. Standards System
guiding principles

- Standards should meet societal and market needs and should not be developed to act as barriers to trade

- The U.S. endorses the globally accepted standardization principles of the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement

– Transparency	– Coherence
– Openness	– Due process
– Impartiality	– Technical Assistance
– Effectiveness and relevance	– Flexible
– Consensus	– Timely
– Performance-based	– Balanced

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

ANSI
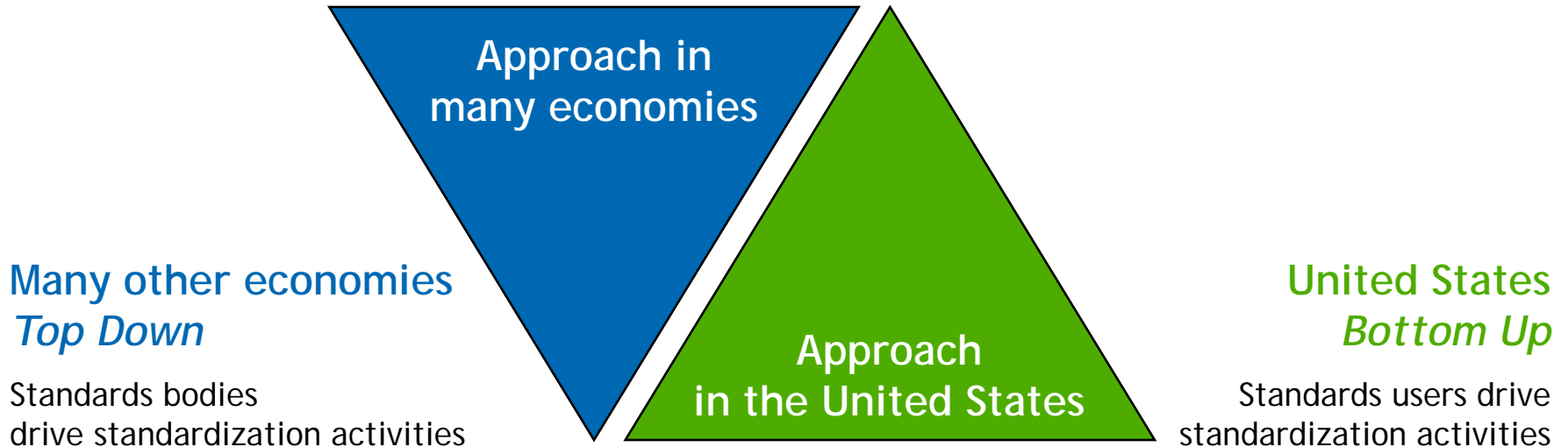American National Standards Institute

U.S. Standards System
different tools for globally relevant standards

National Participation (one country one vote)	Direct Participation	Consortia
- Treaty Organizations - Non-Treaty Organizations	- Nationally Accepted - Internationally Accepted	
Examples ISO, IEC, ITU, CODEX, etc.	Examples ASTM International, ASME, SAE, etc.	Examples IGRS, W3C, etc.

The U.S. System for Standards and Conformity Assessment System:
a comparison with many other economies

Many other economies
Top Down

Standards bodies
drive standardization activities

United States
Bottom Up

Standards users drive
standardization activities

- Emphasizes private-sector **standards solutions**

- Relies on private-sector **compliance verification** for both regulatory and non-regulatory functions

The U.S. System:
a public-private partnership

- **No single government agency has control over standards**
  - Each agency determines which standards meet its needs
- **National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA)**
  - Encourages government agencies to:
    - Use pre-existing private sector standards when regulating
    - Participate in the development of private sector standards
  - Directs NIST to coordinate federal standards and conformity assessment activities
- **Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-119**
  - Provides federal agencies with guidance on how to implement the requirements of the NTTAA

Why rely on the private sector?

BENEFITS TO PRIVATE SECTOR

- Decreased burden of compliance with regulations
- Decreased cost of goods and services
- Encourages innovation and economic competition
- Facilitates international trade and avoids unnecessary obstacles to trade

BENEFITS TO REGULATORS

- Eliminates cost of developing standards
- Easier to enforce
- Allows for timely and effective solutions to legitimate regulatory concerns

U.S. Standards System
examples of roles and responsibilities

	ANSI	Standards Developers	Companies	Consumers	Government	NIST
Coordinates U.S. system and policy development	✔					
Independently runs standards development activities		✔				
Coordinates and monitors USG use of and participation in VCS activities						✔
Legal metrology and WTO-TBT enquiry point						✔
Provides technical input for standards development			✔	✔	✔	✔
Participates in U.S. policy development	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

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