



CHANGE

is built on a

FOUNDATION OF STRENGTH





ALTERNATIVE ENERGIES



HEALTHCARE IT



CLEAN AIR AND WATER

From supply chain safety and alternative energy resources to healthcare solutions and sustainability concerns, the United States turns to new leadership for dynamic, responsive, and pragmatic solutions.

CONSENSUS IS KEY

No matter the challenge, solutions cannot be developed in a vacuum. Each priority area has unique needs and restraints, and each has multiple stakeholder groups – from government and industry alike – whose experiences and input must be brought to bear as the nation seeks and implements new, consensus-based approaches.

Through collaboration, the public and private sectors can find real-world solutions that are efficient, effective, and scalable. From policy makers, business, and standards developing organizations, to academia, consumers, and others, when all interested and affected parties are engaged in the process, the strongest possible solutions result.

The robust U.S. standards and conformance system is proof that the consensus-based, public-private partnership model works. But continued success depends upon the willingness of participants to collaborate to solve shared challenges. No one group can – or should – go it alone.

RESULTS ARE ACHIEVED THROUGH



FOOD SAFETY



GLOBAL WORKFORCE



SMART GRID INTEROPERABILITY

PROBLEM SOLVING THROUGH A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Together, the public and private sectors can develop viable, effective solutions to address current and emerging issues. Together, we identify what is working, capture those successes, build upon them, and make them better.

For more than ninety years, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has served as coordinator of this nation's standardization system, bringing industry and government together in collaboration and partnership. The Institute oversees the creation, promulgation, and use of thousands of standards, guidelines, and conformity assessment activities that directly impact businesses and consumers in nearly every industry and product line.

Throughout the long history of the U.S. standardization system, ANSI and its Federation of members have worked as problem solvers, demonstrating the strength of consensus-based solutions to national and global priorities.

As the nation and the world turn their attention to a new administration and a fresh set of challenges, ANSI is proud to coordinate and facilitate some of the following partnerships – providing a strong, proven foundation for the changes to come.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The public-private partnership must become stronger so that we can assure the safety and health of consumers, the quality of the products and services we use, and the protection of our environment. Standards will help. But in many cases the required standards already exist. The challenge is a lack of compliance to standards.

– S. Joe Bhatia, ANSI President and CEO

IMPORT SAFETY

In the wake of national concerns about the safety of imported products, many government agencies and regulators have turned to ANSI and the standards and conformity assessment community for help in developing practicable solutions.



The Toy Safety Certification Program (TSCP) – a collaboration between ANSI and the U.S. Toy Industry Association – is a strong example of a private-sector led program that is strengthening conformity assessment systems for the nation’s consumer products. A rigorous third-party (i.e., independent) testing, inspection, and auditing program, TSCP targets toy production throughout the global supply chain, whether the manufacturing process occurs in the U.S., China, or other markets. Congress agreed with the strength of this approach in the *Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008*, which mandates third-party accreditation for laboratories working to test children’s toys and other products like cribs and pacifiers.

ANSI is currently working with the food industry and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on issues surrounding the health and safety of the food products that our nation imports and produces domestically. Third-party obligations for testing, inspection, and auditing of food imports are an essential addition to regulation and enforcement activities by the FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

PROTECTING THE NATION’S WATER SUPPLY

The Institute has teamed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on *WaterSense*, a public-private partnership that encourages the production and use of water-efficient products. EPA requires all *WaterSense* products to meet strict water conservation standards and ANSI accredits programs to certify that such products conform to the applicable specifications. If all U.S. households installed *WaterSense* appliances, more than 3 trillion gallons (11 trillion liters) of water and \$18 billion could be saved per year. And if 1 out of every 100 American homes was



retrofitted with water-efficient fixtures, about 100 kWh of electricity could be conserved – avoiding 80,000 tons (73,000 metric tons) of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of removing nearly 15,000 automobiles from the road.

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

With a growing global awareness of the need for sustainable practices, organizations are eager to demonstrate their efforts to inventory, report, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. ANSI offers an accreditation program for third-party bodies that validate and verify emission assertions, helping to assure government and industry of the competence and qualification of these bodies to perform their task. The Institute has signed partnership agreements with The Climate Registry, the Climate Action Reserve, and the Chicago Climate Exchange, and nearly seventy organizations applied to participate in the first accreditation cycle.



In other EPA-supported efforts, ANSI is leading a coordination activity to facilitate the timely development, promulgation, and use of voluntary consensus standards to address the sustainability and environmental performance of products. And the Institute is working with EPA and officials from China, India, Latin America, and Africa to help craft a global initiative that will improve the design and performance of indoor cook stoves: both a key public health issue and a significant environmental concern.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGIES

As countries make an effort to reduce their dependence on non-renewable sources of energy, ANSI and its Federation of members have made a commitment to facilitate more environmentally responsible practices for organizations around the world.



In partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), ANSI has launched the Nuclear Energy Standards Coordination Collaborative (NESCC). A cross-stakeholder forum open to any and all interested parties, NESCC participants work to facilitate and coordinate the timely identification, development, and revision of standards for the design, operation, development, licensing, and deployment of nuclear power plants.

Recently, the Institute and members of the ANSI Federation worked with partners from the European Union and Brazil to collaborate on internationally compatible biofuels standards – a much-needed step to identify where greater compatibility could be achieved in support of the global commoditization of biofuels.

MORE EFFECTIVE ENERGY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Together with ABNT, the Brazilian national standards body, ANSI administers the secretariat of an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Project Committee on energy management, an effort that includes active participation by more than 35 countries. This ISO activity is closely tied to the energy conservation work under the U.S. Department of Energy's Superior Energy Performance program, an effort that the Institute supports directly and through the work of several of its accredited standards developers.



HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A cooperative partnership between the public and private sectors, the Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) is a national, volunteer-driven, consensus-based organization that works to ensure the interoperability of electronic health records in the United States. Administered by ANSI under contract to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, HITSP develops guidance documents known as Interoperability Specifications (IS) that recommend the standards that will meet the defined clinical and business needs for sharing information across organizations and systems.



In response to the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*, HITSP's work products to date – 13 interoperability specifications and 60 related constructs – are being leveraged to create new, streamlined electronic implementation guides reorganized around the milestones and priorities defined in the legislation. The final goal is to deliver compact, easy-to-implement, and flexible guidance that supports the portability and meaningful use of electronic health records and the protection of privacy – chief goals of the new administration.

HOMELAND SECURITY

The Homeland Security Standards Panel (ANSI-HSSP) works in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to catalog, promote, accelerate, and coordinate the development of voluntary consensus standards and conformance programs that are responsive to DHS priorities. The Panel has achieved a number of milestones to date, including the endorsement of an American National Standard for emergency preparedness in the 9-11 Commission's public report. Efforts are ongoing to examine standardization needs in the areas of cybersecurity, credentialing and access control, transit security, and emergency preparedness for persons with disabilities and special needs.



TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Working in cooperation with NIST and the International Trade Administration (ITA) under the U.S. Department of Commerce as well as the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), ANSI coordinates technical assistance and education initiatives focused on supporting U.S. foreign policy interests and international partnerships with developing countries.



Efforts such as the Vietnam Standards Training Program, the U.S. – India Standards and Conformance Cooperation Program, and StandardsPortal aim to support development and promote policies and practices that facilitate global market access. These programs include workshops, training sessions, and development of online resources that advance the benefits of openness and transparency, stakeholder empowerment, and active participation from both the public and private sectors, while providing practical input to help countries advance policies that support these concepts.

EMERGING ISSUES AND PRIORITIES

Building upon the successful initiatives listed above, the Institute and its members from the public and private sectors will continue to work in close partnership to respond to key national priorities and emerging technologies. Together, we will identify and enable consensus-based solutions that are effective on a national and global scale, such as:



- Safety and security of the national transportation infrastructure, including bridges, tunnels, roadways, railways, and airports
- Smart Grid technology for the national power delivery system, affording more efficient, economical, and safe energy usage
- Education and qualification of the global workforce
- Emerging issues and new developments in nanotechnology and biotechnology
- Intelligent and sustainable design for the next generation of green buildings
- Environmental labeling requirements and guidelines
- Oversight of the global supply chain – from toys and tires to toothpaste and tuna

Working in partnership with stakeholders from government, industry, consumer groups, standards developing organizations, conformity assessment bodies, and other key organizations, ANSI is dedicated to the continued exploration of how consensus-based solutions can meet the critical needs of the United States and the global community.





The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance U.S. global competitiveness and the American quality of life by promoting, facilitating, and safeguarding the integrity of the voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. Comprised of organizations, government agencies, companies, academic and international bodies, and individuals, ANSI represents the interests of more than 125,000 companies and 3.5 million professionals around the world.

The Institute is the official U.S. representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and, via the U.S. National Committee, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), and is a U.S. representative to the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

ANSI currently has offices in Washington, DC and New York City, with affiliate locations in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Alexandria, Virginia.

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