



Defense Week **Contracting for Homeland Security**

Coordinating Critical Standards Needs for Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

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HOMELAND SECURITY
STANDARDS PANEL



February 27, 2003
Slide 1

Overview

- Introduction to the American National Standards Institute
- Background: Standards Coordination Needed
- Homeland Security Standards Panel
 - Formation / Goals and Expectations
 - Charter
 - Tasks
 - Actions Taken
 - Next Steps
- Why Participation is Important
- Questions and Answers



Mission

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

A Private- and Public-Sector Partnership Since 1918

A Federation of members representing . . .

- Academia
- Individuals
- Government
- Manufacturing
- Trade Associations
- Professional Societies
- Service Organizations
- Standards Developers
- Consumer and Labor Interests
- and many more.

Bringing the Private- & Public-Sectors Together Since 1918

- ANSI is . . .
 - an “umbrella” organization for the U.S. voluntary consensus standards community
 - a private-sector led and public-sector supported standards coordination body
 - a not-for-profit organization

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

- ANSI's roles and responsibilities are to:
 - accredit U.S. Standards Developers, U.S. Technical Advisory Groups and conformity assessment systems
 - ensure integrity of the U.S. voluntary consensus standards system
 - provide regional & international access
 - respond to urgent national priorities
 - offer a *neutral policy forum* for standards coordination issues

Background:

Standards Coordination Needed

- The *National Strategy for Homeland Security* (2002) identified the need for standards to support homeland security (HS) and emergency preparedness
 - Fourteen critical infrastructure areas were noted
- January 2, 2003 Report for Congress states:
“Neither the federal government, nor the nongovernmental sector presently has a comprehensive, consolidated program for developing new preparedness standards.”



Homeland Security Standards Panel (HSSP) Formed

- February 5, 2003: Formation of HSSP announced
- Emphasis is on:
 - promoting and facilitating a cooperative partnership between the public and private sectors
 - HSSP co-chairs provided by industry and government
 - providing the venue where each agrees to cooperate
 - recognizing the significant work that is already underway or that has been completed by a vast array of standards-setting bodies
 - coordinating and facilitating interoperability among the many homeland security standards solutions being proposed



HSSP (continued)

- Operational model is based on the Information Infrastructure Standards Panel (IISP)
 - An ANSI-sponsored group formed in the mid-1990's to identify requirements for the emerging U.S. Information Technology infrastructure (“*Information Superhighway*”)
- Relies upon an expansive, open and well-tested network to align standardization experts with urgent national priorities.



HSSP Charter (proposed)

- Facilitate the development and enhancement of HS and emergency preparedness standards
- Actively solicit participation from sectors and groups traditionally outside the voluntary standards system (e.g., consortia)
- Establish and maintain an online database of HS standards



HSSP Tasks

- Initial tasks will be to identify and catalogue existing standards and to facilitate standards development in various homeland security-related areas where they do not exist



Actions Taken

- Outreach to solicit participation and to begin gathering data about existing standards
 - A questionnaire was distributed to nearly 300 standards developers on February 3, 2003
 - Recipients were encouraged to promulgate the survey to other interested parties, especially non-traditional standards-setting bodies such as consortia
- Responses were due on February 21, 2003 and are now being summarized



Actions Taken (continued)

- Development of HSSP website (www.ansi.org/hssp) and Homeland Security portal on ANSI Online
- Continue to meet with staff of the Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies
- Form Steering Committee comprising representatives from each of the fourteen sectors identified in the 2002 *National Strategy for Homeland Security* (see next slide)
 - First meeting to be held in Washington, DC on March 18



Fourteen Sectors

- Agriculture
- Banking and Finance
- Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials
- Defense Industrial Base
- Emergency Services
- Energy
- Food
- Government
- Information and Telecommunications
- National Monuments and Icons
- Postal and Shipping
- Public Health
- Transportation
- Water



Next Steps

- As standards are identified and/or developed for HS and emergency preparedness, they will be passed on to government agencies and distributed throughout the relevant industry/industries
 - Though the timeframe is compressed, it is expected that the work of HSSP will span at least two years



Why Your Participation Is Important

- Participation on the HSSP is open to all affected interests
 - Federal, State and Local government
 - Industry representatives
 - Trade Associations and Professional Societies
 - Standards Developers
 - Consortia



Importance of Participation (continued)

- HSSP's efforts will bring more structure to the identification of requirements for standards and the development of those standards where they do not exist
 - Vendors and users of the products, services or systems affected by these standards need to have a voice and a seat at the table when these requirements are being set
- Participation by all affected interests will help to avoid future issues/concerns regarding interoperability
 - If not participating in the HSSP, then should – at a minimum – be participating at the standards developer level



Questions and Answers



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