



# Standards View

*Monthly Electronic Newsletter of the U.S. Commercial Service at Mexico City*



## Standards Attaché Message

Dear Readers,

Panamá boasts one of the most booming economies in all of Latin America. No surprise, it has a well developed standards and conformity assessment regime as well. Within the pages of this, the April edition of the Standards View, you will learn about the different Panamanian entities involved in standards there, as well as glean standards news from around the North America/Central America region. One of the featured news items concerns the visit by the Mexico standards team to an interesting laboratory in Mexico City that is developing RFID technology. We hope you enjoy this edition, which will be followed soon by the May issue, featuring the country of Brazil.

Best Regards,

*Dale Wright*

Standards Attaché

Mexico, Canada, Central America, The Caribbean

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## *Panama*



## ***Standards-Related Organizations in Panama***

Source:

U.S. Commercial Service – Market Research Library

***Doing Business in Panama 2008: A Country Commercial Guide for U.S. Companies.***  
(Ch. 5 p. 47-50)

[http://www.buyusainfo.net/docs/x\\_1324139.pdf](http://www.buyusainfo.net/docs/x_1324139.pdf)

### **Overview**

As a WTO member, Panama implemented the WTO's agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) that includes the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards. The Government of Panama (GOP) passed Law 23 on July 15, 1997, which established new dispositions on product standards, labeling and certification policy, and redefined the functions of the Directorate General of Standards and Industrial Technology (DGNTI) and the Panamanian Commission for Industrial and Technical Standards (COPANIT). Basically, DGNTI was given the main role in establishing standards and technical regulations, while COPANIT was given an advisory role to DGNTI. The National Council for Accreditation (CNA) was charged with all national accreditations.

Panama has an open economy and there are no significant market access problems related to standards and technical regulations. Certain market access problems have occurred in the past with several agricultural products, but they have been mostly related to phytosanitary issues.

According to WTO guidelines, Panama informs WTO of any standards or technical regulations activities. U.S. companies can participate in the standards development process by contacting DGNTI and submitting specific requests or suggestions. There are no limitations to participation by foreign countries.

Products for which Panama has not set standards/regulations can enter the Panamanian market provided that they comply with standards and technical regulations from the United States, Europe or any industrial country.

### **Standards Organizations**

The Directorate General of Standards and Industrial Technology (DGNTI) establishes technical regulations and standards in Panama. Because of budgetary and other limitations, this organization has been mostly dedicated to establishing standards for food products based upon specific requests by industrial organizations, in accordance to WTO guidelines. DGNTI establishes a semiannual working plan showing all activities it will undertake for the following six months. DGNTI performs its functions through its three departments: Standards, Certifications and the Information Center.

Hyperlink	Name and Website	Description
	<p data-bbox="448 233 727 331">Dirección General de Normas y Tecnología Industrial - DGNTI</p> <p data-bbox="448 380 753 485"><a href="http://www.mici.gob.pa/dgnti/Normas/NormasTecnicas.xls">http://www.mici.gob.pa/dgnti/Normas/NormasTecnicas.xls</a></p>	<p data-bbox="829 233 1425 373">The Directorate General of Standards and Industrial Technology (DGNTI) is responsible for establishing standards and technical regulations.</p> <p data-bbox="829 415 1365 485">To learn more on the requirements for the DGNTI conformity seal, please visit:</p> <p data-bbox="829 527 1393 590"><a href="http://www.panamatramita.gob.pa/tramite_req.php?id_tram=1482">http://www.panamatramita.gob.pa/tramite_req.php?id_tram=1482</a></p>
	<p data-bbox="448 674 748 772">Comisión Panameña de Normas Industriales y Técnicas – COPANIT</p> <p data-bbox="448 821 678 852"><a href="http://www.mici.gob.pa">www.mici.gob.pa</a></p>	<p data-bbox="829 674 1393 852">The Commission for Industrial and Technical Standards (COPANIT) is responsible for advising DGNTI on the establishment of standards and technical regulations.</p> <p data-bbox="829 894 1393 957">For more information on COPANIT, please visit:</p> <p data-bbox="829 999 1393 1062"><a href="http://www.iso.org/iso/about/iso_members/iso_member_body.htm?member_id=2031">http://www.iso.org/iso/about/iso_members/iso_member_body.htm?member_id=2031</a></p>
	<p data-bbox="448 1146 756 1209">National Council for Accreditation – CAN</p> <p data-bbox="448 1251 756 1356"><a href="http://www.cna.gob.pa/index.php?option=com_frontpage&amp;Itemid=1">http://www.cna.gob.pa/index.php?option=com_frontpage&amp;Itemid=1</a></p>	<p data-bbox="829 1146 1333 1251">The National Council for Accreditation (CAN) is responsible for all national accreditations.</p>

**Conformity Assessment**

The General Directorate of Standards and Industrial Technology (DGNTI), as well as a number of public and private organizations, is responsible for conducting conformity assessments.

In Panama, several organizations conduct conformity assessments on a regular basis. These organizations include the Central Laboratory of Health from the Ministry of Health (MINSA), the University of Panama, the Technological University of Panama, the National Secretariat of Science and Technology (SENACYT), the Ministry of

Agricultural Development (MIDA), the Consumer Protection Authority and Defense of Competition, and the Agricultural Marketing Institute (IMA).

Panama does not have any Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with U.S. organizations.

**Hyperlink**

**Name and Website**

**Description**



Laboratorio Central del Ministerio de Salud – MINSA

<http://www.minsa.gob.pa/>

The Central Laboratory of Health, part of the Ministry of Health (MINSA), focuses on the improvement of public health and the environment.



Secretaría Nacional de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación – SENACYT

<http://www.senacyt.gob.pa/>

The National Secretariat of Science and Technology (SENACYT), was created by Decree 13 on April 15, 1997.

SENACYT is guided by the principles of the National Strategic Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation Development.



Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario - MIDA

<http://www.mida.gob.pa/>

The Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA) is responsible for modifying the rural agricultural structures in order to improve the conditions that allow for the establishment of soil distribution system, and access to exploitation of natural resources.



Autoridad de Protección al Consumidor y Defensa de la Competencia.

<http://www.autoridaddelconsumidor.gob.pa/>

The Consumer Protection and Defense of Competition Authority is responsible for ensuring that all measuring instruments meet quality standards, established by Technical Standards and Decree 29, by performing periodical verifications.

The Consumer Protection and Defense of Competition Authority also makes recommendations, on new technical standards for measurement instruments. to the Trade and Industries Ministry.

Hyperlink	Name and Website	Description
	<p>Instituto de Mercadeo Agropecuario – IMA</p> <p><a href="http://www.ima.gob.pa">http://www.ima.gob.pa</a></p>	<p>The Agricultural Marketing Institute (IMA), was created by Decree 70 on December 15, 1975.</p> <p>IMA, part of the Governmental Agricultural sector, is responsible for implementing the trade policies formulated by the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA). It also supports national producers in the trade and marketing of their products in order to encourage the growth of the agricultural sector.</p>

### **Product Certification**

Once the conformity assessments have been conducted, DGNTI will issue a conformity assessment certificate. DGNTI is the only organization authorized to issue conformity assessments related to products. Other private organizations such as SGS and Bureau Veritas deal with conformity assessments on system or procedures and can issue certificates, but only related to systems.

### **Accreditation**

The National Council for Accreditation (CNA) created by Law 23, on July 15, 1997, is the government authority in charge of all national accreditations. This Council is formed by a number of government organizations including the Ministries of Commerce, Health and Agricultural Development, as well as the National Secretariat of Science and Technology (SENACYT). The CNA works through a technical secretariat, which is the technical body of the Council.

The technical secretariat appoints accreditation committees, which are groups formed by specialists from the public and private sectors. These committees provide basic input for CNA decisions.

Accreditation is largely voluntary. It is only obligatory for organizations that deal with fuel laboratories and environmental testing laboratories.

Accreditation can be granted in three categories: laboratories (calibration and testing), inspection organizations, and certifying organizations.

As of December 2007, twelve organizations had been accredited by CNA and several accreditation applications were still under review.

### **Publication of Technical Regulations**

All final technical norms and regulations are published by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in the Official Gazette (Gaceta Oficial).



Law 23 requires that the Panamanian Commission for Industrial and Technical Standards (COPANIT) and the General Directorate of Standards and Industrial Technology (DGNTI) publish all agreements, technical regulations, norms and procedures.

Official Gazette or Gaceta Oficial

P.O. Box

Panama , Rep. of Panama

2/21/2008

Tel. (507) 527-9393

Fax. (507) 527-9830

The WTO TBT Inquiry Point and National Information Center is:

Comisión Panameña de Normas Industriales y Técnicas (COPANIT)

P.O. Box 0815-01119

Panama, Rep. Of Panama

Tel. (507) 560-0716

Fax. (507) 560-0721

E-mail: [dgnti@mici.gob.pa](mailto:dgnti@mici.gob.pa)

<http://www.mici.gob.pa>



## *Regional Highlights*



***Notify U.S.***

**NATIONAL CENTER FOR STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION  
INFORMATION**

<http://tsapps.nist.gov/notifyus/data/index/index.cfm>

Notifications from April 11 to March 7, 2008

**1) *Canada – Proposed Amendment to the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Bumpers).***

Notification Number: CAN/232

04/01/2008

The proposed amendment to section 215 of Schedule IV of the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations would modify the Canadian safety standard for bumpers via incorporation by reference of similar safety standards from the United States and Europe. This would have the effect of aligning the testing speeds with those of Europe and the United States and provide manufacturers the option of meeting the European safety requirements or the safety and no damage provisions of the United States. This proposed amendment would result in one consistent set of globally regulated test speed requirements for the design of bumpers, which would simplify the task of designing bumpers for vehicles destined for North American and European markets. This proposal would also facilitate the introduction in Canada of the impending Global Technical Regulation for pedestrian safety, being developed under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission of Europe (UN/ECE).

**2) *Canada – Proposed Amendment to the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Standard 216 – Roof Crush Resistance and Standard 220 – Rollover Protection).***

Notification Number: CAN/233

04/03/2008

The proposed amendment to the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations would amend the Canadian safety standards relating to vehicle roof crush and rollover protection, to improve the safety of vehicle occupants in the event of a vehicle rollover (hereafter referred to as the Canadian safety standards 216 and 220 respectively), found in Schedule IV to the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations. This amendment is needed to maintain harmonization with safety standards recently proposed by the United States. This amendment will update the roof crush safety standards that currently apply to both passenger vehicles and school buses.

The proposed amendments to Canadian safety standard 216 are:

**3) Costa Rica – Central American Technical Regulation (RTCA) No. 67.04.50:08: Food Products, Microbiological Criteria for Food Safety.**

Notification Number: CRI/74  
04/04/2008

The notified Regulation seeks to establish the microbiological parameters and permissible limits for the registration and sanitary surveillance of food products. The provisions of this Regulation apply to all food products marketed in Central American countries.

**4) Canada – Proposed Amendment to the Energy Efficiency Regulations.**

Notification Number: CAN/234  
04/11/2008

Pursuant to the Energy Efficiency Act, the Energy Efficiency Regulations encourage the efficient and economic use of energy. The Act and its accompanying Regulations contribute to the competitiveness of Canada's economy and help Canada to address national and international climate change goals.

The Energy Efficiency Regulations have been in effect since 1995. Currently, the Energy Efficiency Regulations are supported by the Clean Air Regulatory Agenda (CARA). This amendment addresses three principle immediate outcomes of CARA: the approval of the Governor in Council of the first amendment to the Energy Efficiency Regulations under CARA, the increased scope of the comparative labeling regime and the increased engagement of various publics in energy efficiency under these labeling regimes.

The purpose of the minimum energy-performance standards (MEPS) implemented under the Energy Efficiency Regulations is to eliminate shipment of inefficient, energy-using products that are either (1) imported into Canada, or (2) manufactured in Canada and transported between provinces for the purpose of sale or lease.

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has calculated that, by 2010, the MEPS put into effect by the Energy Efficiency Regulations (since 1995) will have achieved a reduction in GHG emissions of 25.6 megatonnes (Mt) per year. Under CARA, three additional amendments are planned, of which this proposed amendment is the first. The Energy Efficiency Regulations, under CARA, will contribute an estimated annual, aggregate impact in 2010-2011 of

- energy reductions between 13.37 and 14.85 petajoules per year; -GHG reductions between 1.4 and 1.6 Mt per year (using current conversions); and – air pollutant reductions, the most significant of which are 725-1 002 tonnes of Nox, 837-3 446 tonnes of SO<sub>2</sub> and 204-1 155 tonnes of PM<sub>10</sub>.

This proposed amendment will account for approximately one-third of the CARA Energy Efficiency Regulations' contribution-0.5 Mt in 2010, rising to 9.7 Mt in 2020.

The proposed amendment NRCan expects the Regulations Amending the Energy Efficiency Regulations (“the proposed amendment”) to

- increase the stringency of existing MEPs for currently regulated products: - Residential dehumidifiers –Residential dishwashers –Commercial ice-makers –Residential gas



furnaces – introduce new MEPS and associated reporting and compliance requirements for six products: -Commercial clothes washers – Residential wine chillers – Commercial and industrial gas unit heaters – Torchieres (floor lamps) – Ceiling fan lighting – Traffic signal modules and pedestrian modules – introduce MEPs for general service lamps; and – require consumer energy performance labeling for general service lamps, general service incandescent reflector lamps and compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs).

**5) Canada – Correction with full text.**

Notification Number: CAN/183/CAN (CAN/183)  
04/16/2008

The proposed amendment notified in G/TBT/N/CAN/183 (dated 29 November 2006) was adopted 2 April 2008 as the Regulations Amending the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Seat Belt Anchorages, User-ready Tether Anchorages, Lower Universal Anchorage Systems, Build-in Child Restraint Systems and Built-in Booster Cushions) and the Motor Vehicle Restraint Systems and Booster Cushions Safety Regulations

<http://canadagazette.gc.ca/partII/2008/20080402/pdf/g2-14207.pdf>

**6) Canada – Correction with full text.**

Notification Number: CAN/185/CAN (CAN/185)  
04/16/2008

The proposed amendment notified in G/TBT/N/CAN/185 (dated 13 December 2006) was adopted 2 April 2008 as the Regulations Amending the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Door Locks and Door Retention Components). This amendment allows manufacturers to comply with the requirements of either Technical Standards Document (TSD) No. 2006 or ECE Regulation No. 11.03.

Until 1 September 2009, both Revision 0 and Revision 1 of TSD 206 will be in force.

<http://canadagazette.gc.ca/partII/2008/20080402/pdf/g2-14207.pdf>

**7) Canada – Correction with full text.**

Notification Number: CAN/205/CAN (CAN/205)  
04/21/2008

The proposed amendment notified in G/TBT/N/CAN/205 (dated 17 July 2007) was adopted 3 April 2008 as the Regulations Amending the Food and Drug Regulations (1541 – Schedule F).

**8) Canada – Correction with full text.**

Notification Number: CAN/206/CAN (CAN/206)  
04/21/2008

The proposed amendment notified in G/TBT/N/CAN/206 (dated 24 July 2007) was adopted 3 April 2008 as the Regulations Amending the Food and Drug Regulations (1528 – Schedule F).

**9) Canada – Radiocommunication Act – Notice No. SMSE-002-08 – Amendment of RSS-191 and SRSP-338.6.**

Notification Number: CAN/235

04/21/2008

Notice is hereby given that Industry Canada is releasing the following documents:

Radio Standards Specification 191 (RSS-191), Issue 3: Local Multipoint Communication Systems in the Band 25.3528-35 GHz; Point-to-Point and Point-to-Multipoint Broadband Communication Systems in the Bands 24.25-24.45 GHz and 25.05-25.25 GHz; and Point-to-Multipoint Broadband Communications in the Band 38.6-40.0 GHz, which sets out certification requirements for local multipoint communication systems (LMCS), point-to-point and point-to-multipoint broadband communication systems in these bands; and

Standard Radio System Plan 338.6 (SRSP-338.6), Issue 3: Technical Requirements for Fixed Radio Systems Operating in the Band 38.6-40.0 GHz, which sets out technical requirements for licensing digital equipment in the fixed service for broadband wireless applications, including both point-to-point and point-to-multipoint systems in the band 38.6-40.0 GHz.

RSS-191, Issue 3 replaces Issue 2 and removes certification requirements for point-to-point broadband communication systems in the band 38.6-40.0 GHz. These requirements have been transferred to SRSP-338.6, Issue 3.

Note that the above RSS and SRSP documents are available in English and French on Industry Canada's Web site: <http://strategis.gc.ca/spectrum>

**10) Guatemala – Correction to notification.**

Notification Number: GTM/61/GTM (GTM/61)

04/28/2008

Notice is hereby given that the final date for comments established in the notification published on the WTO web site under reference G/TBT/N/GTM/61 of 7 March 2008 and relating to the document "Central American Technical Regulation (RTCA) No. 67.04.50:08: Food products. Microbiological criteria for food safety" has been extended by a further 30 days.

For further details on the mentioned notifications and to download the documents, please visit Notify U.S.

<http://www.nist.gov/notifyus>

## *Standards Reports – Mexico*

1) U.S. Commercial Service – Market Research Library

*Mexico: NOMs and NMXs issued by the Mexican Government, during the period April 1 to 30, 2008*

Author: Jesús González

## *Standards Highlights – Mexico*

### **1) *Publication of 2008 National Standardization Program***

Information Bulletin by Banuet Consultores, Normas y Reglamentos Técnicos

[www.banuet.net](http://www.banuet.net)

April 14, 2008

The 2008 National Standardization Program was published on April 14 in the Diario Oficial. The National Standardization Program (PNN) is the list of all the topics that will be developed as Technical Regulations (NOMs), Mexican Standards (NMXs) and Reference Standards (NRFs) every year.

Due to the length of these documents please follow the link for further details:

<http://diariooficial.segob.gob.mx>

2) DGN – Dirección General de Normas – Secretaría de Economía (General Bureau of Standards– Ministry of Economy).



### ***E-payment for services***

It is now possible to do e-payments for services of the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and SAT. The e-payment is also available for services offered by General Bureau of Standards (DGN).

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.economia.gob.mx/?P=2036>

3) COFETEL – Comisión Federal de Telecomunicaciones (Federal Telecommunications Commission).



### ***Convergent Environment***

Eduardo Ruiz Vega, COFETEL Commissioner, conducted a presentation explaining the regulatory frame for a Convergent Environment.

The presentation is available at:

[http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/nuevo\\_portal/Las\\_Vegas.pps](http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/nuevo_portal/Las_Vegas.pps)

4) NYCE - Normalización y Certificación Electrónica A.C. (Electronic Standardization and Certification).



GACETA 8

April

### ***Electromagnetic Compatibility***

*Electromagnetic compatibility* is the ability that a equipment or electrical system has to work efficiently without interference in an electromagnetic environment where different emissions or radiations coincide. The term *electromagnetic compatibility* also refers to the protection that an equipment or electrical system should have to avoid interference or perturbations with other similar equipment or systems.

In Mexico there are no technical standards to regulate *electromagnetic compatibility*. Therefore, the infrastructure that deals with and solves related problems is inadequate.

NYCE is helping to solve this problem by promoting a culture of compliance through the creation of a standards archive that focuses on electromagnetic compatibility, and by offering an accreditation to determine what non-telecommunication products that use a radioelectric spectrum comply with the emission limits and immunity levels required for non-interference.

For more information on this accreditation, please contact:

Ing. Domingo Avila

[davila@nyce.org.mx](mailto:davila@nyce.org.mx)

52-55-53950777 ext. 264

To learn more on *Electromagnetic Compatibility*, please visit:

<http://www.nyce.org.mx/doc/gaceta8.pdf>

5) NYCE

***Avoid Fines***

This release is to inform you that official standards NOM-001-SCFI-1993, NOM-016-SCFI-1993 and NOM-019-SCFI-1993, do not exclude products with similar or inferior tensions to 24 V, such as batteries, battery-required products, data processor equipment, etc. All products associated with standards mentioned above should comply with the Consumer Protection Law.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.nyce.org.mx/voltios.html>

6) ONNCCE – Organismo Nacional de Normalización y Certificación de la Construcción y Edificación S.C. en México (National Organization for Standardization of Building and Construction Industries).



***National Standardization Program***

The last day to present topics for the National Standardization Program Supplement is June 13, 2008.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.onnce.org.mx/>

***Standards News – Mexico***

1) AMECE – Asociación Mexicana de Comercio Electrónico. Mexican Association of Electronic Commerce Standards.





## *U.S. Commercial Service Representatives visit AMECE's Electronic Product Code Laboratory*



On April 21, Jesus Gonzalez, Veronica Gonzalez, Claudia Salgado and Coralie Bordes from the U.S. Commercial Service in Mexico City, visited the Electronic Product Code (EPC) Laboratory of the Mexican Association of Electronic Commerce Standards (AMECE). The EPC Laboratory is an investigation, development, testing and demonstration center that supports the formation of identification technology processes based on radio frequency. Its main objectives are the promotion and implementation of standardized electronic product coding in Mexico.



The EPC Laboratory offers technical services using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) devices to follow, control, identify and record products on their path through the supply chain to distribution and point of sale.



In the EPC Laboratory, companies can perform trials for their products using RFID technology. With tools such as aerials, readers, labels, etc, companies have found areas of opportunity to improve their internal and external processes by including RFID applications that simplify the quality control, stocking and tracking of their products. For instance, some pharmaceutical companies have found it useful to add RFID labels on their products to track expiration dates and measure levels of humidity and temperature. This RFID application has not only facilitated compliance with sanitary regulations, but it has also made possible the authenticity verification of pharmaceutical products to avoid piracy and thus prevent harm to humans.



Clothing stores have also found a useful application for RFID technology. A recognized jeans brand ran trials to implement a unique system to track items that are received in the store. Not only does each of the items in the store have radio frequency identification, but



so do, all the stocking shelves. Every time an item is placed on a stocking shelf, the computer records the item's characteristics for purposes of inventory. When a customer takes an item from a stocking shelf, the computer records the missing item and notifies the store employee of any item that needs to be replaced. RFID technology is also attractive for customers, since they can interact with RFID applications to maximize their shopping experience. By passing items through the RFID reader, customers are able to check if their size and favorite color are available. Using a RFID



reader that is integrated into a virtual image application, clients are also able to play with colors and textures to visualize how the garments will look on them, before they buy.

Many companies that have run trials in the EPC Laboratory are now using RFID technology. With the EPC Laboratory, AMECE continues to actively participate in the development of innovative solutions that contribute to the creation of electronic standards that benefit of trade activities in Mexico.

To learn more on the EPC Laboratory, please visit:

[http://www.amece.org.mx/amece/Laboratorio\\_EPC.php](http://www.amece.org.mx/amece/Laboratorio_EPC.php)

To learn more on AMECE, please visit:

<http://www.amece.org.mx/amece/index.php>

2) COFEMER – Comisión Federal de Mejora Regulatoria (Federal Bureau of Regulatory Improvement).



### ***National Conference of Regulatory Improvement in the City of Juarez***

On April 10, COFEMER and the Government of Chihuahua organized the first National Conference of Regulatory Improvement in the City of Juarez. This conference is part of the initiative to promote the discussion of regulatory improvement issues in federal entities and municipalities. The Regulatory Improvement Conference will be held annually on April.

Alejandro Cano Ricaud, Industrial Development Secretary of the State of Chihuahua, commented during his participation "...without regulatory improvement competitiveness can't be reached. The States and municipalities should be a relevant support for COFEMER in this initiative." Carlos García Fernández, COFEMER Director, highlighted the importance of coordination between the three branches of government to improve competitiveness in Mexico. The executive, legislative and judicial powers should work together to design policies that are compatible with the perspective of citizens and entrepreneurs in order to establish a permanent dialogue in the public and private sectors.

For more information, please visit:

[http://www.cofemer.gob.mx/historial.asp?tipo\\_nav\\_bar=1&contenido=2&menu\\_id=9&content\\_id=99&noticia\\_id=26](http://www.cofemer.gob.mx/historial.asp?tipo_nav_bar=1&contenido=2&menu_id=9&content_id=99&noticia_id=26)

To learn more about the conference and to download the conference presentations, please visit:

<http://www.dindustrial.net/cofemer2008/default.htm>

3) COFETEL – Comisión Federal de Telecomunicaciones (Federal Telecommunications Commission).



*COFETEL sends to COFEMER the Technical Master Plan for Interconnection*

On April 3, COFETEL sent COFEMER the Technical Master Plan for Interconnection. This document seals the technological transition to a new market with advanced telecommunication networks that will benefit users by offering higher quality and less expensive services. This document also promotes healthy competition among the telecommunications concessionaries through a modern framework that standardizes interconnection agreements and assures the jurisdictional protection of all involved parties.

To learn more, please visit:

[http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1\\_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO\\_9\\_08.pdf](http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO_9_08.pdf)

4) COFETEL

***Public consultation to evaluate the Redirection of the Public Telecommunication Networks***

COFETEL will open a public comment period to evaluate the redirection of the public telecommunications to more advanced networks that offer a more efficient interconnection and interaction. This measure is a response to technological developments as well as a demand by concessionaries to ensure that the public telecommunication networks comply with the established regulatory mechanisms. The objective is to offer more diverse services to a greater number of users at fees that enhances the sector's competitiveness.

To learn more, please visit:

[http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1\\_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO\\_11\\_08.pdf](http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO_11_08.pdf)

5) EMA – Entidad Mexicana de Acreditación A.C. (Mexican Accreditation Entity).



As part of the national campaign initiative “EMA Va A Su Casa” (EMA Goes To Your Home), on April 23, EMA representatives visited companies and government offices in Irapuato Guanajuato to talk about the benefits of working with calibration and trial laboratories, verification units and accredited certification organizations. In addition to

the campaign's activities, an event with presentations on standardization, conformity assessment, accreditation and verification was held at the auditorium of LAPEM-CFE. The program was open to the public and included one-on-one meetings and a guided tour to a high-tension laboratory.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ema.org.mx/descargas/eventos/FOLLETOIRAPUATO.pdf>

6) UL – Underwriters Laboratories



PRESS RELEASE

Northbrook, IL

April 2, 2008

***Underwriters Laboratories Issues Mexico's First Third-Party***

Underwriters Laboratories (UL), a world leader of product safety testing services, recently issued the first Normas Oficiales Mexicanas (NOM) Mark to a global electronics manufacturing customer entering the Mexican market. In a global marketplace with multiple standard certifications, companies need to be able to go through a single third-party testing organization such as UL for all their product certification needs in order to move products into the market more quickly. UL worked closely with the government of Mexico to obtain accreditation as a third-party product certification organization to help speed entry into the market.

“We are committed to helping our customers increase their global competitiveness by bringing safer products to market faster,” said Keith Williams, president and CEO, Underwriters Laboratories. “It’s a reality that in today’s global economy the same product is marketed in many different countries. As a result, UL’s NOM certification process offers its customers cost saving and high-quality product testing, which helps build their bottom line.”

There are nearly 2,000 product categories – ranging from household appliances to electronics – that must undergo mandatory testing to the NOM standards by a nationally accredited body. Until recently, companies worked directly with the Mexican government to test and certify products. To quicken this process, UL established subcontracted test data exchange agreements with testing laboratories in Mexico. The agreements allow UL to conduct NOM testing that can be accepted and used to generate a valid test report. Essentially, products can be tested in the United States for multiple marks including the

NOM with results verified by a laboratory in Mexico, which means less product shipping, less management and faster time to market.



“As the world’s 13<sup>th</sup> largest economy, we recognize that Mexico is an attractive market for global manufacturers,” said Williams. “UL is helping manufacturers bring their products into new geographies quickly and reliably.”

To learn more about UL’s NOM certification process and the product categories it covers, please visit:

<http://www.ul.com/international/mexico.html>

For information about the U.S. Commercial Service in Mexico City, please visit our website or contact us today:

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