



# Standards View

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



**Standards Attaché Message**

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Dear Readers,

Welcome to our January edition of the “Standards View.” This month, we have turned our attention to the Central American country of El Salvador. Thanks to their close relationship with the United States, and participation in the CAFTA-DR Free Trade Agreement, standards developed in the U.S. are readily accepted in El Salvador. Within the pages of this newsletter, you will find a complete description of the standards and conformity assessment regime in this country, along with a list of all accredited laboratories. This is in addition to our regular tally of TBT notifications from around the region and other standards-related news from Mexico. We trust that you will find the information contained herein useful and, as always, welcome any comments that you might have.

Best Regards,

*Dale Wright*  
Standards Attaché  
Mexico, Canada, Central America, The Caribbean

## *El Salvador*



## ***Standards-Related Organizations in El Salvador***

Source:

U.S. Commercial Service – Market Research Library

*Doing Business in El Salvador: A Country Commercial Guide for U.S. Companies. 2007 (Ch. 5 p. 7-9)*

[http://www.buyusainfo.net/docs/x\\_2194818.pdf](http://www.buyusainfo.net/docs/x_2194818.pdf)

In general standards and labeling do not pose a major hurdle for U.S. exporters to El Salvador. El Salvador is a standards taker and not a standards maker. Many products made in the U.S. already meet El Salvador's standards. The main area of difference is items for human consumption such as pharmaceuticals and food.

El Salvador is open to participation by the U.S. in the standards development process. With CAFTA-DR implementation, local producers will experience additional standards. Active participation of the U.S. is expected to assist El Salvador in developing or streamlining standards.

### **Standards Organizations**

El Salvador's key legislation on standardization, metrology, verification and certification is the Law for the National Science and Technology Council, CONACYT (enacted in July 1992, Decree 287) and the WTO Agreement of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement), and it has adopted the Code of Good Practice annexed to the TBT Agreement. CONACYT is the entity responsible for standards and coordinates the drafting, adoption, and adjustment of standards through technical committees. CONACYT has a Department of Standardization, Metrology, and Quality Certification in charge of: coordinating the development and adoption of national technical standards with other government bodies and with private and scientific institutions; establishing technical committees to study, develop and amend official technical standards, and to coordinate the committees' work; accrediting laboratories and keeping a register of accredited facilities; and cooperating and ensuring an ongoing exchange of information with institutions in El Salvador and abroad and other related international bodies. By law CONACYT is also required to work towards the harmonization, coordination, and unification of adopted standards with other Central American countries.

### **Conformity Assessment**

CONACYT engages in the accreditation of official bodies and maintains a list of those bodies (public, private, local or foreign) and applicants at <http://www.infoq.org.sv>. Policies and criteria for accreditation are described in the "Reglamento de Acreditación de Laboratorios de Ensayos y Análisis." Conformity Assessment bodies include laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies. The procedures for conformity assessment adopted by CONACYT are ISO/IEC standards

### **Product Certification**

The process of product certification requires the integration of a Certification Technical Committee with the manufacturer, government, consumers, users and academic representation. CONACYT develops guides for product certification programs in accordance to international standards/ISO certification processes.

### Accreditation

Accreditation is voluntary unless any government institution requires it through a special law or norm making it necessary to conduct conformity assessment. El Salvador is a member of the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation of Accreditation (IAAC) and the international Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). CONACYT has accredited eleven laboratories; the list is available electronically at:

<http://www.infoq.org.sv/laboservi.htm> .

### Publication of Technical Regulations

Proposed technical regulations are published in the main newspapers, and the WTO and Central American Secretaries for Economic Integration are notified. Final regulations are published in the Official Journal. The installation of standards drafting committees is announced in the main newspapers so that interested parties can participate.

Entity for	Hyperlink	Name and Website	Description
Standards		Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología– CONACYT	CONACYT is the entity responsible for standards and coordinates the drafting, adoption, and adjustment of standards through technical committees.
Conformity Assessment		<a href="http://www.conacyt.gob.sv/">http://www.conacyt.gob.sv/</a>	
Product Certification			CONACYT engages in the accreditation of official bodies and maintains a list of those bodies (public, private, local or foreign).
Accreditation			CONACYT develops guidelines for product certification programs in accordance with international standards/ISO certification processes.  CONACYT has accredited eleven laboratories; the list is available electronically at:  <a href="http://www.infoq.org.sv/laboservi.htm">http://www.infoq.org.sv/laboservi.htm</a>

## Accredited Laboratories

Hyperlink	Name and Website	Description
	Laboratorio Especialidades Industriales, S.A. de C.V.- ESPINSA  <a href="http://www.espinsa.com.sv/index.htm">http://www.espinsa.com.sv/index.htm</a>	ESPINSA specializes in water treatment engineering covering diagnostic, design, development, installation, equipment operation, appropriate systems and chemical products required by customers.
	Laboratorio de Calidad Integral -FUSADES  <a href="http://www.fusades.org.sv/general.asp?id=131">http://www.fusades.org.sv/general.asp?id=131</a>	FUSADES is a center for research and laboratory services covering the following sectors: -Agriculture -Food and beverages -Environment
 	Laboratorio de Control de Calidad de Plaguicidas - MAG/OIRSA  <a href="http://www.mag.gob.sv/main/index.php">http://www.mag.gob.sv/main/index.php</a>  <a href="http://www.oirsa.org/">http://www.oirsa.org/</a>	Pesticides Quality Control Laboratory is a joint program of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farming (MAG) and the International Regional Health Farming Organization (OIRSA).
	Laboratorio de Cemento, Cementode El Salvador, S.A. - CESSA  <a href="http://www.cessa.com.sv/">http://www.cessa.com.sv/</a>	Cement El Salvador (CESSA) began its operations October 17, 1949. With a group of technicians in the Commercial Division, CESSA offers Quality Certificates from laboratories recognized by CONACYT.
	Laboratorio Especializado en Control de Calidad –LECC  <a href="http://www.lecc.com.sv/">http://www.lecc.com.sv/</a>	Quality Control Specialized Laboratories, LECC, is a quality control resource for diverse industries and governmental/non-governmental organizations of the Central American region. LECC currently engages in activities related to quality, security, efficacy of medicines, water, cosmetics, food, natural origin products and other chemical products.

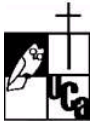
LEEC was founded in 1986.



**Hyperlink**

**Name and Website**

**Description**



Laboratorio de Servicios de Química Agrícola de la Universidad José Simeón Cañas

Laboratory of Farming Chemistry Services from the José Simeón Cañas University (UCA).

<http://www.uca.edu.sv/>

Laboratorio Especialidades Microbiológicas Industriales, S.A. de C.V.

Laboratory of Industrial Microbiological Specialties (ESMI)  
Contact: Dra. Elvia Berenice Huezco de Hernández  
E-mail: [esmi.lab.@saltel.net](mailto:esmi.lab.@saltel.net)



Laboratorio Geoquímico de Lageo, S.A. de C.V.

La Geo started its operations in 1999. Accredited by CONACYT with the NSR ISO 17025 standards, La Geo offers such services as: aquifer classification, environment studies, chemical and isotopic species monitoring, analysis of physic-chemical processes in underground aquifers, to mention a few.

<http://www.lageo.com.sv/index.php>

Laboratorio Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Químico Biológico, S.A. de C.V.

Chemical/Biological Development and Research Laboratory and Institute.  
Contact: Claudia Villalobos de Castro  
E-mail: [iqblab@yahoo.com.mx](mailto:iqblab@yahoo.com.mx)



Laboratorio de Control de Calidad y Control de Contaminantes en el Agua De Anda

In 2007, ANDA laboratory was satisfactorily re-certified by CONACYT using the ISO/ICE 17025:2005 Standard.

<http://www.anda.gob.sv/2007/nota081007.asp>

As part of their laboratory services, ANDA specializes in physical/chemical and microbiological analyses of water samples.

Laboratorio de Diagnóstico de Avícola Salvadoreña, S.A. de C.V.

Diagnostic Laboratory of Salvadoran Aviculture.  
Contact: Royer Iván Huezco  
E-mail: [maritzal@avisal.com.sv](mailto:maritzal@avisal.com.sv),  
[rosayala@avisal.com.sv](mailto:rosayala@avisal.com.sv)

## Regional Highlights



### ***Notify U.S***

**NATIONAL CENTER FOR STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION  
INFORMATION**

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

Notifications from November 26 to December 21, 2007

1) ***Mexico – Draft Mexican Official Standards PROY-NOM-004-ENER-2005: Energy Efficiency of Clean Water Pumps and Motor Pumps with a Power Rating of 0.187 kW to 0.746 kW, Limits and Test Methods.***

Notification Number: MEX/136

02/04/2008

The notified draft Mexican Official Standards establishes the minimum energy efficiency levels and the maximum energy consumption levels for residential water pumps and residential water motor pumps (using single-phase squirrel-cage induction motors), respectively, and the test methods for verifying compliance therewith. It also lays down the public information labeling requirements.

2) ***Mexico – Draft Mexican Official Standards PROY-NOM-022-ENER/SCFI-2005: Energy Efficiency of and User Safety Requirements for Self-Contained Commercial Refrigeration Appliances, Limits, Test Methods and Labelling.***

Notification Number: MEX/135

02/04/2008

The notified draft Mexican Official Standard establishes the specifications and test methods for determining the energy consumption values per litre of self-contained commercial refrigeration appliances. It also establishes user safety requirements for such appliances and the test methods for verifying compliance therewith. Furthermore, the Standards specifies the information to be included on the energy-efficiency labels required, in addition to marking, on appliances covered by this draft Standards and marketed in Mexico.

3) ***Mexico – Draft Mexican Official Standards PROY-NOM-017-ENER/SCFI-2005: Energy Efficiency of and User Safety Requirements for Self-ballasted Compact Fluorescent Lamps, Limits and Test Methods.***

Notification Number: MEX/134

02/04/2008

The notified draft Mexican Official Standards establishes the minimum energy efficiency levels for self-ballasted compact fluorescent lamps, the user safety requirements for such

lamps and the test methods for verifying compliance with these requirements. Furthermore, the Standards specify the information to be displayed on the products covered by this draft Standards and marketed in Mexico and responds to the need for such products to be conducive to energy efficiency and saving.

**4) *Canada – Proposed Amendment to the Food and Drug Regulations (Notice of Intent – Project No. 1554 Schedule F).***

Notification Number: CAN/226

01/29/2008

This Notice of Intent (NOI) is to provide an opportunity to comment on a proposed change in status of the medicinal ingredient progesterone in Schedule F to the Food and Drug Regulations.

Progesterone is a hormone that is used in veterinary medicine to treat conditions of the reproductive system in both farm animals and domestic pets.

Schedule F is a list of medicinal ingredients, the sale of which is controlled under sections C.01.041 to C.01.049 of the Food and Drug Regulations. Part I of Schedule F lists ingredients that require a prescription for human use and for veterinary use. Part II of Schedule F lists ingredients that require a prescription for human use, but do not require a prescription for veterinary use if so labeled or if in a form of unsuitable for human use.

Progesterone is currently included in Part II of Schedule F in the group listing for sex hormones, which means that a prescription is required for progesterone for human use but not for veterinary use. The proposed change in status means that progesterone would require a prescription for both human and veterinary use except when sold in an implant for veterinary use for growth promotion.

**5) *Costa Rica – Costa Rican Technical Regulation (RTCR) No. 405:2007 Regulations for the Registration, Classification, Importation and Inspection of Biomedical and Material.***

Notification Number: CRI/71

01/20/2008

The purpose of these regulations is to establish the requirements and procedures necessary for the classification, registration, importation and inspection of biomedical equipment and material (BEM) intended for human use.

**6) *Canada – Meat Cut Manual***

Notification Number: CAN/225

01/18/2008

The Meat Inspection Act and Regulations, the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations, and the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations, which are administered by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency at all levels of trade, require the meat cuts, organs, and other carcass parts be identified on labels with proper common names.

The Uniform Meat Cut Nomenclature System (UMCNS) is designed to provide industry and consumers with a simple and informative system of nomenclature which will ensure

the use of standardizes terms in the naming of meat cuts, discourage any misuse of these term and provide consumers with information which they require in making price comparisons and in selecting cooking methods.

The definitions enclosed in the manual establish limits within which these cut names may be used.

**7) Canada – Correction to Notification “Proposed Regulations Amending the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Low-speed Vehicles)”.**

Notification Number: CAN/224/CAN (CAN/224)

01/18/2008

**8) El Salvador – Salvadoran Mandatory Standard 13.11:07 – Atmospheric Emissions, Stationary Point Sources.**

Notification Number: SLV/117

01/18/2008

This standard covers the following: purpose, scope of application, definitions, conversion factors, maximum permissible limits for different types of industry, testing methods, monitoring and inspection body.

**9) El Salvador – Preliminary Draft Salvadoran Mandatory Standard (NSO) No. 13.07.02.07 – Water, Bottled Water, First Revision.**

Notification Number: SLV/114

01/18/2008

The notified Standard covers the following: purpose, scope, definitions, symbols and abbreviations, classification and description, requirements, sampling, analysis and test methods, labeling, registers, verification, compliance, standards to be consulted, and annexes.

**10) El Salvador – Preliminary draft Salvadoran Mandatory Standards (NSO) No. 67.19.01:07 – Natural Honey, Specifications, Second Revision.**

Notification Number: SLV/115

01/18/2008

The notified Standard covers the following: purpose, scope, definitions, symbols and abbreviations, classification and description, composition and requirements, sampling, methods of analysis, labeling, standards to be consulted, compliance, verification, and annexes.

**11) El Salvador – Salvadoran Mandatory Standard (NSO) No. 67.01.15:07 – Milk Products, Flavoured Pasteurized and Ultra-pasteurized Milk, Specifications.**

The notified Standard covers the following: purpose, scope, definitions, essential composition and quality factors, food additives, product classification, general, physico-chemical and microbiological characteristics, contaminants, sampling, testing and analysis methods, hygiene, packaging and labeling, storage and transportation, regulatory appendix, monitoring and inspection.



**12) Guatemala – Technical Regulation on Natural Liquid Soya.**

Notification Number: GTM/60

01/18/2008

The notified Regulation seeks to establish the types and characteristics of and requirements for natural liquid soya (Glycine max) milk, whether or not homogenized, tyndallized, pasteurized, ultra-high temperature (UHT) or sterilized (HST), produced in Guatemala or abroad.

The specification and parameters contained in this Technical Regulation apply to natural liquid soya (Glycine max) milk, whether or not homogenized, tyndallized, pasteurized, ultra-high temperature (UHT) or sterilized (HST).

**13) Mexico – Draft Mexican Official Standard PROY-NOM-021-ENER/SCFI-2007: Energy Efficiency of and User Safety Requirements for Room Air-conditioners, Limits, Test Methods and Labelling.**

Notification Number: MEX/133

01/16/2008

The notified draft Mexican Official Standard establishes energy efficiency ratio (EER) specifications and test methods and also user safety requirements and the test methods for verifying compliance therewith. Furthermore, it establishes the information to be included on the energy-efficiency labels required, in addition to marking, on appliances covered by this draft Standard and marketed in Mexico. This draft Mexican Official Standard applies to new room air-conditioners, whether or not including a heat pump, with air-cooled condensers and cooling capacities of up to 10,600 watts, domestic or foreign, marketed in Mexico. It does not apply to split room air conditioners known as “mini-split” air conditioners.

**14) Canada – Proposed Regulations Amending the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Low-speed Vehicles).**

Notification Number: CAN/224 (Corr.1)

01/11/2008

**15) Canada – Proposed Regulations Amending the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Low-speed Vehicles)**

Notification Number: CAN/224\

01/11/2008

The proposed Regulations Amending the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (Low-speed Vehicle) [the proposed Regulations] would amend the definition for the low-speed vehicles (LSV) class and introduce marking requirements to better identify vehicles of this class. LSV are small four-wheeled electric vehicles that attain a maximum speed of 40 km/h in a distance of 1.6 km and are designed for use in controlled areas. The proposed Regulations would better define LSV and would increase other road users’ awareness of them.

The proposed Regulations would update the definition of the LSV to clarify the original reason for establishing LSV class, which was to allow the use of such vehicles for short trips, such as shopping, social and recreational purposes, in limited, planned and

controlled environments. In addition to amending this definition, the proposed Regulations would add a requirement for a slow-moving vehicle emblem to be permanently marked on LSV, in order to harmonize with provincial/territorial requirements.

**16) Canada – Proposed Amendment to the Food and Drug Regulations (Project No. 1583 – Schedule F)**

Notification Number: CAN/223

01/09/2008

This notification announces the availability of a letter that provides an opportunity to comment on the proposed addition of six medicinal ingredients to Part I of Schedule F to the Food and Drug Regulations.

The proposed ingredients are: Aprepitant, Daptomycin, Duloxetine, Maraviroc, Paliperidone and Ziprasidone.

The degree of regulatory control afforded by Schedule F (prescription drug) status coincides with the risk factors associated with each medical ingredient. Oversight by a practitioner is necessary to ensure that appropriate risk/benefit information is considered before the drug containing the medicinal ingredient is administered and that the drug therapy is properly monitored.

Schedule F is a list of medicinal ingredients, the sale of which is controlled under sections C.01.041 to C.01.049 of the Food and Drug Regulations. Part I of Schedule F lists ingredients that require a prescription for human use, but do not require a prescription for veterinary use if so labeled or if in a for unsuitable for human use.

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

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

*United States of America  
Department of Commerce*

## *Standards Reports – Mexico*

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

*Mexico: NOMs and NMXs issued by the Mexican Government, during the period December 1 to 31, 2008*

Author: Jesús González

*Mexico: NOMs and NMXs issued by the Mexican Government, during the period January 1 to 31, 2008*

Author: Jesús González

## *Standards Highlights - Mexico*

1) ANCE – Asociación Nacional de Normalización y Certificación del Sector Eléctrico. (National Association of Electric Sector Standardization and Certification).



### *Online Certification*

ANCE has developed a new process of “online certification”; which consists of facilitating the entrance of product certification requests through the services page of ANCE’s website.

[http://www.ance.org.mx/certificacion\\_linea.pdf](http://www.ance.org.mx/certificacion_linea.pdf)

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



### *New and simplified format for the request of services*

NYCE introduces an innovation for the improvement of services in the Electronic Certification and Measurement Instruments Area: New Request of Services Format.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.nyce.org.mx/imagenes/innovaciones.jpg>



3) 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).



Boletín 56 –ONNCCE  
January, 2008

### ***Quality in 2008***

Currently, there are clear standards that facilitate the development and execution of construction projects. Unfortunately clear specifications for such projects do not exist. Specifications are important in assuring the client that the contractor will follow the master plan exactly, ensuring fulfillment of the contractual requirements and adherence to pertinent regulations, licenses, permissions and authorizations, thus guaranteeing the quality of the projects.

Specifications are the responsibility of designers and must be included in the blueprint or other attached documents; they should not be confused with standards.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.onncce.org.mx/envioboletin/boletin56.htm>

### ***Standards News – Mexico***

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



Press Release  
01/2008

### ***COFETEL will evaluate aspects of the Mobile TV Implantation***

The Federal Commission of Telecommunications will analyze the existing plans and projects to coordinate the service of mobile television in Mexico, in order to get familiar with the standards and technical aspects that will be defined for its operation in our country. Some operating companies have already begun their trial operations.





For more information, please visit:

[http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1\\_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO\\_1\\_08.pdf](http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO_1_08.pdf)

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



Press Release  
02/2008

***Count down for number of mobility starts.***

The Official Mexican Gazette (Diario Oficial de la Federación) published the COFETEL's Operative Specifications that establish the processes, procedures, requirements and general conditions for the mobility implementation. This mechanism will allow the users of a fixed and mobile telephony services to preserve their telephone number when they decide to change their service provider.

[http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1\\_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO\\_2\\_08.pdf](http://www.cft.gob.mx/cofetel/html/1_cft/bol2008/COMUNICADO_2_08.pdf)

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*United States of America*  
*Department of Commerce*

