***NOTES from***
***ICSP and ANSI-GMF Meeting***
***2:15 pm – 5 pm***
***September 23, 2010***

***Crowne Plaza, National Airport***
***Alexandria Room***
***1480 Crystal Drive***
***Arlington VA. 22202***

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*GMF Chair:  Mr. Greg Saunders, DoD      ICSP Chair:  Dr. Belinda Collins, NIST*

*Welcome, introductions, changes to the agenda – Chairs/All*

*Review of GMF Action Items from previous meetings – ANSI Staff*

Availability and affordability of standards, George Gulla, Vice President, ANSI Publications
ANSI provided an overview of its standards publications distribution service.  ANSI can provide customized offerings of standards 'packages' that meet specific industry requirements or cover a particular topic or theme. ANSI offers site licenses or subscription agreements which deliver a large collection of standards from numerous developers either predefined or customer selected, to meet the needs of institutions or user groups.  This arrangement may reduce costs by eliminating redundancy in standards purchasing within an organization.   For additional information, see the ANSI handout.

Bert Coursey noted that DHS worked with ASTM/IEEE to make certain standards available for no charge for emergency response.  DHS negotiated price directly with ASTM/IEEE.

SDO Workshop -  Frances Schrotterr, ANSI
ANSI is working with the SDO community to create a workshop demonstrating ways to make standards available in a more innovative and cost-effective way.  The workshop was discussed with the ANSI Organizational Member Forum (OMF), who is supportive of it.

Update on Presentation re: Costs of US Participation in IEC and ISO, Frances Schrotter, ANSI
ANSI is developing a presentation to make its constituency more aware of the issues and costs associated with leadership in the IEC and ISO. Progress has been made in creating this presentation and one will be ready by the next ICSP/GMF meeting.

*Development of presentation materials which address federal use of and participation in the development of private sector standards – Mr. Greg Saunders, DoD*
Since the last meeting, a small working group gathered to work on the development of presentation materials that would provide a more accurate description of how and where federal agencies are involved in and use voluntary standards.  Many federal agencies, including NIST are frequently in the position of giving presentations on what the USG does in standards to overseas audiences and most agencies don't have readily available examples from across the government.

To guide federal agencies in this exercise, the working group developed the attached questionnaire. Each agency is asked to provide up to five slides describing standards development and use from their agency's point of view.  These slides will be used in compiling flexible and comprehensive presentations customized to audiences.  NIST will provide an introduction discussing the legislative and OMB circular requirements, along with an overview of federal agency engagement.

*Subcommittee on Standards Activities (SOS) – Ajit Jillavenkatesa, NIST*
Still in its formative phase, the SOS was established in April of this year by the National Science and Technology Council's (NSTC) Committee on Technology and is sponsored by CTO Aneesh Chopra, CIO Vivek Kundra, and Phil Weiser, Advisor to the NEC.  The SOS is co-chaired by Pat Gallagher, NIST Director and Carl Shapiro, DOJ.  The SOS's task is to focus on federal agency participation in standards and address issues on interagency cooperation and coordination on a high (agency head) level. They will focus on how federal agencies engage in broad, system-wide issues and participate with the private sector.

A first initiative of the SOS is to develop a play book of case studies.  These case studies will illustrate various models of standards system engagement with attention paid to what worked well, i.e. best practices and areas that have not worked so well.   Initially the playbook will review five technology areas where there has been significant public/private participation involving multiple agencies and requiring interagency coordination.  These are Cybersecurity, Health IT, Emergency Communications for 1$^{st}$ Responders (P-25), Smart Grid and Radiation and Nuclear Detection.  On behalf of the SOS, NIST will publish a Federal Register notice soliciting input into the playbook case studies, within the next several months.  The FR will likely cover five major topics including: motivation, approach, issues, resources, and outcome or lessons learned.

*Charter on the Subcommittee on Standards:  Outreach to Federal departments and agencies represented on the SOS – Ajit Jillavenkatesa, NIST*
Ajit briefly addressed the approved charter for the SOS, how it works, what it does and who is involved.  The charter outlines the functions of both subcommittees with a focus on interagency coordination.  It seeks to ensure participation from all the agencies with ICSP membership as well as those not represented yet but should be involved on some level.  The subcommittee is planning to establish a website presence - perhaps as part of standards.gov or have it reside elsewhere.

*ISO Management Systems Standards alignment – proposed position letter from ICSP – Belinda Collins, NIST*
There was a discussion of the consideration by ISO's Technical Management Board to harmonize language in management system standards (MSSs).  If the TMB would decide to harmonize language by mandating common text in MSSs, the consensus based nature of the MSS may be affected.  This could become problematic for USG adoptions as well as ANS designations. There was discussion of a draft letter from the ICSP to ANSI stating concerns regarding potential ISO TMB action in this regard.

Mary McKiel mentioned that there was a TMB resolution last week regarding the establishment of a task force on management system standards.   There is concern about the proliferation of excessive MSSs.  ANSI will be a member of this task force.  The task force will review and assess all new MSS's however there was no mention in this resolution as to the imposition of mandatory text.

NIST will work with ANSI to make sure the wording is correct and then circulate a draft letter for comment addressing ICSP concerns suggesting a preference for "guidance text" instead of mandatory. At issue is that using mandatory text would be problematic for both the ANS voluntary standards process and government usage.

*New NIST GSI website launched – Erik Puskar, NIST*
NIST's Standards Services group launched a new website in August that covers all information that was on the previous site plus more global news.  The site provides a more intuitive method of classification and is easier to navigate (http://gsi.nist.gov/global/index.cfm).  Visitors may request to receive regular system alerts on personalized interests through a new service hosted by GovDelivery. Visitors can access NotifyUS here as well.  NIST is looking for news, special features, events and press releases to post on the site.  Please forward your items to Mary Donaldson

(mary.donaldson@nist.gov), Nathalie Rioux (nrioux@nist.gov) or any NIST member for consideration.

*Incorporating sustainability into ISO standards – Dr. Mary McKiel, EPA*
The Technical Management Board of ISO has established a Sustainability Guide Drafting Group composed of two delegates per member.  The U.S. representatives are Edwin Pinero with Parsons Corporation, and Mary McKiel as alternate.  The purpose of the guide is to guide standards writers on incorporating sustainability aspects into new standards or into those in review.  The first meeting occurred in London, chaired by Amanda Richardson from British Standards Institute (BSI).  The group is defining its audience, their needs in term of a guide, the scope and intent.   They have created task forces to develop a first draft.  Mary is on two task forces - defining scope and writing of the actual guide, while Ed is leading the one on implementation.

ANSI established a virtual TAG on Sustainability Guidance- Rachel Howenstine (isot@ansi.org) at ANSI is TAG administrator.   Anyone interested in providing input can become part of the ANSI TAG.

*Federal Participation on the ANSI ExSC – Trudie Williams, DoD*
ANSI Executive Standards Council (ExSC) is hoping to increase the participation of federal agencies. The purpose of the ExSC is to provide oversight to committees to accredit developers of ANSs and (ISO) TAG activities.  It's a good way to learn about accreditation, the ANSI Essential Requirements and how they are used to accredit bodies.  See handout for further information. Anne Caldas (acaldas@ansi.org) is the ANSI contact.  Federal agencies already participating include DHS, NIST, CPSC, and DoD.  Greater federal participation will help provide balance to the group reflective of the standards community make-up.

*4.40    Briefing on Congressional activities – Scott Cooper ANSI*
At the last World Standards Week, NIST, ANSI, and ASTM provided "Standards 101" for Capitol Hill staff.  There was good participation of congressional staff.

The Next Generation Battery event on the Hill was a success with participation from public and private sectors including two federal agencies, NASA and Argon Lab, and Johnson Controls and Nissan.  The event provided a demonstration of the path that standards take through the R&D system.

Anti-Counterfeiting Conference – DoD and DOC led the conference with lessons learned,  best practices, and finding ways to work together/communicate better throughout various industry sectors such as electrical, IT, aerospace, and manufacturing. It was an example of how the public sector's sharing of lessons learned can have a positive influence on the practices of the private sector.

Upcoming events involving standards include Accessibility (20th anniversary of the Disability Act), and financial management of cyber risk.  These are examples of how private sector initiatives serve public policy goals.

Legislation of standards interest:
- FDA Food Safety Modernization Act did not pass.  Mike Taylor will speak at next ANSI caucus and will provide a post mortem of the FDA legislation and what can be done internally at FDA to address some of the issues.  During the legislative process, various interest groups came together (consumer, industry, chamber of commerce, etc) in support of legislation that could help provide certainty and competitive advantage to the industry.
- The American Competes Act also did not pass.  This legislation provided for additional R&D funding for NIST and also included language that referenced conformity assessment, private sector initiatives.

*4:50    Updates from Participants, All*

Two questions were raised from the floor regarding the SOS:
1. Will intellectual property rights (IPR) questions they be a part of the FRN?
2. The SOS Charter refers to a FACA, is that still going to happen?

Ajit responded that there will likely be IPR questions in the notice although there is not a separate working group to address IPR issues. As to the FACA, the Charter does discuss this, and the intent is to have a mechanism for participation and input, but no final decisions have been made.

Joe Bhatia mentioned that ANSI has requested a meeting of its IPR Policy Committee and the SOS. The meeting was accepted, and ANSI is hoping that the meeting will go forward. ANSI will send a formal communication to the SOS requesting this meeting.

Updates from ICSP agencies:
Michael Fitzmaurice – HHS Agency for Health Care Research and Quality (AHRQ): Mr. Fitzmaurice manages the Metadata registry http://ushik.ahrq.gov/. This registry contains the data elements from standards adopted by the HHS Secretary. These data elements support HIPPA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), Federal Consolidated Health Informatics within federal agencies such as DoD, VA, HHS, and ANSI's HITSP (IT and HITSP (Health Information Technology Standards Panel). ARHQ is now working with ASC X12 and the states to improve the uniformity and computerization of health data. The ARHQ registry is open to the public.

Tim Kline provided an update of development in DOT Intelligent Transportation System standards for surface transportation safety, including efforts at international harmonization of standards. Last year DOT concluded a government-to government agreement with the European Commission regarding standards on intelligent transport systems. It is working on a specific agreement with ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute) and is close to an agreement with the MLIT (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism) in Japan. Per Belinda, DOT has funded many private sector standards developers to work on intelligent transportation standards, and has had success in getting some of them adopted in specific countries and could lead to one ISO standards in this sector. This is an example of how the government supports development of standards needed to underpin innovative technology.

Greg Saunders – There are rumors that DoD is reactivating military specifications (milspecs) in place of voluntary standards and some milspec standards will likely be reactivated in specific areas (e.g., systems safety, configuration management). Also in some cases they may use voluntary consensus standards with a very minimal military standard supplement to strengthen contracts. There is no desire at a high level of going back to the old model of mil specs.

Questions from observers:
Susan Hoyler – Qualcomm: mentioned when the SOS Federal Register Notice was published, she anticipates that there will be a barrage of comments. Does NIST have a preference if the comments/case studies come from groups, or from individual companies or organizations?

Per Ajit - Anyone can provide comments or case studies. We are preparing for barrage of case studies, comments and questions when the FRN is published.

*5:00   Adjourn*