

## **Global Perspectives and Strategies for Education about Standardization Workshop Sponsors**

### **American National Standards Institute (ANSI)**

As the voice of the U.S. standards and conformity assessment system, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) empowers its members and constituents to strengthen the U.S. marketplace position in the global economy while helping to assure the safety and health of consumers and the protection of the environment.

The Institute oversees the creation, promulgation and use of thousands of norms and guidelines that directly impact businesses in nearly every sector: from acoustical devices to construction equipment, from dairy and livestock production to energy distribution, and many more. ANSI is also actively engaged in accrediting programs that assess conformance to standards – including globally-recognized cross-sector programs such as the ISO 9000 (quality) and ISO 14000 (environmental) management systems.

ANSI's mission is to enhance both the global competitiveness of U.S. business and the U.S. quality of life by promoting and facilitating voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems, and safeguarding their integrity.

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### **ASTM International**

Organized in 1898, ASTM International is one of the largest voluntary standards development organizations in the world. ASTM International, originally known as the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), is a not-for-profit private organization that provides a forum for the development and publication of voluntary consensus standards for materials, products, systems, and services.

Today, more than 30,000 volunteer members develop documents that serve as a basis for manufacturing, procurement, and regulatory activities. These members come together under the ASTM umbrella from over 125 countries, mirroring the international marketplaces they serve. Representing industry, consumers, governments, and academia, ASTM's global membership is comprised of the world's top scientists, engineers, and business leaders. ASTM member's efforts result in high-quality, market-relevant standards that truly connect to the global marketplace and solve real problems in real time.

Membership in ASTM International is open at various levels for professionals, corporations, and organizations. ASTM also established a student membership category in 2003 and now has over 2500 student members. In

addition, ASTM provides professors and instructors with valuable tools, resources and information to help make standards a key component of their teaching curriculum.

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### **International Committee for Education about Standardization (ICES)**

*Companies as well as standards bodies need well-educated standardization experts. Standardization processes should keep up with the times. Who will progress the theory and practice of standardization? Will universities provide us with such people? My dream is that we cooperate to promote education about standardization and manage its realization.* John Hill, Standards Manager of Sun Microsystems.

To help realize this dream, John Hill took the initiative to meet up with invited experts on 'The Future of Global Education in Standards' in Tokyo, February 6-8 2006. This meeting, which was hosted by CSK, ITSCJ and Sun Microsystems, turned out to be very fruitful. Several interesting education projects were presented. A salient point that came out of the meeting was that education about standardization is increasingly catching the attention of national governments (standardization education as an important strategic-economic asset), in particular in some Asian countries.

We therefore agreed to pursue the initiative and to meet yearly under the name of the International Committee for Education about Standardization (ICES).

**International Committee for Education about Standardization (ICES)**  
**Web site: [www.standards-education.org](http://www.standards-education.org)**