

ACIL

ACIL

American Council of Independent Laboratories

March 22, 2011

NIST GSO Workshop

- Founded in 1937
- 150 Members (over 1000 facilities)
- Represents:
 - Testing laboratories
 - Product certifiers
 - Manufacturer's labs
 - R&D firms
 - Consultants and suppliers

Membership Sections

- Conformity Assessment
- Environmental Sciences
- Food Sciences
- Construction Materials, Engineering and Testing

Conformity Assessment in the U.S.

In the U.S. product safety is ensured through the efforts of both the public and private sectors.

Public

OSHA products in the workplace
FCC products connected to the network
CPSC consumer products
NHTSA highway vehicles
FAA air travel
FDA medical devices, pharma, food
Coast Guard marine safety
MSHA mining safety
Customs import safety
DOE energy efficiency
EPA energy efficiency, water

Private

Accredited NRTLs
Accredited TCBs
Accredited certifiers and labs
Accredited labs
Accredited certifiers, labs, registrars
Accredited certifiers and labs
Accredited certifiers and labs

Market Access in the U.S.

- Regulations developed in **open, transparent** system with opportunity for **public comment**
- WTO/TBT principles of **National Treatment** for conformity assessment bodies followed
- Reliance on **ISO/IEC standards for accreditation** of conformity assessment bodies
- Reliance on **private sector conformity assessment bodies** by regulators leverages resources, and provides efficient market access for compliant products
- Increasing reliance on **IECEE CB Scheme**
- Reliance on **private sector standards**

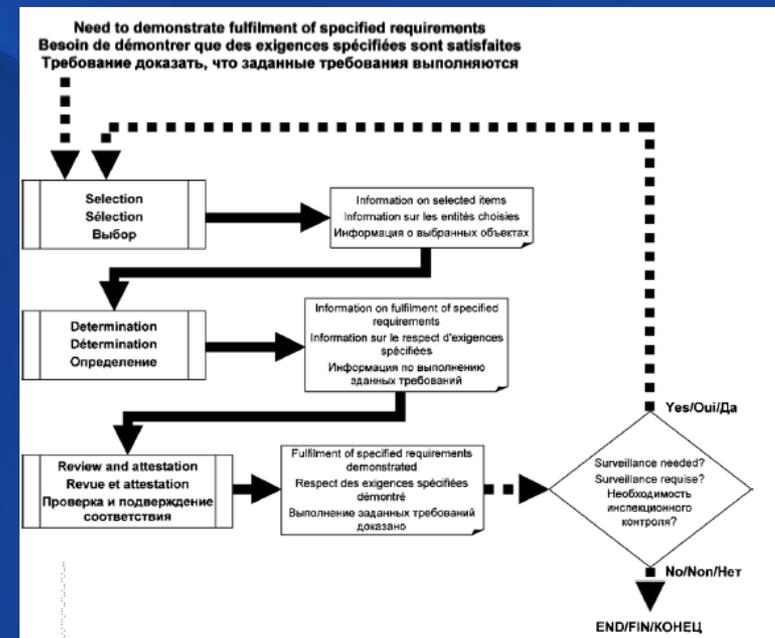
Conformity Assessment Defined

Source: ISO/IEC 17000

“demonstration that specified requirements relating to a product, process, system, person or body are fulfilled”

Includes activities such as:

- Testing
- Inspection
- Certification
- Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies



A Balanced Approach to Conformity Assessment

Consensus Standards

Industry
Consumers
Authorities
Certifiers
Interested Parties

Threshold of
Safety

Assessment and Certification

Verification of
Conformity to the
Standard
Factory Pre-
Inspection &
Approval

Ensuring
Safety Entering
the Market

Ongoing Factory Surveillance

Verification That
Product "As Built"
Conforms to the
Approval

Avoid
Adulteration

Post Market Surveillance

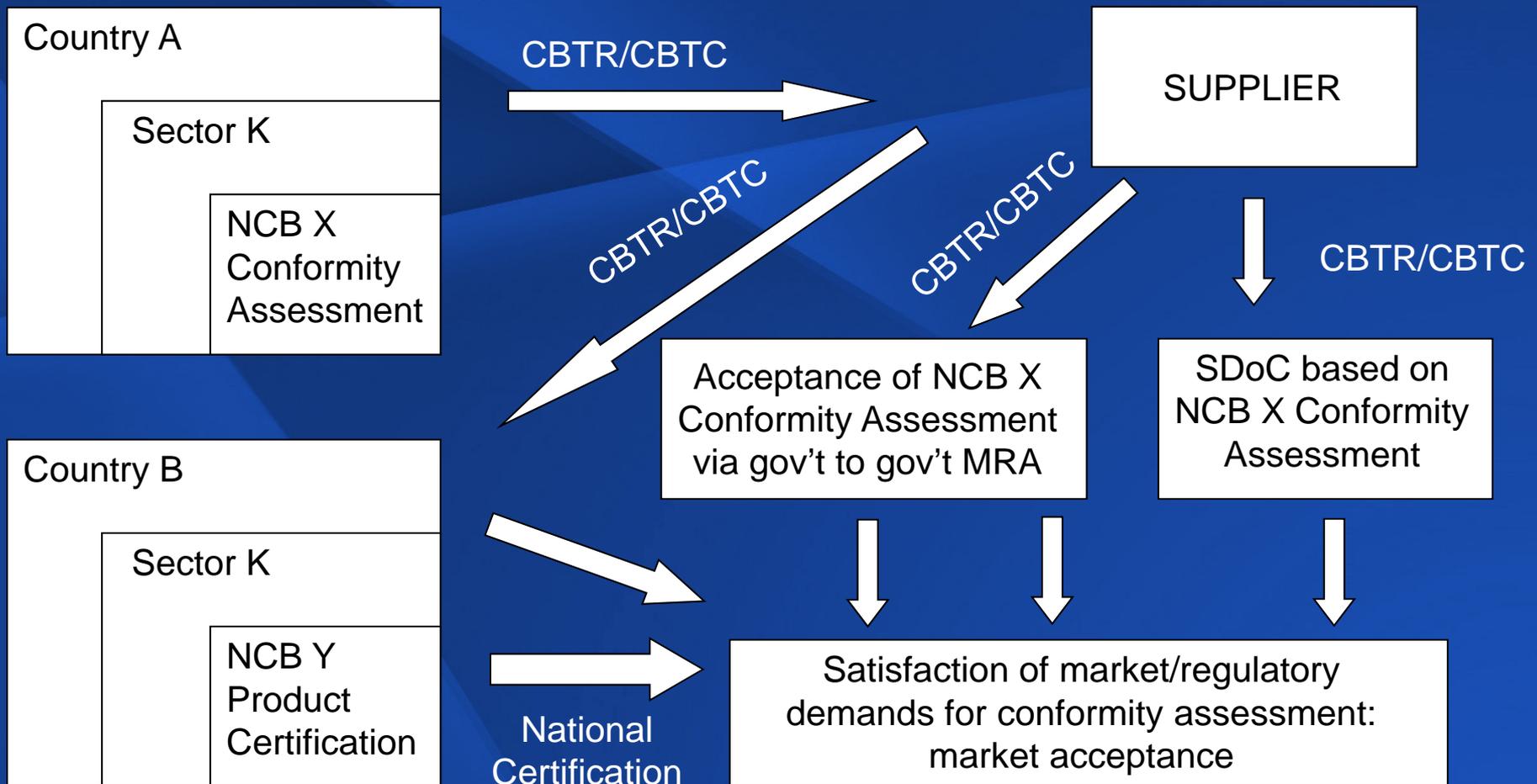
Random Purchase
at Retail and
Verification Testing
Anti-Counterfeiting
Communications
with Authorities

Monitor Real-
Life Outcomes

Drivers of Conformity Assessment



Example: Assessment and Certification Transportable Conformity Assessmentsm



Joan Sterling

Director, Government Relations
Intertek

joan.sterling@intertek.com

Member:

- ACIL Conformity Assessment Executive Committee
- ACIL Government Relations Committee

Steven Margis

Director, International Certification Programs

Underwriters Laboratories

Steven.T.Margis@us.ul.com