

Fundamentals of Standards and Conformity Assessment

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SPEAKER BIOS

David Alderman

Mr. Alderman leads standards coordination and conformity activities within Standards Services, Standards Coordination Office at NIST. He addresses NIST's responsibilities under the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) which calls for NIST to coordinate Federal, State, and local technical standards activities and conformity assessment activities, with the private sector, with the goal of eliminating unnecessary duplication and complexity.

Prior to that, David was with the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) for 14 years. He initially served as the Program Manager for NVLAP's largest program, where he was responsible for the accreditation of over 600 asbestos testing laboratories. In 1994 he was named the Deputy Chief of NVLAP responsible for managing the day-to-day operations while also serving as the Program Manager for NVLAP's Fasteners and Metals Program. In October of 1999, he was named the Chief of NVLAP.

Amy Bunk

Ms. Bunk is the Director of Legal Affairs and Policy for the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration where she provides legal support to staff who review documents submitted for publication in the Federal Register and codification in the Code of Federal Regulations. She coordinates the regulations drafting program of the office and directs preparation of instructional materials.

She received her JD cum laude from Syracuse University College of Law. Amy is admitted to practice in New York.

Gordon Gillerman

Gordon Gillerman is Chief of Standards Services at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) coordinates and advises federal agencies, U.S. industry and other stakeholders on standards and conformity assessment policy. Standards Services operates the U.S. Inquiry Point for the World Trade Organization's Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement and is a key information source for US industry on standards related market access issues.

Gordon has extensive experience coordinating standards policy and development across a wide range of critical issues in the U.S. including cloud computing, health IT, homeland security, safety, health and protection of the environment.

Gordon is the Public Sector Co-Chair of the American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) Homeland Security Standards Panel, an expert on conformity assessment systems and their nexus with regulatory and trade issues and a sought after lecturer on standards, conformity assessment and regulation.

Prior experience include leading government affairs for the largest U.S. product safety certification and standard development organization, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) in Washington, DC, and Staff Engineer for the medical device and information technology sectors at UL's Northbrook, IL headquarters.

Gordon has worked collaboratively within the standards community to enhance health, safety, the environment and security throughout his career. In 2008 he received an Environmental Protection Agency Gold Medal, a Department of Commerce Bronze Medal and the ANSI Meritorious Service Award. In 2010 Gordon received a Department of Commerce Gold Medal for leadership in enhancing the performance standards and certification program for law enforcement body armor and EPA's Award for Outstanding Leadership in Collaborative Problem-Solving for his work in guiding the development of a Green Clean-Up standard. In 2012 Gordon received the ANSI Gerald H. Ritterbusch Conformity Assessment Medal.

Gordon received a Bachelor's Degree BSEET from Bradley University in Peoria, IL.

Pat Harris

Pat Harris is an International Standards Specialist in the NIST's Standards Coordination Office. She brings to SCO extensive experience in the standards development arena at the national and international levels, having managed an ANSI-accredited standards setting organization and the secretariat for an ISO Subcommittee. Through this hands-on experience she has gained valuable insights into standards development processes and systems. She has also engaged in a number of standards activities that have demonstrated the value of standardization to enabling innovations in information technology, including standardization of the file structures for the CD-ROM and eBooks. Currently her duties include participating on the team representing U.S. standards interests to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

Ms. Harris is a graduate of the Randolph Macon Woman's College, holds an M.S. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and currently serves on the Board of Visitors to the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science.

Ileana Martinez

Ileana Martinez is an International Affairs Advisor in the Standards Coordination Office at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). She also serves as International Affairs Advisor to the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) at NIST and is President of the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC).

Ms. Martinez has expertise in the U.S. approach to standards, regulations, conformity assessment, laboratory accreditation, as well as in the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (Public Law 104-96), U.S. trade obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement (TBT), the U.S. Inquiry Point, and related topics.

From 1996 through 2000, she served as the NIST Regional Standards Attaché at the U.S. Embassies in Buenos Aires, Argentina and in Brasilia, Brazil, with standards-related responsibilities for South America, seeking to reduce technical barriers to trade in the region. Ms. Martinez earlier worked as a Standards Engineer in a variety of industrial sectors for both U.S. and overseas organizations gaining hands-on experience in national, regional and international standardization and conformity assessment activities.

Ms. Martinez earned a bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and did graduate work at American University in Washington, D.C. in Science/Technology Policy.

Erik Puskar

Erik Puskar leads global standards information activities within Standards Services, Standards Coordination Office at NIST.

Erik provides technical information related to standards and supports Federal agencies by monitoring developments in standards and conformity assessment internationally. Erik also leads SSG's impact analysis efforts of voluntary consensus standards as well as NIST's efforts on education about standardization. He is a member of the ANSI Committee on Education and represents NIST on the International Cooperation for Education about Standardization (ICES).

In addition to standards, he has experience in the fields of information technology, funding innovative high-risk technology and fiscal affairs/taxation. Previous to SSD, Erik was a program manager with the Advanced Technology Program (now Technology Innovation Program) of NIST and has held other positions with the U.S. Government, international development organizations, and consulting.

Erik holds a degree in Economics from Rutgers University and a Masters Degree in Public Management and Policy from Carnegie-Mellon University.

Ramona Saar

Ramona Saar manages the NVCASE (National Voluntary Conformity Assessment Systems Evaluation) Program administered by NIST within Standards Services. In this capacity, Ramona works directly with U.S. accreditation bodies seeking to be evaluated and recognized by NIST/NVCASE for compliance with ISO/IEC 17011 in the two existing sub-programs for telecommunications and organic production/processing.

Additionally, Ramona manages the NIST Designating Authority responsibilities under the Telecommunications Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA) between U.S. government and many other countries/economies. Ramona works with U.S. laboratories and certification bodies that are seeking to be designated by NIST and recognized by the regulatory agencies of the foreign MRA partners so that telecom products can be tested and/or certified in the U.S prior to export. She also manages the designation of U.S.

TCBs (Telecommunication Certification Bodies) to the FCC and the evaluation of U.S. laboratory accreditation bodies to be used under the telecom MRAs. Ramona participates in the negotiations to further expand implementation of the telecom trade agreements with other economies, working closely with USTR and the FCC.

Ramona began her career in conformity assessment in 1991, working for the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA). While at A2LA, Ramona managed the day-to-day accreditation process activities and also participated in assessing the compliance of the laboratories to the applicable quality system requirements of ISO/IEC 17025. As Quality Manager, she oversaw the organization's compliance with ISO/IEC 17011 and managed several international peer evaluations conducted by APLAC and EA. In 2003, Ramona joined the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), located in Washington, D.C., where she managed the day-to-day activities of performance standards development and product certification. She also worked on key technical and regulatory appliance issues with the DOE (minimum efficiency standards) and the EPA (air cleaners & Energy Star).