

Fundamentals of Standards and Conformity Assessment for Government Agencies

June 22, 2015

SPEAKER BIOS

David Alderman

David 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.

Mary Jo DiBernardo

Ms. DiBernardo is responsible for the management, design, development, and delivery of the Standards Services standards and conformity assessment training program for government agencies. She also manages the Standards Services Curricula Development Cooperative Agreement Program, which provides support for the development of undergraduate and graduate curriculum designed to integrate standards and standardization information and content into courses, seminars, and learning resources.

Prior to this, Ms. DiBernardo was responsible for NIST's implementation of the U.S.-EU Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for Electromagnetic Compatibility and Telecommunications Equipment and the Organization of American States Inter-American Telecommunications Commission MRA. She also served as the NIST lead for negotiating the U.S.-Japan MRA for Telecommunications Equipment. She worked extensively under the National Voluntary Conformity Assessment System Evaluation Program on NIST's recognition of U.S. accreditation bodies and has been trained as an

ISO 9001 Lead Assessor. Before joining NIST, Ms. DiBernardo was the Director for Conformity Assessment at ACIL, the American Council of Independent Laboratories. She represented the laboratory community on issues involving testing, certification, and accreditation.

Ms. DiBernardo has a MPA and BA from the State University of New York at Albany, a certificate in International Studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, and a certificate in Negotiation and Dispute Resolution from Georgetown University's Center for Professional Development. Ms. DiBernardo was the first recipient of the American National Standards Institute's Next Generation Award in 2004 and graduated from NIST's Building the Next Generation leadership program in 2006.

Roger Butturini

Roger Butturini is the Technical Advisor to the Coast Guard Headquarters Office of Standards Evaluation and Development, Project Management Division. He is also a member of the U.S. Delegation to the International Maritime Organization Facilitation Committee and has represented the U.S. at the World Customs Organization and the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and E-Business.

Mr. Butturini has expertise in standards development, incorporating standards in regulations, and the U.S. Government's standards development policies expressed in the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act and OMB Circular A-119, Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities. He has written standards, served as Secretariat for an ISO Technical Committee, conducted training on standards development, and helped develop the Coast Guard policy on participation in standards development.

Mr. Butturini served on active duty in the Coast Guard from 1973 to 1997 and from 2004 to 2008, on board Coast Guard ships and in the marine safety, security, and environmental stewardship program. He also worked in the private sector applying standards to ship design and outfitting, and developing standards for groundbreaking hydrokinetic power generation technology.

Mr. Butturini earned a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and a Masters Degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from the University of Michigan. He is also a registered professional mechanical engineer in the Virginia and a certified project management professional.

Sheng Lin-Gibson

Dr. Sheng Lin-Gibson is the Deputy Chief of the NIST Biosystems and Biomaterials Division and the Leader of the Biomaterials Group. Currently, she serves as a Convener of ISO/TC 276: Biotechnology as well as the Chair of the corresponding US Technical Advisory Group (TAG). Prior to TC276 responsibilities, Sheng was the DoC representative of the US TAG to ISO/TC 106: Dentistry and chaired several Working Groups.

Gordon Gillerman

Gordon Gillerman is Acting Director of the Standards Coordination Office and Chief of Standards Services at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). He 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 also 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.

Ajit Jillavenkatesa

Dr. Ajit Jillavenkatesa is a Senior Standards Policy Adviser with the Standards Coordination and Program Coordination offices at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Ajit specializes in standards and technology related policy issues in South Asia, Asia-Pacific with a particular focus on China, Japan and India; and in emerging technologies such as nanotechnology and information and communication technologies. He provides standards policy and technical expertise to NIST staff and leadership, the U.S. Department of Commerce, other U.S. Government agencies and the private sector. He is currently the Executive Secretary of the Subcommittee on Standards, a subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council's Committee on Technology.

An active participant in international standards development activities, he actively contributes technology standards expertise to intra- and inter- governmental groups, bridging the worlds of standards, technology, international trade and regulatory policy.

He has also provided standards policy expertise to the House Committee on Science and Technology during a detail to the Committee in 2010, and was a resource to Committee staff during the development and reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act, signed into law as the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L.111-358).

Dr. Jillavenkatesa is a materials scientist by training, having joined NIST in 1997 as a post-doctoral fellow, with a Ph.D. in Ceramics from Alfred University in New York. He has authored and co-authored books and peer reviewed publications related to physical and chemical characterization of materials. He received the American National Standards Institute's Next Generation Award in 2008, and U.S. Department of Commerce Silver Medal in 2013 and the Department's Bronze Medals in 2009 and 2011.

Dorian A. LaFond

Dr. LaFond has more than 20 years' experience in various aspects of agriculture - from production planning/crop selection to retail placement, temperate and tropical agriculture systems – all mainly focused on the international agricultural trade and export market.

In 2002, he joined USDA/AMS as the International Standards Coordinator for the Agricultural Marketing Service Fruit and Vegetable Programs and serves as the U.S. delegate to the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables; the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables; the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs; United Nations Economic Commission Economic Commission for Europe Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables; United Nations Economic Commission Economic Commission for Europe Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (which he has been Chair of since 2007); and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Working Party 7 on Agricultural Quality Standards.

Dorian works regularly with several U.S. governmental agencies on international agricultural trade and development issues using his practical knowledge on international standards, and developing countries issues on international agricultural trade.

Dorian holds degrees in:

- Associates of Arts in Practical Agriculture
- BSc in Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness, and
- PhD in International Business

After graduating in 1988, Dorian went back to his home country, Dominica, and worked for a decade on agricultural trade and export development related issues for the Caribbean, Africa, and Pacific countries.

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.

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About the Facilitator

Arjan Widlak

For more than twelve years Arjan was responsible for IT projects for various governments with his company United Knowledge, of which he is founder and CEO. United Knowledge is an ICT and consultancy firm and an established game-developer. Arjan is a consultant and trainer and has developed many serious games concerning complex decision making for businesses and governments in various countries.

Arjan has a background in political science and is an expert on the political-economic aspects of standardization. For many years he has been fascinated by mechanisms on the edge of law and economics that in many ways shape our society.

Arjan has contracted with NIST in the past to offer the course, *Setting Standards: Exercise in Strategy and Cooperation in Standardization Process*, and his broad experience in this highly specific area, where didactic theory meets standards management, has been met by participants with great enthusiasm.