

International Standards and Trade



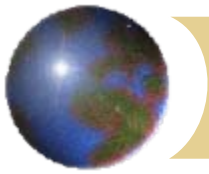
INTERNATIONAL

Standards Worldwide

Strategic Standardization
Catholic University of
America

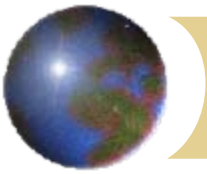
July 9, 2008

Jim Thomas, President
ASTM International



Today's Presentation...

- ASTM Overview
- US Standards System and US Government's Role
- Standards as Tools of Trade
- Case Study
- Closing summary

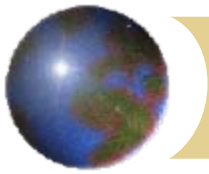


ASTM International – An Overview

International standards development organization




- ❑ Organized in 1898
- ❑ The largest U.S.-based standards developer
- ❑ Non-governmental, not-for-profit organization



What is a Standard?

- Technical document developed by consensus

	Designation: F 963 – 07 ^{ε1}	An American National Standard
Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety¹		
<small>This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 963; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.</small>		
<small>^{ε1} Note—Paragraphs 4.39.1 and 5.17 were editorially corrected in June 2007.</small>		
INTRODUCTION		
<p>The purpose of this consumer safety specification is to establish nationally recognized safety requirements for toys. Although this specification will not eliminate the need for the exercise of parental responsibility in selecting toys appropriate to the age of a child, or parental supervision in situations in which children of various ages may have access to the same toys, its application will minimize accidents in the normal, intended use and reasonably foreseeable abuse of the toys covered by this specification. This specification was developed originally as a Voluntary Product Standard</p>		



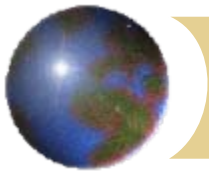
Types of ASTM Standards

- Test Method
- Specification
- Practice
- Guide
- Classification
- Terminology

**Form and Style
for
ASTM Standards**



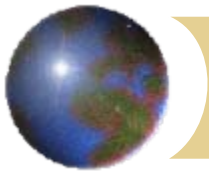
March 2008



ASTM International Standards Development Process

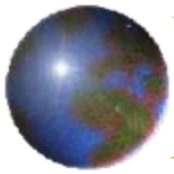
- Provides a management system for the development of voluntary, consensus standards
- Does not provide certification, testing or accreditation services (commonly called “conformity assessment”)





ASTM Objectives

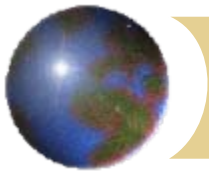
- Promote public health and safety, and the overall quality of life;
- Contribute to the reliability of materials, products, systems and services; and
- Facilitate national, regional, and international commerce.



ASTM Technical Committees

- Over 130 technical committees
 - Consumer Products
 - Steel
 - Petroleum
 - Construction/Building Materials & Products
 - Plastics
 - Paint
 - Textiles
 - Environmental
 - Medical Devices
 - Many, many more

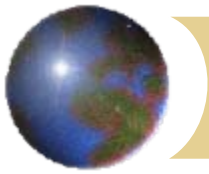




U.S. Standardization in General

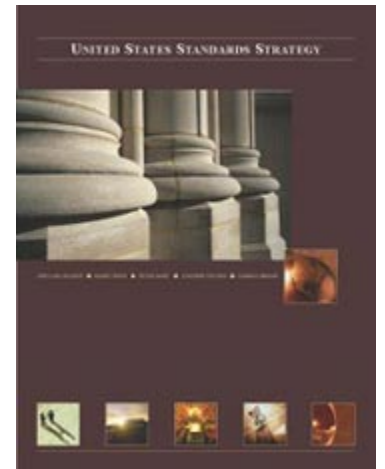


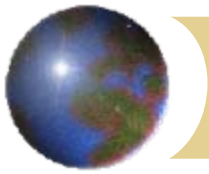
- No single organization, public or private, controls the U.S. standards development system
- In the U.S. we recognize multiple methods of standards development (600 developers)
- The system is coordinated - publicly and privately
- The U.S. system is unregulated, market-oriented and diverse



U.S. Standards Strategy

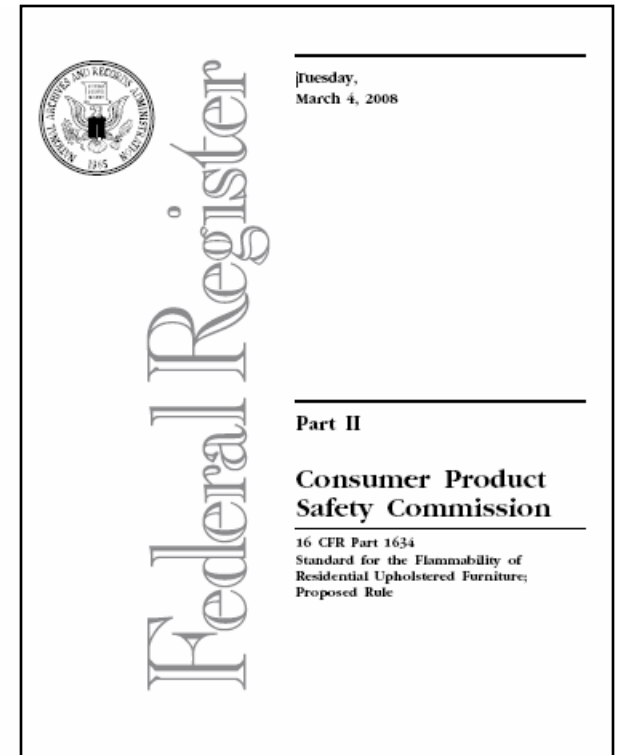
- Developed first in 2000 and revised in 2005
- Facilitated by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
- Common vision for national and international standardization

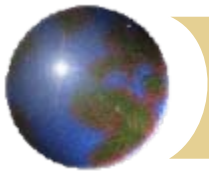




U.S. Federal Regulation

- The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

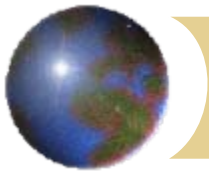




Support and Mandate for Government Participation

- *"...all Federal agencies and departments shall use technical standards that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies, using such technical standards as a means to carry out policy objectives or activities determined by the agencies and departments....and shall, when such participation is in the public interest...participate with such bodies in the development of technical standards."*

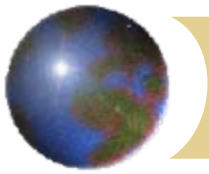
- *P.L. 104-113 National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTAA)*



U.S. Government Participation and use of ASTM Standards

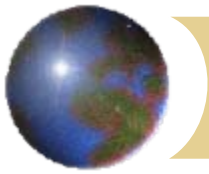
- ***US Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)***
 - 6,500 voluntary consensus standards incorporated by reference in federal law
 - More than 3,000 ASTM standards listed in CFR

- **U.S. Government is a partner and key stakeholder in ASTM International**
 - Broad range of federal agencies represented on ASTM committees
 - Government participants serve in leadership roles on ASTM Board of Directors



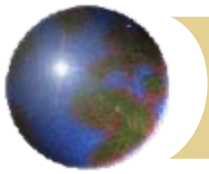
ASTM and NATO

- NATO Standardization Agency (NSA)
 - STANAGS - **STAN**dardization **AG**reements **S** among NATO Nations to a standard
- Technical Cooperation Agreement
 - Signed March 2005 between ASTM International and NSA



International Standards

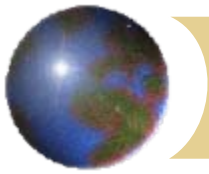
- The World Trade Organization's (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Annex defines international Standards Development Organizations (SDO) as those complying with certain principles
- ASTM supports industry's need to choose the best standard, regardless of the source



International Standards

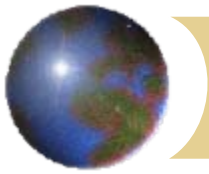
WTO / TBT Principles	ASTM Principles
<p>Transparency</p> <p>Openness</p> <p>Impartiality and consensus</p> <p>Effectiveness and relevance</p> <p>Coherence</p> <p>Consideration of developing nations</p>	<p>Transparency</p> <p>Openness</p> <p>Impartiality and Consensus</p> <p>Effectiveness and relevance</p> <p>Coherence</p> <p>Consideration of developing nations</p>





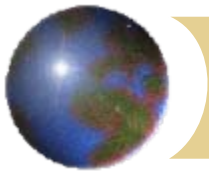
The International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

- ISO
 - Established in 1947
 - Headquartered in Geneva
 - an SDO with a national member body orientation
 - Consists of 146 national member bodies; 186 TCs
- ASTM's Relationship (coopetition)
 - Over 215 TAGs and 30 ISO secretariats housed in ASTM committees
 - ASTM members serve as U.S. experts, TC and SC chairs, and secretaries



ASTM Int'l and ISO

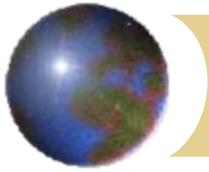
- Both int'l standards developers
- Different standards systems
- Industries need to develop a standards strategy that meets their needs
 - ▣ Minimize duplication
 - ▣ Harmonize where possible
 - ▣ Respect intellectual property
 - ▣ Allocate resources to meet standardization goals
- May be multiple paths in an industry's standards strategy



Global Use and Application

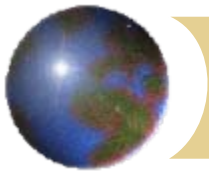
- Over 75 nations utilize ASTM standards in their regulations or as the basis of their national standards
 - China – 454
 - Colombia – 806
 - Egypt – 217
 - South Africa - 348





Why is ASTM International?

- Meets the WTO's TBT principles
- More than 3000 standards adopted or used as the basis for national standards in 75 countries
- More than 3000 technical committee participants from 130 countries
- Almost 50% of ASTM's sales are outside the US

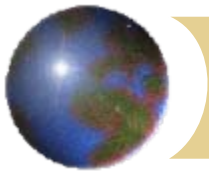


Rules of Trade

- World Trade Organization (WTO)
 - Established in 1995 to deal with the rules of trade between nations at a global or near-global level.
 - From 1948 to 1994, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) provided the rules for much of world trade

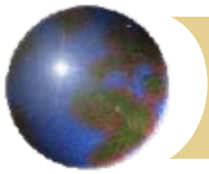
WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION





Rules of Trade

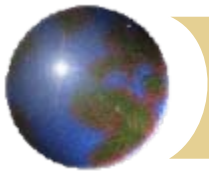
- WTO – Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement (1995)
 - Prohibits use of regulations, standards, and conformity assessment (technical measures) as barriers to trade
 - When technical measures are more trade restrictive than needed to fulfill a legitimate policy objective



Standards as Key Components of Trade

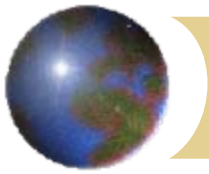
● TBT Inquiry Point

- Each WTO member is required to report to the WTO Secretariat in Geneva, proposed central government regulations and provide a 60 day comment period to allow other WTO members to review and comment on the proposal.
- National Center for Standards and Certification Information



Free Trade Agreements

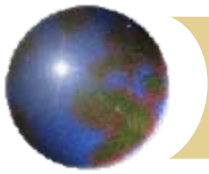
- Help level the international playing field and encourage foreign governments to adopt open and transparent rulemaking procedures, as well as non-discriminatory laws and regulations
- Eliminate tariffs, quotas and preferences on most (if not all) goods between them



Morocco Free Trade Agreement, 1/1/06

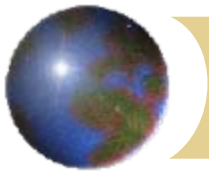
ARTICLE 7.3: INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

In determining whether an international standard, guide, or recommendation within the meaning of Articles 2 and 5 and Annex 3 of the TBT Agreement exists, each Party shall apply the principles set out in *Decisions and Recommendations adopted by the Committee since 1 January 1995, G/TBT/1/Rev.8, 23 May 2002, Section IX (Decision of the Committee on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations with relation to Articles 2, 5 and Annex 3 of the Agreement)*, issued by the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade.



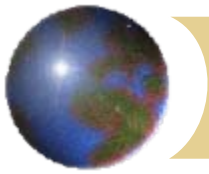
Case Study - Introduction

- Biodiesel Standards in Zimbabwe
 - Zimbabwe is addressing the need for sustainable fuel production and the need to empower local farmers by turning to ASTM International standards
 - Since 2002, the country has unrolled an extensive program promoting research about biodiesel made from the oil of seeds produced by locally grown *Jatropha* plants



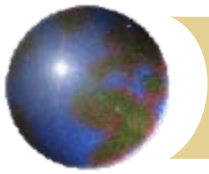
Case Study - Approach

- Zimbabwe's Technical Committee CH20 initiated a program calling for extensive research to characterize biodiesel blends made from *Jatropha*, adapting ASTM D 6751, Specification for Biodiesel Fuel Blend Stock (B100) for Middle Distillate Fuels, which uses soybeans as its basis



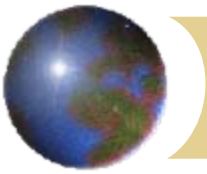
Case Study - Outcome

- Planting Jatropha for biodiesel production has become a viable business in Zimbabwe, and similar initiatives elsewhere have gained widespread acceptance.
- The crops have helped to reduce poverty levels and improve rural employment, creating thousands of jobs.



Summary/Conclusion

- Standards are key documents for trade
- ASTM standards are international standards that are used globally
- The WTO defines the principles of international standards
- ASTM is committed to the concept of multiple paths to international standards



INTERNATIONAL

Standards Worldwide

Questions?