

# **Fundamentals of Standards and Conformity Assessment for Government Agencies**

**March 1, 2017**

## **SPEAKER BIOS**

### **David Alderman**

David Alderman is currently a senior advisor with the NIST Standards Coordination Office (SCO), supporting the Director and staff to carry out the many functions of SCO from laboratory accreditation to assisting federal agencies meet their mission.

In 2002, David was selected to lead standards coordination and conformity activities within the Standards Coordination Office at NIST. While there, he was responsible for NIST's responsibilities under the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA), conformity assessment obligations under EMC/Telecom Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), and the operation of the National Voluntary Conformity Assessment Systems Evaluation (NVCASE) Program.

After a 5-year stint in the U.S. Navy, David joined the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) in 1988. He initially served as the Program Manager for NVLAP's largest program, where he was responsible for the accreditation of over 800 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 promoted to the position of Chief of NVLAP.

### **Clare Allocca**

Clare Allocca is the Senior Advisor for Planning and Outreach in the Standards Coordination Office (SCO) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). She is focused on using her measurement and standards needs assessment expertise to maximize the customer impact of SCO tools and services. She is also the Administrator of the US TAG to ISO/TC276 Biotechnology, and the Secretary of ISO/TC276/WG3 Analytical Methods.

Clare's previous positions at NIST include Chief of the US Measurement System Office, Director of the Foundations for Innovation program, Senior Scientific Advisor to the NIST Material Science and Engineering Laboratory, and Program Manager for Advanced Materials and Manufacturing in the Advanced Technology Program. She has 28 years of experience in the conduct of advanced materials and manufacturing, surface engineering, standards, and measurement technology R&D; program management; strategic planning; customer engagement; and process development/implementation.

Clare holds Bachelor of Science Degrees in Materials Science and Engineering and Geochemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; a Master of Science Degree in Ceramic Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and an Executive Master of Science Degree in the Management of Technology from the University of Pennsylvania (Wharton Business School / School of Engineering). She also holds a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification. Before joining NIST, she was a Senior Materials Engineer for Pratt & Whitney, engaged in the development of advanced ceramic composites for jet engines.

### **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.

### **Mary Donaldson**

Ms. Donaldson serves as the NIST contact for standards-related issues arising out of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) and OMB Circular A-119. She is responsible for preparing the annual report to OMB on use of voluntary consensus standards in government procurement and regulation, and serves as Executive Secretary for the Interagency Committee on Standards Policy (ICSP). Ms. Donaldson is responsible for the content of a government web portable that supports the use of standards in government ([www.standards.gov](http://www.standards.gov)). She serves on the ANSI Executive Standards Council, the ANSI Government Member Forum and represents NIST to the ANSI ISO Council.

Prior to joining NIST, Ms. Donaldson was a Senior Economist at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) where she conducted regulatory analyses of proposed Commission actions. Ms. Donaldson began her career with the US Army Laboratory Command where she served as the agency project manager for a program which evaluated foreign developments in science and technology. Ms. Donaldson received her BS in Agronomy and MS in Agriculture and Resource Economics from the University of Maryland.

### **Gordon Gillerman**

Gordon Gillerman, Director, Standards Coordination Office at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) leads NIST's work in standards coordination including the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program. Gordon coordinates and advises federal agencies and other stakeholders on standards and conformity assessment policy. The Standards Coordination Office is the NIST focal point for federal government standards coordination, administers the NIST Standards Curricula Development Cooperative Agreement Program, 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 leads NIST's work with federal agencies to develop standards and conformity assessment policy and programs

Gordon has extensive standards experience across a wide range of critical issues including homeland security, safety, health and protection of the environment. Gordon is an expert on conformity assessment systems system design and a sought after lecturer on standards, conformity assessment and regulation and their nexus with regulatory and trade issues and. Gordon has collaborated across the standards community to enhance health, safety, the environment and security throughout his career.

Prior experience includes 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. In 2013 he received the Department of Commerce Silver Medal for leadership in opening access to China's compulsory certification system to U.S. certification organizations. Gordon is also a Society of Standards (SES) Professionals Fellow.

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

## **Patricia Gleason**

Patricia Gleason currently serves as President of the Safety Equipment Institute (SEI), a subsidiary of ASTM International. She has over 25 years' experience in the standards and conformity assessment industry. In this position, Ms. Gleason currently serves as Chairman of Board of the American National Accreditation Board (ANAB).

SEI operates ISO/IEC 17065 accredited certification programs for over 60 types of safety and protective products used and by millions of workers in the fire & emergency services industry and by recreational consumers of sports and athletic equipment. SEI has recently become a subsidiary organization of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

Ms. Gleason serves on the ANSI Accreditation Committee, the ANSI Conformity Assessment Committee and the ANSI International Conformity Assessment Committee. She also serves on various standards development organization's Technical Committees that publish performance standards for the National Fire Protection Association, the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

Ms. Gleason received her MBA from Marymount University and her BS from Frostburg State University. She is the recipient of the American National Standards Institute Gerald H Ritterbusch Conformity Assessment Medal in 2015, and Distinguished Service Award in 2006.

### **Leslie McDermott**

Leslie McDermott leads ANSI's international development activities, including advocacy and program development to strengthen U.S. market access in China, India and other emerging economies. Ms. McDermott manages the implementation of projects such as the Standards Alliance, a public-private partnership with USAID designed to assist developing countries in effectively implementing their commitments under the WTO's Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) agreement. Acting as a liaison between stakeholders in standards bodies, government, industry, and other affected organizations, Ms. McDermott helps assure that projects affecting trade and infrastructure development in emerging economies have the most meaningful impact.

In addition, Ms. McDermott oversees the ANSI China Program which brings together technical, business and policy leaders to find solutions to issues impacting the U.S.-China trading relationship. The ANSI

China Program has become recognized as a focal point in the standards and compliance space, and underpins numerous other programs such as ANSI's business facilitation services that offer customized solutions to help companies prevent and resolve standards and compliance barriers in China.

Ms. McDermott holds a Master's Degree in International Relations from Royal Holloway, University of London, a Bachelor's Degree from Boston University, and is certified as a Project Management Professional (PMP).

## **Warren Merkel**

Warren Merkel serves as Chief of Standards Services in the Standards Coordination Office. He is also co-convenor of ISO CASCO Working Group 44 on the revision of ISO/IEC 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

Mr. Merkel was Chief of the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) from 2003 to 2006. After leaving NIST for six years to teach chemistry, he returned to serve as Chief of NVLAP from 2012 to 2015. From 1996 to 2003, Mr. Merkel was employed by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA), most recently as Technical Manager. From 1992 to 1996, he worked as an Investigative Chemist in the Defense Logistics Agency Analytical Product Testing Center in Philadelphia, PA.

Mr. Merkel holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Temple University and a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from Bloomsburg University.

## **Cassy Robinson**

Cassy Robinson is a physical scientist in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Standards Coordination Office. She is responsible for leading the development of documentary standards and standards-related policy activities and coordinating with NIST technical units, other federal agencies, industry, and other stakeholders in the development of standards/conformity assessment needs and requirements.

Prior to joining NIST, she was a Program Manager with the Department of Energy's Savannah River National Laboratory. For the previous 5 years, she served as the standards and conformity assessment lead for the National Institute of Justice's Standards and Testing Program and supported development of performance standards for public safety equipment.

She works with the ASTM International, E54 Committee on Homeland Security Applications as the Vice Chair for E54.04, Personal Protective Equipment Subcommittee, and serves as the Federal co-chair for the Standards Coordination Subgroup of the InterAgency Board for Equipment Standardization and Interoperability.

She has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Clemson University and a Master of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the University of

Alabama.

## **Mary Saunders**

Mary Saunders recently joined the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) as Vice President for Government Relations and Public Affairs. In that capacity, she leads ANSI's efforts to advocate greater use of voluntary consensus standards and conformance programs by government agencies and broader participation by agency personnel in standards development. Through ANSI's Government Member Forum, which is made up of representatives from a variety of state, local and federal agencies, she works to enhance ANSI's relationship with its government members. She also works with ANSI members to create standardization-related outreach programs to legislators and to increase understanding of the private-sector standards community among agencies involved in trade and commerce issues. Mary is a key player at ANSI in fostering understanding among opinion leaders of the major role standards and conformance play in the international and domestic marketplace.

Ms. Saunders has extensive federal government executive-level experience and served in a variety of positions within the Department of Commerce prior to joining the ANSI staff, most recently as the Associate Director for Management Resources at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). As Director of NIST's Standards Coordination Office, she represented NIST and its significant interests in the standards and conformity assessment community, advising the NIST Director and other officials throughout the Administration on policy and strategy as they relate to the federal government's role in standardization. She also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing and Services in the International Trade Administration, managing more than 200 industry specialists, economists and international trade experts. In that capacity, she helped strengthen the competitive position of U.S. industries globally by coordinating Commerce Department strategies, policies and programs with U.S. industries in mind.

Ms. Saunders earned her undergraduate degree in Political Science and Economics from Vanderbilt University, and holds a Masters in Public Affairs from Princeton University.