

### We Have a Standard!

#### Now What? What Do We Do with it?



Presented by: Dr. Roy Swift, September 21, 2011

## **Common Uses of Standards**





- General information for stakeholders
- Formal or informal education
- Reference for other standards, codes, regulation, directives
- Guide/benchmark industry practices
  - and -

#### Conformity Assessment

- Demonstration that specified requirements relating to a product, process, system, person, or body are fulfilled
  - Self-declaration "we meet it!"
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> party a related organization that has a user interest declared requirements are met
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> party Accreditation independent of the person or organization that provides the object, as well as the user or customer of the object



## Relevant Conformity Assessment Principles

- Conformity assessment requirements and procedures do not create unnecessary obstacles to national/international trade
- Conformity assessments are based on standards and procedures supported by the industry
- The characteristics of a sector and the associated risks of the product\* drive the conformity assessment requirements and procedures
  - \* Note: "product" includes, products, services, processes, systems, personnel credentialing and organizations.

#### National Conformity Assessment Principles for the United States www.ansi.org/ncap









## Relevant Conformity Assessment Principles, continued





When requirements and procedures change, stakeholders are notified expeditiously.

Transition periods allow applicants adequate time to make necessary changes depending on significant risks to health, safety or the environment associated with noncompliance of the product\* to the new requirements.

\* Note: "product" includes, products, services, processes, systems, personnel credentialing and organizations.



# 7 Tips on Standards that Are Used for **Conformity Assessment Purposes**

- Follow ISO 17007, Guidance for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment
- Avoid general statements that are not measureable 2.
  - Leads to different interpretations of the requirement and lack of consistency
- 3. Be clear in wording the requirement
  - Avoid complex sentences and use of certain terms:







# 7 Tips on Standards that Are Used for Conformity Assessment Purposes





- 4. Don't place several requirements in a single "requirement"
- 5. Consider if a requirement may bear unrealistic costs
- 6. Ensure validity
  - Is the requirement supported by research or industry literature?
- 7. Avoid vague requirements about testing but DO NOT be prescriptive
  - May specify test methods, the qualifications of the person to carry out the testing, and under what conditions





#### for more information

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