

General: Federal involvement in standards setting has often been uncoordinated between Commerce, Defense, State and specialized executive agencies. Industry original equipment /software makers most often supports standards bodies with technical expertise while providing a bias toward the particular firm's current or emerging product. This has resulted in five issues:

1. difficulty discerning what standard meets the best technical outcome and the US best interests or preferred policy outcome.
2. no coordinated effort to optimize international standards to the nation's needs in contrast with EU, Japan and soon, China.
3. fragmenting of industry effort in advocacy groups for specific standards which support that group's current and emerging technology products.
4. not harnessing the expertise of small firms, academia and many government STEM workers
5. disconnects between national and international standards which reduce our ability to interoperate internally and with other nations and which impair our ability to compete internationally.

We recognize the imperative of profit ; the excessive time to develop standards and that standards, by definition lag innovation. I believe the issues should be addressed by :

1. having a lead federal agency for type standards
2. developing a working, quick consensus on standards and the policy/outcome basis, while looking at emerging technologies
3. within government, requiring interoperability with standards, while the market place weighs new technologies.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

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