

Department of Homeland Security
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE
TEST & EVALUATION AND STANDARDS DIVISION
OFFICE OF STANDARDS



National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act
Annual Survey on Standards
Instruction Package
FY 2010

From the Standards Executive

The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) establishes federal policy on the use voluntary consensus standards in the government. It ensures that the continuing efforts and achievements of the private sector in establishing standards are utilized by the federal government. The use of such standards in federal procurement and regulations ensures effectiveness and promotes interoperability.

I am pleased to provide this Instruction Package which includes the FY 2010 survey questions from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as well as supplemental survey questions developed by the Test & Evaluations and Standards Division (TSD)/ Office of Standards. The information gathered from this survey is absolutely essential in shaping the Department's overall approach to developing, implementing and managing voluntary consensus standards. We have developed this package to provide clearer and more specific instructions, guidance and examples, not only to improve the quality of our submission to NIST, but to ensure the Department has the necessary services and resources to utilize the full benefits of voluntary consensus standards.

Please take the time to review and understand the questions. Responses are due to the Office of Standards (OoS) by **December 10th**. Our Office is available to provide assistance. Please contact Peter Shebell (peter.shebell@dhs.gov) with any question, comments or concerns.

The effectiveness of homeland security technology is dependent on standards and the Test & Evaluations and Standards Division/ Office of Standards is committed to ensuring that all aspects of the development, implementation, and management of homeland security standards, including conformity assessment activities, are focused on supporting and advancing the mission of our Department.

I look forward to making this year's report the most accurate and complete to date.

Bert Coursey, Ph.D.

Standards Executive
Science & Technology Directorate

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1) Background

The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-119 , “Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities” (1998), direct federal agencies to use voluntary standards in lieu of governmental standards whenever feasible. The legislation asks agencies to promote participation by their personnel in standards development to ensure the standards created are usable by both federal agencies and the private sector.

2) DHS Policy

The DHS Policy on Standards is found in the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) Section 102 (g):

“All standards activities of the Department shall be conducted in accordance with 12 (d) of the National Technology Transfer Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) and Office of Management and Budget Circular A-119.”

a) Reporting on the development and use of standards

OMB Circular A-119 (hereinafter the “Circular”) establishes policies on federal use and development of voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment activities. The Circular requires federal agencies to:

“...establish a process to identify, manage, and review your agency's development and use of standards. At minimum, your agency must have the ability to (1) report to OMB through NIST on the agency's use of government-unique standards in lieu of voluntary consensus standards, along with an explanation of the reasons for such non-usage...and (2) report on your agency's participation in the development and use of voluntary consensus standards.”

b) Standards Executive

The Circular establishes the role of a ‘Standards Executive’ who is responsible for their agency's implementation of the Circular and is responsible for developing this report and submitting this to NIST. For questions about the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA), the Circular, or this year's report or any of the previous submissions, please contact the DHS Standards Executive.

c) Standards Council

The DHS Standards Council is an intra-agency group chartered to:

1. support the Under Secretary for Science and Technology (in his/her responsibility to coordinate standards activities in the Department,
2. support the Standards Executive with his/her responsibility as identified in the Circular. In addition to these two primary duties the Council ensures effective participation by all components of DHS in adoption of homeland security standards and promotes the adherence to uniform policies by the Components in the development and use of standards and in conformity assessment activities.

The Council membership reflects the organization of the Department, maintaining a balance between the operational, programmatic, and administrative functions of the Department. Membership is limited to federal employees.

The Standards Council plays a key role in responding to this survey.

3) General Instructions:

1. Distribute this package throughout your Component, targeting those Subcomponents or programs that are involved in regulations, procurement and/or acquisition, and federal assistance, or that incorporate standards in contracts and agreements or grants; design, procedure or reference guides.
2. Distribute this package to your Standards Council representative (see the attachment to the Under Secretary's memo).

Note - if your Component is not represented on the Council, please use this opportunity to nominate a representative to the Under Secretary for Science and Technology.

Note - Through their regular participation in the Standards Council quarterly meetings, your representative understands many of the issues and can advise your Component on how to respond.

Note - Your Council representative has access to the Standards Council's collaboration site on DHS Connect. The Standards Council's collaboration site has your components FY 2009 submission as well as information that is useful for developing your report.

3. Read and understand the survey questions (see sections 4 and 5).

Note -Not all questions will apply to your Component. Please respond accordingly. Please following the guidance provided for each question. If you need additional information about the questions please contact Office of Standards (OoS)¹.

4. Answer the questions in section 4 using FY 2009 as a reference (see Appendix 3).

Note - In many cases the report is looking for FY 2010 data only and not cumulative data. The FY 2009 Report is a compilation of information from all the Components. If you need specific information on your Components FY 2009 submission, please contact OoS.

5. Answer the supplemental survey questions in section 5.

Note - The responses to the supplemental survey questions will NOT be submitted to NIST. They are intended to inform OoS for the purpose of improving the service they provide to DHS.

6. Work with your Council Representative to review responses before submitting them to OoS.

7. Submit your response directly to OoS by the deadline.

Note - Please DO NOT submit your responses to the S&T Executive Secretariat.

¹ Please contact Peter Shebell (peter.shebell@dhs.gov) or Suzy Dixon (susan.e.dixon@associates.dhs.gov)

4) NTTAA Report Questions

Question 1. Please describe the importance of standards in the achievement of your agency's mission, how your agency uses standards to deliver its primary services in support of its mission, and provide any examples or case studies of standards success. Please include relevant Internet links and links to your agency's standards website.

HELP - Briefly describe your Component's standards program, or any program that focuses on or features standards, as it relates to your mission and services. Provide examples of your Component's successful use of Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) and the beneficial outcomes that resulted. Successful outcomes may include: significant cost and/or time savings; improved security and safety; more free and fair competition, commerce or trade; improved collaboration and cooperation with the private sector; avoided duplication of private sector activities; innovation and application of better technology, increased goodwill for the Federal government; and any others. Your responses can also provide a quantitative assessment of the impact of VCS on your mission and/operations. You are encouraged to provide in your response Internet links to additional and supporting information on your agency's website.

NOTE - In responding to this question, the examples and/or case studies not do have to be current. Also, DHS has collected information on many examples and case studies that have been submitted in response to this survey. If your Component does not have a new example or case study, or new information on a previously reported example or case study, it is encouraged that you respond accordingly, i.e. 'nothing to report'. In general, your response should consist of your Components mission, a statement of how voluntary consensus standards support your mission, and a specific example or case study.

Question 2: Please list the government-unique standards your agency used in lieu of voluntary consensus standards during FY 2010:

HELP - This question is directed towards those DHS Components, Subcomponents, programs and line businesses with regulatory or procurement responsibilities that incorporate standards, in whole, in part, or by reference, in regulations or in procurement actions. Also, Components that manage programs that incorporate standards in guidance issued as part of a federal assistance program should also respond. In general, any DHS activity that incorporate standards in contracts and agreements or grants; design, procedure or reference guides should respond.

In responding to this question, you should:

- 1) First review your Component's inventory of Government Unique Standards (GUS) used in lieu of Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) from FY 1997 to FY 2009.
- 2) Identify any Government Unique Standards (GUS) that were introduced for the first time in FY 2010. For each instance of new use:

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- Identify each new GUS by document number and title
- Identify each VCS not used by document number and title
- Provide a rationale for each instance of a GUS used in lieu of an existing VCS

NOTES:

- A GUS is a standard developed by the government (see Appendix 1). It could be a MIL-SPEC or DHS developed standards such as those developed by ICE for detention facilities or TSA
- A GUS is NOT an executive order, homeland security presidential directive or DHS management directive or DHS guidance document.
- You do not need to report the use of a GUS **where no similar VCS exist**. This question is looking for instances where the Department made a deliberate decision to use a GUS in lieu of a VCS and to provide a rationale. If no VCS was considered, do not report.
- You do not need to report on the use of a GUS where its use is required by statute, e.g. NIST Standards under Federal Information Security Management Act.
- A GUS used by DHS must be reported regardless of which agency actually developed that standard. For example, if DHS uses a MIL-SPEC, then DHS should not expect or rely upon DoD to report its use. DHS must report the standard as being used.
- Rationales must be explicit and demonstrative of why the GUS is being used. For example, rationales may be based upon cost concerns, technology issues, performance standards, timing (need vs. availability), policy matters, etc.

Question 3. Please list the Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) your agency substituted for Government Unique Standards (GUS) in FY 2010 as a result of review under Section 15(b)(7)² of OMB Circular A-119 :

HELP - This question is related to Question 2 and also directed towards those DHS Components, Subcomponents, programs and line businesses with regulatory or procurement responsibilities that incorporate standards, in whole, in part, or by reference, in regulations or in procurement actions. Also, Components that manage programs that incorporate standards in guidance issued as part of a federal assistance program should also respond. In general, any DHS activity that incorporate standards in contracts and agreements or grants; design, procedure or reference guides should respond.

Identify the document title and number for each Voluntary Consensus Standard (VCS) that was substituted and for each Government Unique Standard (GUS) that was discontinued from use.

² Establishing a process for ongoing review of the agency's use of standards for purposes of updating such use

Question 4. Please provide the total number of Voluntary Consensus Standards your agency BEGAN to use during FY 2010: Optional: If possible, also please provide the total number of Non-consensus Standards that are developed in the private sector your agency began to use during FY 2010. In addition, please provide your agency's rationale for using the Non-consensus Standards that are developed in the private sector counted in this question.

HELP - This question is related to Question 2 & Question 3. Again, it is directed towards those DHS Components, Subcomponents, programs and line businesses with regulatory or procurement responsibilities that incorporate standards, in whole, in part, or by reference, in regulations or in procurement actions. Also, Components that manage programs that incorporate standards in guidance issued as part of a federal assistance program should also respond. In general, any DHS activity that incorporate standards in contracts and agreements or grants; design, procedure or reference guides should respond.

This report should include only those new VCSs introduced during the past year, not the cumulative use of VCSs over past years.

Question 5. Please list the Voluntary Consensus Standards Bodies (VCSB) in which your agency participated in during FY 2010:

HELP - VCSBs are domestic or international organizations which plan, develop, establish, or coordinate voluntary consensus standards using agreed-upon procedures. The OMB Circular further defines a VCSB in terms of the following attributes:

- (i) Openness
- (ii) Balance of interest
- (iii) Due process
- (vi) An appeals process
- (v) Consensus

Your submission should include a review of your Component's participation in VCSBs over the past year. Your submission should *include only those new VCSBs your component participated in over the last year*, not the cumulative number over past years.

Question 6. Please provide the total number of your Component's representatives who participated in voluntary consensus standards activities during FY 2010 and the total number of activities these agency representatives participated in.

HELP - Enter the total number of individuals who represented your Component as participants in voluntary standards activities during FY 2010. Count each individual only once regardless of the number of committee responsibilities he or she may fulfill. Also, each individual should be associated with an activity. If

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certain individuals have been involved with particular activities over many years, be careful not assume that they were active over the past year.

For purposes of this report, an activity is equivalent to one individual serving in some specific capacity with one Standards Developing Organization (SDO). Therefore, in calculating the total number of activities in which your Component’s representatives participates, you should count multiple times any individual representative who is involved in multiple activities with Voluntary Consensus Standards Developing Organizations. (Note: An agency representative can participate in more than one activity so the total number of activities can exceed the total number of agency representatives; however, the total number of agency representatives cannot exceed total number of activities)

An example:

Representative	Activities	Total
Person #1	3 ASTM Committees	3
Person #2	2 NFPA Committees	2
Person #3	1 INCITS Board Seat	1
Total Component Activities		6

OoS recognizes that for large Components, tracking this type of information, with this level of detail, is not possible or practical. Therefore, OoS recommends that estimates be provided. For example, it is acceptable to report that 50 individuals participated in 75 activities.

Question 7. Please provide any conformity assessment activities (as described in “Guidance on Federal Conformity Assessment Activities” found in the Federal Register, Volume 65, Number 155, dated August 10, 2000) in which your agency was involved in FY 2010.

HELP - Summarize description of all your agency’s relevant conformity assessment activities.

NOTE - Conformity Assessment is defined in 15 CFR 287.2 as: [c]onformity assessment means any activity concerned with determining directly or indirectly that requirements are fulfilled. Requirements for products, services, systems, and organizations are those defined by law or regulation or by an agency in a procurement action. Conformity assessment includes: sampling and testing; inspection; supplier’s declaration of conformity; certification; and quality and environmental management system assessment and registration. It also includes accreditation and recognition. Conformity assessment does not include mandatory administrative procedures (such as registration notification) for granting permission for a good or service to be produced, marketed, or used for a stated purpose or under stated conditions. Conformity assessment activities may be conducted by the supplier (first party) or by the buyer (second party) either

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directly or by another party on the supplier's or buyer's behalf, or by a body not under the control or influence of either the buyer or the seller (third party)".

In addition to testing, inspection and certification, there are other activities which may fall under the umbrella of conformity assessment. These activities include accreditation, production of reference materials and conduct of proficiency.

A summary of 15 CFR 287.4 can be found in Appendix 2. In general this question is asking for the agencies to briefly summarize its conformity assessment activities that are used in procurement, regulations, and federal assistance programs that complement the standards mentioned previously (see section 4, Questions 2,3, & 4).

Special Note: Very few Components have responded to this question and OoS is concerned that many conformity assessment activities go unreported. OoS is aware of many important and reportable conformity assessment activities such as

- Coast Guard Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division program, which requires accreditation of life jackets, fire extinguishers, and other boating safety equipment,
- CBP's C-TPAT 3rd party conformity assessment system for high-security container seal,
- Transportation Security Administration (TSA) program for biometric equipment that require certification before listing equipment on their qualified products list.

In general, OoS is looking to improve our response to this question. Please do not hesitate to contact OoS to provide additional information or guidance.

Question 8. Please provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of Circular A-119 policy and recommendations for any changes.

HELP - Please provide your Component's views and suggestions on the Circular, the reporting process, and other relevant subjects.

Question 9. Please provide any other comments you would like to share on behalf of your Component.

Question 10. Please provide any additional comments on how your Component currently reports its use of voluntary consensus standards.

5) Supplemental Survey Questions

1. **Please select all that apply in terms of describing your Component investments in the development, implementation, or management of voluntary consensus standards.**
 - a. We invest directly in VCSB to develop standards to support our mission.
 - b. We fund the National Institute of Standards and Technology to develop standards to support our mission
 - c. We invest in contractors to facilitate the development of VCS.
 - d. We use program funds to assist in offsetting the costs of others to participate in the development process such as State and local government officials as well as subject matter experts.
 - e. We use program funds to purchase license agreements to provide free access to key homeland security standards.
 - f. We don't invest in standards development, implementation, or management of voluntary consensus standards.
 - g. Other. Please explain.

HELP - In your Component's response to question 1 above, you provided examples of your Component's successful use of voluntary consensus standards and the beneficial outcomes that resulted. Successful outcomes are usually accompanied by investment of resources, usually personnel and/or program funds. This question looks to gather information to optimize DHS's investments in support of the use of voluntary consensus standards. This information will **NOT** be provided to NIST.

2. **Please select all that apply in terms of describing your Component strategy for adopting voluntary consensus standards as DHS National Standards as described in Management Directive 078-01**
 - a. We work with S&T to determine which standards to adopt as DHS National Standards.
 - b. We submit all voluntary consensus standards to S&T for adoption as DHS National Standards.
 - c. We submit voluntary consensus standard to S&T for adoption as DHS National Standards on a case by case basis.
 - d. Since we do not use standards in the manner outlined in MD 078-01, we do intend on adopting any standards as DHS National Standards.
 - e. We are seeking additional guidance from S&T before developing a strategy.
 - f. Other. Please explain.

HELP - DHS established a policy and requirements to review, adopt and maintain standards as DHS National Standards as a means to:

- Ensure that homeland security equipment that is procured by DHS or is purchased by Federal, State, local, or tribal entities with grant funds will meet or exceed minimum standards agreed to by DHS Components.

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Adoption of standards ensures that products are interoperable and that processes are harmonized and consistent within the Department.

- Encourage interoperability among standard operating procedures for Federal, State, local, and tribal entities.
- Minimize duplicate equipment and process development among DHS Components

3. Please describe your Component's approach to managing the ongoing use of standards.

HELP - See Appendix 4 for examples.

4. Please select all that apply in terms of your Component's use of standards databases to search for and investigate homeland security related standards

- a. S&T Standards (hwww.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1218226975457.shtm)
- b. ANSI-Homeland Security Standards Database (www.hssd.us)
- c. NSSN (www.nssn.org)
- d. Responder Knowledge Base (www.rkb.us)
- e. SAFECOM (www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/)
- f. Idmanagement.gov
- g. Federal Geographic Data Committee (www.fgdc.gov)
- h. HITSP (www.hhs.gov/healthit/standards/recognition/)
- i. Other - please list

5. Please select all that apply in terms of activities or functions that OoS can provide to stimulate or improve the use of VCS and conformity assessment systems in the Department

- a. Provide regular updates on the activities of VCSB in the area of homeland security standards.
- b. Provide additional guidance and information on VCS and conformity assessment.
- c. Provide tools and guidance to support the development of a standards management system.
- d. Develop a centralized process for managing VCS and conformity assessment activities.
- e. Purchase memberships in VCSB
- f. Purchase VCS
- g. Establish a policy on the use of private sector conformity assessment practices.
- h. Provide training on standards and conformity assessment.
- i. Providing funding to support participation in the development of VCSB as well as conformity assessment standards.

Appendix 1: Glossary

Consensus - general agreement, characterized by the absence of sustained opposition to substantial issues by any important part of the concerned interests and by a process that involves seeking to take into account the views of all parties concerned and to reconcile any conflicting arguments

NOTE: Consensus need not imply unanimity.

Consortia Standard - Consortia standards are developed by companies or organizations which share similar strategic standardization goals, need to develop standards quickly to meet market demand, or are trying to harmonize or differentiate requirements in a specific industry.

De facto Standard - A de facto standard is a custom, convention, product, or system that has achieved a dominant position by public acceptance or market forces (such as early entrance to the market).

DHS National Standard - A national level consensus standard adopted by DHS that promotes nationwide uniformity and interoperability and has applicability to Federal, State, local or tribal governments and the private sector

NOTE: DHS National Standards reflect the goals and objectives of national level programs, systems, frameworks, campaigns, or initiatives of the Department. Typically such standards will relate to specifications for equipment used by DHS and first responders, guidelines and best practices for operations, evaluation tools for planning, training, and exercise activities, or methods including those related to test and evaluation, as well as others that carry out policy objectives or activities determined by the Department.

Government (Unique) Standard - For purposes of this survey, government standards or are developed and promulgated by Federal, State, and local agencies to address needs or applications peculiar to their missions and functions.

Non-consensus Standard - For purposes of this survey, a non-consensus standard may be a de facto standard or consortia standard. Both standard are developed without utilizing a consensus based process

Standard : includes all of the following:

- 1) Common and repeated use of rules, conditions, guidelines or characteristics for products or related processes and production methods, and related management systems practices.
- 2) The definition of terms; classification of components; delineation of procedures; specification of dimensions, materials, performance, designs, or operations; measurement of quality and quantity in describing materials, processes, products, systems, services, or practices; test methods and sampling procedures; or descriptions of fit and measurements of size or strength.

The term standard does not include the following:

- 1) Professional standards of personal conduct.
- 2) Institutional codes of ethics.

Voluntary Consensus Standards - are standards developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies, both domestic and international. These standards include provisions requiring that owners of relevant intellectual property have agreed to make that intellectual property available on a nondiscriminatory, royalty-free or reasonable royalty basis to all interested parties.

Appendix 2 : 15 CFR 287.4

- When rulemaking or in procurement actions, give a rationale and allow for public comment on the use of specified conformity assessment procedures.
- Identify and apply appropriate nongovernment conformity assessment practices and programs and consider accepting the results of other governmental agency and private-sector organization conformity assessment systems.
- When they are available and appropriate, apply relevant guides and standards for sampling, testing, inspection, certification, management system registration, accreditation, and quality and environmental management systems issued by nongovernment organizations.
- Take part in national private-sector and international organizations that develop and improve conformity assessment standards to ensure that U.S. government positions are considered. Examples of these organizations on the national level are the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM), and many other ANSI-accredited standards development organizations. Similar organizations on the international level are ISO, the IEC, the International Telecommunications Union, and the World Customs Organization.
- Participate in activities that lead to establishing criteria for domestic, regional, and international recognition systems for conformity assessment procedures and results. The CFR offers the Federal Communications Commission's Telecommunication Certification Body program as an example of a group working in this area.
- Foster the coordination of conformity assessment requirements among governments and the private sector.
- Strive to harmonize Component requirements for quality, and to the extent applicable combine environmental management systems into a unified system for use in procurement and regulation activities of the Department.

Appendix 3: 2009 NTTAA Report

1. Please describe the importance of standards in the achievement of your agency's mission, how your agency uses standards to deliver its primary services in support of its mission, and provide any examples or case studies of standards success. Please include relevant Internet links and links to your agency's standards website.

This Department of Homeland Security's overriding and urgent mission is to lead the unified national effort to secure the country and preserve our freedoms. While the Department was created to secure our country against those who seek to disrupt the American way of life, our charter also includes preparation for and response to all hazards and disasters. The citizens of the United States must have the utmost confidence that the Department can execute both of these missions.

Homeland Security leverages resources within federal, state, and local governments, coordinating the transition of multiple agencies and programs into a single, integrated agency focused on protecting the American people and their homeland. More than 87,000 different governmental jurisdictions at the federal, state, and local level have homeland security responsibilities. The comprehensive national strategy seeks to develop a complementary system connecting all levels of government without duplicating effort. Homeland Security is truly a "national mission." Therefore, national standards developed by consensus through public and private cooperation are vital to achieving the mission of department.

The department executes its mission through 16 major components and many more sub-components, offices, divisions, and programs. The following is a description of the importance of voluntary consensus standards (VCS) in the achievement of DHS's mission by component. It also includes a description of how DHS uses VCS to deliver its many services in support of its mission to secure the country and preserve our freedoms.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

FEMA prepares the nation for hazards, manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident, and administers the National Flood Insurance Program. It utilizes standards in two basic areas: mitigation and national preparedness.

Mitigation:

FEMA's Mitigation Directorate is committed to reducing the ever-increasing cost that natural disasters inflict on our country. Constructing or retrofitting buildings to withstand anticipated forces from these hazards is one of the key components of mitigation, and the only truly effective way of reducing this cost. Therefore, model building code and standards organizations play a critical role in helping FEMA to accomplish its mission.

Through knowledge gained from the effects of disasters on the nation's building stock and through FEMA's work with its partner organizations, the Mitigation Directorate, FEMA has worked for several years to develop technical and practical information that can be used to

strengthen model building codes and practices. The development of VCS is an important part of that process and FEMA has worked with many of these organizations to help provide timely information.

To remain compliant with statutory responsibilities under the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) and in accordance with its mission to reduce losses from all hazards, FEMA supports the development of VCS through its mitigation pro-grams.

National Preparedness:

The Secretary, through the National Integration Center, Incident Management Systems Integration Division (IMSID), is responsible for developing, maintaining, and promoting a national incident management system. IMSID leads the federal effort to establish and implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS) nationwide. NIMS is a framework that provides guidelines and principles to first responders in effort to achieve a single nationwide system for managing incidents. NIMS ensures successful intra and interstate mutual aid activities and ensures a standard incident command structure across all jurisdictions, and establishes standards and guidelines for resource typing and multiagency coordination. NIMS is broad in scope and seeks to achieve information technology system interoperability as well as address the plan and people aspects of incident and emergency management.

Part of the IMSID effort to promote NIMS and to provide guidance to first responders is to adopt existing standards that are consistent with NIMS doctrine, and recommend those standards for voluntary adoption by state and local jurisdictions for guidance in pursuit of full NIMS implementation. Our standard review process is conducted by multi-disciplinary field-based practitioner working groups and technical working groups to ensure the adopted NIMS standards are relevant, implementable, and useful, if adopted, in implementing NIMS.

U.S. Fire Administration:

As an entity of FEMA, the mission of the USFA is provide national leadership to foster a solid foundation for our fire and emergency services stakeholders in prevention, preparedness, and response. While USFA has no regulatory authority, it routinely participates in the standards development process and is instrumental in promoting VCS.

In 2009, the USFA led an effort to formally adopt a VCS for safety vests. This effort will ensure that emergency responders wear appropriate protective clothing specifically designed for their needs while operating on the roadways.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE):

ICE is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, is responsible for identifying and shutting down vulnerabilities in the nation's border, economic, transportation and infrastructure security

ICE utilizes standards to deliver services in support of its mission in the areas of information technology and information sharing. In the area of information sharing, one high-level

standard which is very important is the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM). NIEM is an implementation of the consensus standard ISO 11179, Information Technology -- Metadata registries (MDR).

NIEM is designed to develop, disseminate, and support enterprise-wide information exchange standards and processes that can enable jurisdictions to effectively share critical information in emergency situations, as well as support the day-to-day operations of agencies throughout the nation. NIEM is a partnership of the U.S. Department of Justice and DHS. ICE provides oversight to information technology development efforts, and governs the utilization of information exchange standards such as NIEM to enhance our agencies data sharing efforts. NIEM standards and information are found at the following website: <http://www.niem.gov/>. ICE OCIO NIEM standards and other relevant technology processes and standards are found at the following website: <http://powerport.ice.dhs.gov/tapweb/index.htm>

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP):

CBP is responsible for protecting our nation's borders in order to prevent terrorists and terrorist weapons from entering the United States, while facilitating the flow of legitimate trade and travel.

CBP utilizes multiple standards in the accomplishment of its mission as principle guardian of the Nation's frontline. Participation and contributions to VCS for technology, equipment and enforcement practices are evident in CBP's employment of systems and initiatives such as Operation PRIDE, Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT), Secure Border Initiative (SBI), and Container Security Initiative (CSI).

Additionally, CBP's Laboratories and Scientific Services analysis laboratories, which are accredited to (ISO/IEC 17025, standard accreditation) use numerous standards, such as ASTM C-373-88 (2006) Standard Test Method for Water Absorption, Bulk Density, Apparent Porosity, and Apparent Specific Gravity of Fired Whiteware Products, that are private sector standard test methods. These standard test methods are used to analyze imported products to enable CBP to "classify and value" these products under the Harmonized Tariff System of the United States, and for trade enforcement purposes.

CBP's practices establish and define standards that numerous law enforcement bodies adopt. However, CBP proceeds cautiously with each standard introduced to ensure the safety of its personnel and the Nation as a whole.

Office of Health Affairs (OHA):

OHA coordinates all medical activities of DHS to ensure appropriate preparation for and response to incidents having medical significance. It utilizes VCS to evaluate candidate biological and chemical detection systems. The Weapons of Mass Destruction and Biodefense (WMD/Biodefense) Division is the lead for the Department's biological and chemical defense activities. This includes providing a robust biological and chemical detection capability in partnership with state and local jurisdictions and the private sector. Specifically for the state, local, and private partners, the WMD/Biodefense Division provides an operational

perspective to the DHS S&T Test & Evaluation and Standards Division process and, as a customer of S&T, represents the first responder/first receiver communities of interest. In supporting this mission, the WMD/Biodefense Division began development of the Detection Technology Evaluation and Reporting (DeTER) Program to evaluate candidate biological and chemical detection systems employed to protect the American public at the federal, state, and local levels. This voluntary “pay-to-play” program will provide a capability to conduct equipment and operational validation of biological and chemical detection technologies based on agreed upon voluntary, consensus standards at independent, accredited laboratories. If agreed to by the manufacture of the technology, the results of those tests will be available to DHS components; state, local, and tribal governments; public safety officials and first responders in order to assist them in making more informed acquisition and funding decisions. Specifically, this information will provide consistent guidance to DHS and other granting authorities for inclusion of evaluation information on their equipment lists, such as FEMA’s Authorized Equipment List.

To ensure a coordinated effort across DHS, OHA, through the WMD/Biodefense Division, is engaged in the development of biological and chemical detection standards with DHS Science and technology Directorate (S&T) and NIST. OHA is working to align and leverage capabilities to initiate the development of the DeTER program. These activities are essential for successful implementation of the DeTER program but take an extended amount of time to develop and transition to OHA. While awaiting the development of these standards and protocols, OHA is developing interim specifications to help guide the FEMA grant programs, such as the Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP).

In 2009, the WMD/Biodefense Division was invited to assist the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in guiding the purchase of chemical detection systems funded through the TSGP. This request for assistance is due to the current lack of standards specific for stationary chemical detection equipment. In addition to the collaboration mentioned above, the WMD/Biodefense Division worked with the S&T Test & Evaluation and Standards Division and NIST to assist in reviewing current ASTM E2411-07, Standard Specification for Chemical Warfare Vapor Detectors. This standard provided a basis for developing interim guidance that will assist the TSGP Grantees in making more in-formed acquisition and funding decisions. Incident management standards encompass a wide range of valuable standards to include emergency responder equipment, emergency response protocols, and emergency response certification and accreditation. All standards related to incident management response relate directly to key components of the National Incident Management System and the National Response Framework.

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC):

The mission of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) is to, “... train those who protect our homeland.” In order to facilitate this endeavor, the FLETC has developed and conducts all of the law enforcement training programs and subsequent courses of instruction following the processes outlined in various FLETC directives, policies, and procedures. These directives, policies, and procedures all support the professional training standards that are required by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation (FLETA).

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Over 30 years ago, the Presidential Commission Report, *The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society*, and a follow-up report, *The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society: Looking Back Looking Forward*, contained recommendations to increase professionalism and standardization of training. More recently, in a January 2000 report to the Congress, the Commission on the Advancement of Federal Law Enforcement reiterated and reinforced the need to develop and implement training standards. The Commission made it abundantly clear that core training in law enforcement functions, certification of the adequacy of training programs, and accreditation of agencies are all essential to maintaining public confidence in the professionalism of federal law enforcement agents and officers.

Beginning in 2000, in an effort to increase the professionalism of federal law enforcement training, a task force of key training leaders from principal federal and state law enforcement agencies began work to collaboratively conduct research to establish a premier training accreditation model. In the development of the model, federal law enforcement training professionals established standards and procedures to evaluate the training academies and training programs used to train federal law enforcement agents and officers. The intent was to develop an independent accreditation process that provides law enforcement agencies with an opportunity to voluntarily demonstrate that they meet and maintain compliance with an established set of professional standards and receive appropriate recognition. This independent accreditation process has been developed by the Office of Accreditation (OA), the working arm of the FLETA Board. Once developed, the process was approved by the FLETA Board, then administered and overseen by the OA.

The accreditation of the FLETC academy and the various law enforcement training programs provides assurance to the agencies and citizens we serve, that the FLETC has voluntarily submitted to a process of self-regulation and has successfully achieved compliance with a set of professional training standards that have been collectively established by our peers within the law enforcement community.

To date, the FLETC has been awarded the FLETA Board's Academy Accreditation for the Glynco, Artesia, Charleston, and Cheltenham training sites, and Program Accreditation for twelve law enforcement training programs to include three Center Basic Programs: the Criminal Investigator Training Program (CITP), the Land Management Police Training Program (LMPT), and the Uniformed Police Training Program (UPTP); and nine Center Advanced Training Programs: the Boat Operator Anti-Terrorism Training Program (BOAT), the Driver Instructor Training Program (DITP), the Firearms Instructor Training Program (FITP), the Inland Boat Operators Training Program (IBOT), the Law Enforcement Instructor Training Program (LEITP), the Law Enforcement Instructor In-Service Training Program (LEIISTP), the Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructor Training Program (LECTITP) the Marine Law Enforcement Training Program (MLETP), and the Physical Fitness Coordinator Instructor Training Program (PFCTP).

These accomplishments demonstrate the FLETC's continuous adherence to quality, effectiveness and integrity in meeting our organizational mission and in providing excellent education and training to our students who represent more than 80 federal, in addition to a

multitude of state, local, and international law enforcement agencies. For further information regarding FLETA, refer to www.fleta.gov

Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO):

DNDO works to enhance the nuclear detection efforts of federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local governments, and the private sector and to ensure a coordinated response to such threats.

DNDO utilizes voluntary consensus standards as the foundation for its test programs and requirements development efforts. The ANSI N42 series standards are referenced in on-going Advanced Spectroscopic Portal program and the Human Portable Radiation Detection Systems projects, and as part of the Graduated Radiation Detector and Evaluation Reporting (GRaDER) program.

The GRaDER program depends on independent testing of detection and identification instruments by accredited laboratories against existing American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/ Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) N42 consensus standards as the initial benchmark. The program incorporates other industry standards in order to assure the instruments meet a variety of safety and technical standards. In future years, the GRaDER program will incorporate the use of federal technical capability standards that are currently under development. The program descriptive documents may be read at the following web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/grader>

U.S. Coast Guard (USCG):

The USCG protects the public, the environment, and U.S. economic interests—in the nation's ports and waterways, along the coast, on international waters, or in any maritime region as required to support national security.

USCG remains committed to developing and adopting nationally and internationally recognized standards as a means to improve maritime safety, security, and environmental protection, and to promote an internationally competitive U.S. maritime industry. One of the goals of our Standards program is to develop a comprehensive set of nationally recognized, internationally compatible standards through active participation in national standards organizations. While the adoption of industry standards enables the Coast Guard to fulfill its regulatory functions more efficiently, this capability would be useless without the existence of meaningful standards. Recognizing this reality early on, the Coast Guard aggressively pursued membership on a full range of standards-organizations. We support at least 30 non-government organizations and actively participate on over 100 standards committees. This active participation enables us to raise genuine issues of public safety and preservation of the marine environment. Additionally, where industry has not established suitable safety requirements, we promote their development. Visit our Director of Commercial Regulations & Standards website at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg52/>.

Transportation Security Administration (TSA):

TSA protects the nation's transportation systems to ensure freedom of movement for people and commerce. TSA utilizes existing non-government standards to define requirements for and guide the engineering of security systems it utilizes; ensuring deployed systems are safe and meet the requirements of end-users and stakeholders. Moreover, TSA uses standards to streamline procedures for the ongoing development of detection technologies and facilitate the development of test methods.

National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD):

NPPD works to advance the Department's risk-reduction mission. Reducing risk requires an integrated approach that encompasses both physical and virtual threats and their associated human elements.

The mission of the National Communication System (NCS) in NPPD is to assist the President, the National Security Council, the Homeland Security Council, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget in: (1) the exercise of the telecommunications functions and responsibilities set forth in Section 2 of this Order; and (2) the coordination of the planning for and provision of national security and emergency preparedness (NS/EP) communications for the federal government under all circumstances, including crisis or emergency, attack, recovery and reconstitution.

To fulfill this mission the NCS offers a wide range of NS/EP Priority communications services (Government Emergency Telecommunications Service, Telecommunications Service Priority, and Wireless Priority Service) that support qualifying federal, state, and local government, industry, and non-profit organization personnel in performing their NS/EP missions. These services are provided on the public communications networks; therefore the reliance on voluntary industry consensus standards plays a vital role in the ability of the NCS to fulfill its mission.

Science and Technology Directorate (S&T):

S&T is the primary research and development arm of the Department. It provides federal, state and local officials with the technology and capabilities to protect the homeland. S&T support the development of VCS for use by Department's many components, sub-components, offices, divisions, and programs. In 2009, S&T finalized and implemented over 15 VCS. Standards developed with S&T assistance are generally developed faster than the traditional processes employed by voluntary consensus standards bodies. Within S&T there are two Offices that invest and participate in development of VCS, which are ultimately used by DHS to achieve its mission.

Office of Standards:

The Office of Standard mission is to develop and coordinate the adoption of national standards and appropriate evaluation methods to meet homeland security mission needs. The Office of Standards works closely with standards development organization to establish capabilities to support the Department's need for VCS. The Office of Standards manages the

adoption of VCS as DHS National Standards. A list of DHS National Standards may be found at http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1218226975457.shtm.

Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC):

The Command, Control and Interoperability Division's Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) focuses on the research, development, testing, and evaluation necessary to improve emergency communications capabilities for day-to-day operations and major incidents. OIC improves these public safety communications by supporting the development of public safety standards, specifications, and usage guidance by working closely with Public Safety specific standards development organizations. OIC's standards efforts are focused in the following areas:

- Project 25 (P25) and Project 34 (P34): OIC actively participates within the Public Safety specific standards development organizations to assist in the development of the Project 25 (P25) and Project 34 (P34) suite of standards, which are focused on developing open interoperability standards for public safety land mobile radio (LMR) systems. Through direction from the US Congress, OIC has been instrumental in speeding the standards development process for the four critical interoperability interfaces in the P25 suite of standards. Serving as an objective technical expert, OIC advocates on behalf of practitioners during the technical development of the standards. The Office is also implementing a Compliance Assessment Program for P25 (P25 CAP), a voluntary system that provides a mechanism for the recognition of testing laboratories based on internationally accepted standards. The P25 CAP leverages the standards developed in the Project 25 standards development process, and governs itself through the use of International Standards Organization (ISO) standards. An initial group of eight laboratories were recognized by DHS as approved to test emergency response communications equipment for standards compliance as part of P25 CAP. In December 2009, the first manufacturer completed communications equipment testing and published results on the FEMA Res-ponder Knowledge Base web site at https://www.rkb.us/contentdetail.cfm?content_id=227247. The P34 effort led by CCI leverages existing commercial standards developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Additional information on P25 can be found at

<http://www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/currentprojects/project25cap/>

- Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP): Public safety agencies are investing millions of dollars in devices that allow agencies to patch non-interoperable radio systems together. These are commonly referred to as bridging systems, and many of these systems use VoIP technology. While IP itself is a formal standard that allows for interoperability, the VoIP technology built on top of that standard is often proprietary and prevents interoperability. To address these interoperability gaps, OIC is assisting in the development of VoIP specifications. These activities are currently being led by the Public Safety VoIP Working Group, which is comprised of emergency responders, industry representatives, and NIST's Office of Law Enforcement Standards. In 2009, the project initiated virtual plugfest testing and evaluation of the first VoIP specification - the Bridging System Interface (BSI) Core Profile, by creating a set of best practices that will allow users to implement the BSI Core Specification with even greater

ease, and by completing a BSI Core profile case study. Additional information can be found at <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/currentprojects/voip/>

- **Audio and Video Quality Measurements:** The Department has also been involved in the development of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) standards regarding test methodologies used for public safety specific evaluation of audio and video quality measurements. Specifically, a new standard was developed by CCI for video quality assessment for recognition tasks through the ITU-T Study Group 9 as Recommendation ITU-T P.912.
- **Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) Messaging Standards:** OIC is partnering with emergency responders, federal agencies, and standards development organizations, such as the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OA-SIS), to accelerate the creation of data messaging standards. The EDXL initiative is a practitioner-driven, public-private partnership to create information sharing capabilities between disparate emergency response software applications, systems, and devices. The resulting Extensible Markup Language (XML) standards assist the emergency response community in sharing data seamlessly and securely while responding to an incident. EDXL standards include Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Version 1.1 which provides the ability to exchange all-hazard emergency alerts, notifications, and public warnings that can be disseminated simultaneously over many different warning systems (e.g. computer systems, wireless, alarms, TV, radio). CAP is used by Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) across the Nation as a means to share information. In 2007, the FCC endorsed the adoption of CAP for the Nation's next generation emergency alert system. Additionally, CAP is used by other federal agencies, including DHS, the National Weather Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the United States Geological Survey, to send alerts and warnings. The Hospital Availability Exchange (HAVE) messaging standard, enables the exchange of hospital status, capacity, and resource availability/usage information among medical and health organizations and emergency information systems. HAVE allows dispatchers and emergency managers to make sound logistical decisions, such as where to route victims, based on up-to-date information about nearby hospitals' availability and services. EOCs, 9-1-1 centers, EMS agencies, and the Department of Health and Human Services are already using HAVE to better respond to both day-to-day and major incidents. The Resource Messaging (RM) messaging standard enables the seamless exchange of resource information, such as requests for personnel or equipment, which are necessary to support emergency and incident preparedness, response, and recovery. OIC also continued to coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Incident Management System Supporting Technology Evaluation Program to evaluate products for compliance to EDXL standards.
- **Commercial Mobile Alert Service (CMAS):** A component of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System, CMAS is an alert system that will have the capability to deliver relevant, timely, effective, and targeted alert messages to the public through mobile devices, including cell phones and blackberries. This national capability will ensure more people receive Presidential, Imminent Threat, and AMBER alerts. OIC provides research, development, testing, and evaluation in support of CMAS. In FY 2010, with support from OIC and FEMA, the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions and Telecommunications

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Industry Association formed a joint Standards Committee to develop the technical specifications that will be used to administer the C-Interface. The C-Interface will communicate alert messages to Commercial Mobile Service Providers for distribution to the public through mobile devices, including cell phones and blackberries.

2. Please list the government-unique standards your agency used in lieu of voluntary consensus standards during FY 2008: 0

3. Please list the Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) your agency substituted for Government Unique Standards (GUS) in FY 2008 as a result of review under Section 15(b)(7) of OMB Circular A-119: 0

4. Please provide the total number of Voluntary Consensus Standards your agency BEGAN to use during FY 2008: Optional: If possible, also please provide the total number of Non-consensus Standards that are developed in the private sector your agency began to use during FY 2008. In addition, please provide your agency's rationale for using the Non-consensus Standards that are developed in the private sector counted in this question. Voluntary Consensus Standards: 62

Other Technical Standards: 0

5. Please enter the Voluntary Consensus Standards Bodies (VCSB) in which your agency participated in during FY 2008: 58

3 rd Generation Partnership Project Project 23	GPP2
3rd Generation Partnership Project	3GPP
Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions	ATIS
American Association for Budget and Program Analysis	AABPA
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials	AASHTO
American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists	AATCC
American Boat and Yacht Council	ABYC
American Bureau of Shipping	ABS
American Chemical Society	ACS
American National Standards Institute	ANSI
American Petroleum Institute	API
American Railway Engineering & Maintenance-of-Way Association	AREMA
American Society of Civil Engineers	ASCE
American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers	ASHRAE
American Society of Mechanical Engineers	ASME
American Society of Naval Engineers	ASNE
American Towing Tank Conference	ATTC
American Welding Society	AWS
Association of Diving Contractors International	ADCI
Association of Official Analytical Chemists International	AOAC
ASTM International	ASTM
Chlorine Institute	CI
Committee on Marine Measurements	COPM
Compressed Gas Association	CGA
Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards	CIRMS

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Electronic Industries Alliance	EIA
Emergency Interoperability Consortium	EIC
Health Physics Society	HPS
Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers	IEEE
Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society	ISA
International Association of Drilling Contractors	IADC
International Association of Lighthouse Authorities	IALA
International Atomic Energy Agency	IAEA
International Civil Aviation Organization	ICAO
InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards	INCITS
International Organization for Standardization	ISO
International Organization for Standardization/ International Electrotechnical Commission	ISO/IEC
International Radio Consultative Committee	IRCC
International Ship and Offshore Structures Congress	ISOSC
International Telecommunication Union	ITU
International Towing Tank Conference	ITTC
Internet Engineering Task Force	IETF
Joint Aeronautical Commander's Group	JACG
Marine Technology Society	MTS
MultiService Forum	MSF
National Cargo Bureau, Inc	NCB
National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements	NCRP
National Defense Industrial Association	NDIA
National Fire Protection Association	NFPA
National Marine Electronics Association	NMEA
National Marine Manufacturers Association	NMMA
NSF International	NSFI
Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards	OASIS
Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics	RTCA
Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services	RTCM
Society of Automotive Engineers	SAE
Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers	SNAME
Telecommunications Industry Association	TIA
Telemanagement Forum	TMF
Underwriters Laboratories	UL
WiMax Forum	WiMAX

6. Please provide the total number of your agency's representatives who participated in voluntary consensus standards activities during FY 2008 and the total number of activities these agency representatives participated in:

Agency Representatives: 212

Activities: 285

7. Please provide any conformity assessment activities (as described in “Guidance on Federal Conformity Assessment Activities” found in the Federal Register, Volume 65, Number 155, dated August 10, 2000) in which your agency was involved in FY 2008.

none

8. Please provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of Circular A-119 policy and recommendations for any changes:

none

9. Please provide any other comments you would like to share on behalf of your agency.

none

10. Please use this box to provide any additional comments on how your agency currently reports its use of voluntary consensus standards:

10-4. Does your agency report standards that it uses for guidance purposes (as opposed to compliance purposes)? (a) Yes; (b) No; (c) Not applicable; Yes

10-5. Does your agency report use of standards from non-ANSI accredited standards developers, industry consortia groups, or both? (a) non-ANSI Accredited; (b) Consortia; (c) Both; (d) Neither; or (e) Not applicable; C

10-6. Does your agency have a schedule for periodically reviewing its use of standards for purposes of updating such use? (a) Yes; (b) No; Yes

10-7. How often does your agency review its standards for purposes of updating such use? [enter the number of years]: 5

Appendix 4: Examples of Managing Standards

Within DHS, there are many activities and actions that utilize standards: rulemaking and regulations, acquisition and procurement, operations, training, grants, and guidance. Each activity has its own system and process for managing information, documents and standards. The following highlights a few of those systems and processes as they apply to regulations, procurements, and grants.

Marine Safety Regulations

The Director of Commercial Vessel Regulations and Standards (CG-52) develops national regulations, standards and policies to enhance maritime safety, security and stewardship; develops and executes an engagement plan for international standards development; and administers a technical compliance program to ensure uniform application of design and operating standards on commercial vessels. The Standards Directorate includes experts in the areas of ship design and engineering, vessel and facility operating and environmental standards, and standards development and evaluation.

Voluntary consensus standards are an integral part of Marine Safety Regulations. Those standards can be found in 46 CFR - Shipping, 49 CFR - Transportation (Chapter III, Subchapter B), 33 CFR - Navigation and Navigable Waters.

Information Technology (IT) Procurement: Technical & Data Reference Models

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) Enterprise Architecture Program Management Office (EAPMO) and Enterprise Data Management Office (EDMO) has established a Technical Reference Model and Data Reference Model (TRM & DRM), which provide information on technology and standards that must be used in information technology (IT) procurement agreements. Along with the TRM & DRM is a governance process that approves IT technology and standards for incorporation in the Enterprise Architecture. The governance includes an Enterprise Architecture Board (EAB), led by the Director EAPMO and comprised of the Chief Architects from all the Components, which has the final approval authority with respect to IT technology and standards. Those IT standards that are incorporated into the TRM & DRM are managed by the respective program office (EAPMO & EDMO). The Enterprise Architecture Information Repository (EAIR) is a centralized metadata repository that serves as an IT standards catalog. It contains information for over 400 IT standards.

Grants and Guidance: DHS National Standards

In August of 2009, DHS approved a management directive that established a policy for adopting and maintaining non-government standards as DHS National Standards. Driven by HSPD-8, adopting standards as DHS National Standards ensures that homeland security equipment that is procured by DHS or is purchased by federal, state, local, or tribal entities with grant funds meets or exceeds minimum standards agreed to by DHS Components. The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) issues annual program guidance where it states that equipment must meet all DHS-adopted standards to be eligible for purchase using grant funds. The Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) is responsible for managing and maintaining DHS National Standards.