

Dynamic Diversity: Expanding the Future of Standardization
67th Annual SES Conference
August 6-9, 2018, The Inn at Opryland, Nashville, Tennessee

The full conference program, including session descriptions, detailed course information, and registration information, is available on the SES website at www.ses-standards.org

Conference Schedule

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

Official Opening

Kerri Haresign, Conference Chair
Edward Mikoski, CStd, SES President

Keynote Address

Kathie Morgan, President ASTM International

Session 1: Leadership Roundtable: Forging New Visions for Standardization in Dynamic Times

Abstract: This session brings together leaders from SES, standards oversight bodies, and organizations engaged in standards and conformity assessment for an interactive, roundtable discussion about the current landscape for the standards community and the challenges and opportunities for leadership as the who, how, and what of standardization continues to shift and evolve.

Session 2: Developing and Engaging the Next Generation of Standardization Professionals

Abstract: The number of technical experts and standardization professionals nearing retirement age is growing. In the niche industry of standards and conformity assessment, this is expected to provide unique challenges. How can your organization engage young professionals in standards development? How can young professionals better prepare for a career in standards development?

In this interactive session, Laura Brumsey of the Compressed Gas Association (CGA) will discuss the impact of retirement on the standards development process, define the value and benefits of young professional engagement and share strategies for engaging young professionals in standards development.

Mark Ramlochan of ULC Standards will draw on first-hand experience to provide credible examples of how development of certain skills in young professionals can lead to opportunities for success. From core skills such as project management, understanding of consensus, and communication, to interpersonal skills such as negotiation, leadership, and motivation, Mark will discuss the balanced approach to developing these essential skills through on the job training, formal courses, and mentorship.

Session 3: Engaging Stakeholders: Different Pathways to Encourage Participation and Leadership

Abstract: Standards committees understand the urgency of bringing new participants into the process, retaining current participants, harnessing their capabilities, and developing a pipeline of leadership. However, there is often a struggle with exactly how to address this issue, and understanding the roles that SDOs and volunteers can both play to leverage standards development participation and provide the “WIIFM” for technical experts. These breakout sessions provide an interactive exploration to answer, “How do we increase participation and engagement in the standards development process?”

Session 4: The Future is Now: Using Standards to Promote Innovation

Abstract: This TED-Style talk will explore the intersection of standards and innovation to highlight ideas how standardization can be used to help promote and advance technology

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Session 5: Leveraging Diversity to Strengthen the Standards Landscape

Abstract: In 2018, we cannot deny that in the US and around the globe, there is a critical discussion ongoing about the impacts of diversity. But, how specifically does diversity affect the standards landscape? What are the impacts of diversity on communication and groups working toward a common goal? Can we leverage diversity to make standards stronger? This session through a series of impact statements will explore these questions and more, while attempting to identify the opportunities and challenges of the ever-changing standards landscape.

Session 6: Comparison of Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems in North America

Abstract: Presenters from US, Mexico and Canada will each present an overview of their country’s standards and conformity assessment system structure. This overview will highlight similarities and differences between the three economies including examples.

Session 7: Idea to Standard: Exploring the Road to from the Identification to Creation of a Standard

Abstract: This breakout session will explore the process of idea to standard. Breakout presentations will feature a discussion why topics are identification for standardization and how an idea is categorized further by end deliverable goal (e.g., International Standard, American National Standard, Technical Report, and Specification). Presenters will explore the challenges and approaches for when a standards project needs to be abandoned and overall lessons learned.

Session 8: Unique Standards: Case Studies Addressing the Opportunities and Challenges

Abstract: Through the presentation of case studies, this session will address how traditional approaches to standards development and maintenance are evolving in the face of a changing

environment. Presenters will address the successes and challenges in each of the cases and provide lessons learned and opportunities that can be applied to a variety of different standardization cases.

Closing Keynote Address