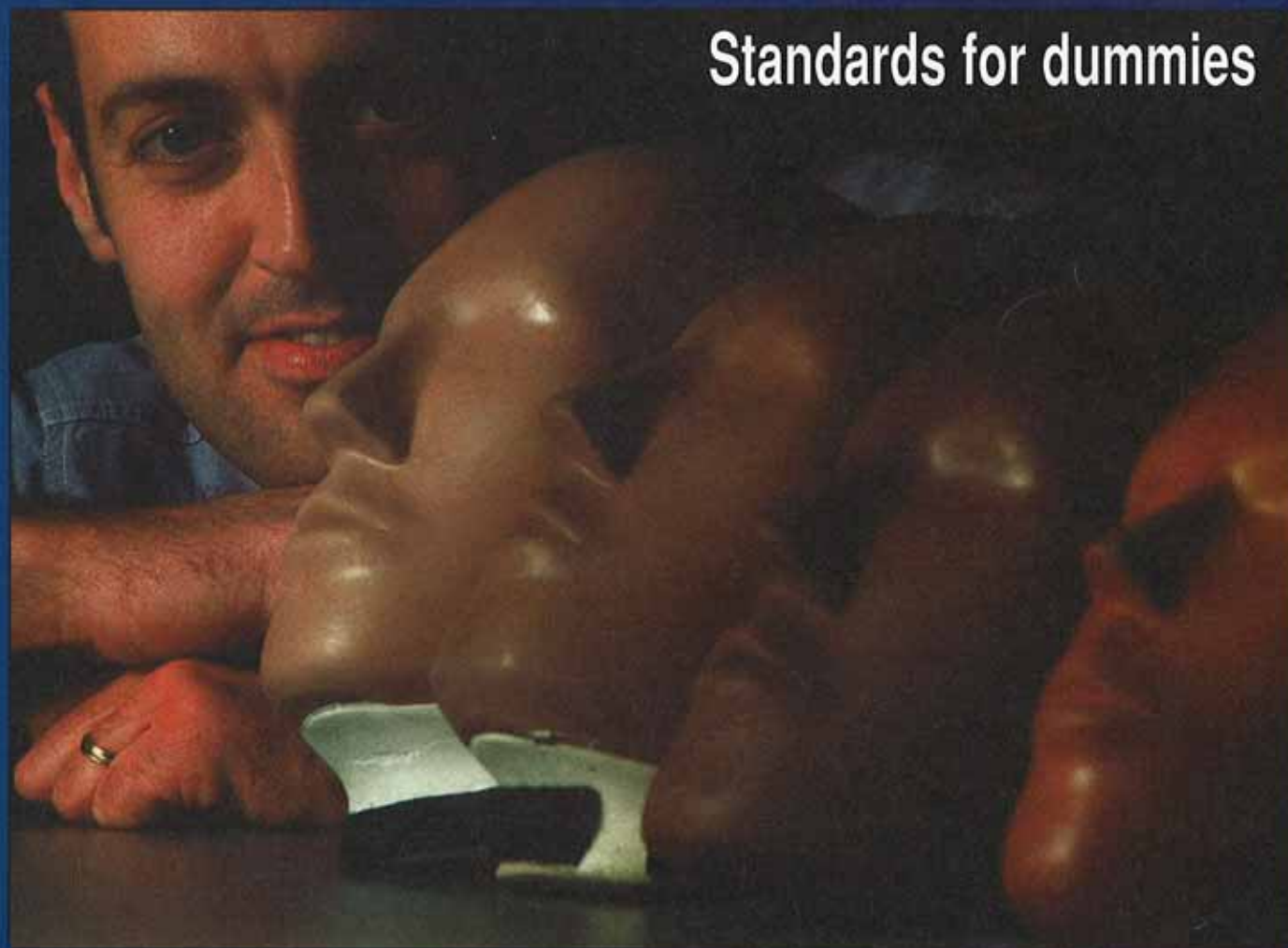


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CONSENSUS

Canada's Newsmagazine of Standardization



Standards for dummies

Also

- A tangled web
- A teddy bear's tale
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Please direct letters and comments to the editor of CONSENSUS, Lesly Bauer, using the information on this page.

HTML comes home



The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) are welcoming a prodigal standard back home.

HTML has its roots in Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML), a language for defining markup languages that's described in ISO 8879. Unfortunately, the earliest versions of HTML diverged from SGML. More recent versions are more compatible, but HTML still allows some practices that aren't accepted in SGML, in order to allow older documents to work in newer browsers.

ISO and IEC are working to make the two even more consistent. A subcommittee of their joint technical committee on information technology (ISO/IEC JTC 1 / SC 34) is developing an international standard for HTML, commonly known as "ISO-HTML".

ISO-HTML is essentially a stricter version of HTML 4.0. Documents written in ISO-HTML will be compatible with any browser that understands HTML 4.0. But they'll also be completely compatible with SGML. That's an important benefit for organizations that use SGML-based systems to manage and process documents.

ISO/IEC 15445, *Information Technology — Document Description and Processing Languages — HyperText Markup Language (HTML)*, is currently at the final committee draft stage.



Like French, HTML has changed over time. There have been three official versions of the language: HTML 2.0, HTML 3.2 and HTML 4.0. And, like French, it has developed into different "dialects". Many differences are the work of the producers of the two leading Web browsers: Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer.

While both companies officially support HTML, and are members of W3C, neither one has fully implemented the specifications in its products. What's more, with each new software release, both have introduced features that aren't part of the specification and that aren't supported in the other browser.

Even the companies responsible now acknowledge that this was a mistake. In a recent statement on HTML, Microsoft noted, "Previous proprietary extensions from Microsoft and other vendors have confused the market, hampered interoperability and been ill-conceived with respect to the design principles underlying HTML."

Sprechen Sie HTML?

While humans can usually understand a dialect of their own language, computers are much less forgiving. Browsers accustomed to a particular HTML dialect often can't fully interpret pages written in another dialect, or in the official version of the language. Sometimes these pages are only partially accessible to visitors using the other browser. Sometimes they can't be seen at all.

Designers who want to create a particular effect on their pages may have to create different versions for different browsers. That adds to the cost of developing a

Web site — by as much as 25 per cent, according to some estimates.

The situation can be even worse for Web surfers who aren't using Navigator or Explorer. People who connect to the Web over a slow connection, using an older computer, or via a community FreeNet, for example, often use a text-based browser such as Lynx. Graphics that may be crucial to understanding the information on a page or navigating the Web site won't show up, and text may appear jumbled or out of order. Braille or audio Web browsers may also have difficulty with pages that don't conform to proper HTML specifications.

Sometimes designers have to do the opposite of what's called for in proper HTML. Web pages are supposed to specify which dialect of HTML they're written in, so that the browser can correctly interpret the language. However, both Navigator and Internet Explorer ignore these language declarations. To get around this, some sites get the browser to identify itself, and then provide a page designed for that particular browser. Despite the specification's requirement that the browser should adapt itself to the document, designers have to adapt the document to conform to the browser.



Untangling the Web

Designers who want their pages to work properly in any browser can get help from a number of sites, such as the

Please see "A tangled web" on pg. 15

Standards for dummies

A Canadian firm leads the effort to develop a world-wide standard for crash-test dummies

The world needs fewer dummies – and a Canadian company is doing its part to bring that about.

Biokinetics and Associates Ltd. (<http://www.biokinetics.com>) is an Ottawa-based engineering and design firm that specializes in preventing injury as a result of vehicle impact. Marc Beusenberg, its vice-president of operations, has been chosen to manage an international project group that will design a globally harmonized side-impact crash-test dummy. The new design is expected to become an international standard, and to be used in harmonized crash test procedures.

Currently, different jurisdictions use different dummies and tests to evaluate the effect of side-impact collisions. SID (side impact dummy), developed in the United States in the late 1970s and early 1980s, is used in tests required by U.S. federal safety regulations. European and Japanese legislation calls for tests involving the EUROSID-1 dummy. Two newer dummies – BioSID and SID-IIs – are used in research by governments and manufacturers, but so far have not been referenced in legislation.

Manufacturers selling their vehicles in Canada may test them to either the U.S. or the European standards. The federal government hasn't embraced either standard exclusively because it is waiting for a single, harmonized set of test procedures to be developed, says Dainius Dalmotas, chief of crash worthiness research at Transport Canada's Motor Vehicle Standards Research Branch.

The lack of harmonized testing procedures hits consumers hard. The need to conduct separate tests for different markets means higher costs and a narrower choice of vehicles, according to proponents of a universal

side impact dummy and test. "A whole lot of investment goes into vehicle design and testing to make sure cars comply in Europe, Asia and North America. Ultimately the customer ends up paying," Mr. Beusenberg explains.

That pocketbook pinch, however, could be over soon. Mr. Beusenberg's global task group, which includes representatives of Transport Canada, dummy manufacturers, and as many as 50 other international experts, will

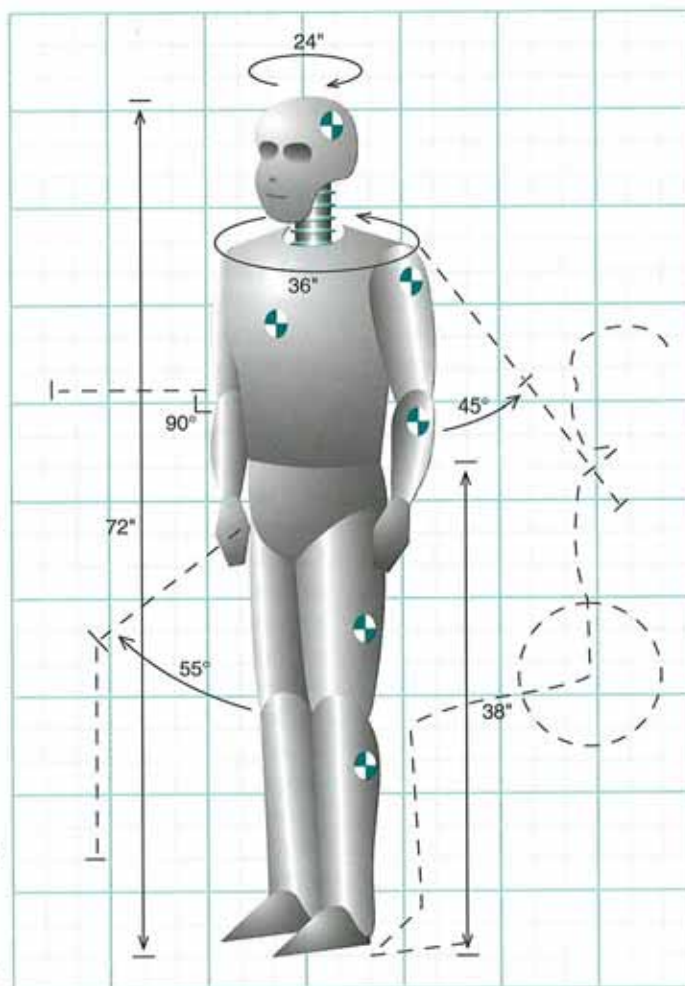
oversee the development of the new side-impact dummy. It plans to unveil its prototype dummy, WorldSID, by January 2000. Extensive evaluation testing will follow, with the production version expected in mid-2001.

Three requirements guide the design and manufacture of crash-test dummies, according to Transport Canada's Mr. Dalmotas. "The dummy has to be biofidelic; it has to behave like a human. It has to be repeatable; it always has to give the same measurements when it's hit in the same way. And it has to be reproducible. If you test with two different dummies of the same model, they both have to give the same results."

Not only will WorldSID's response in a crash be more human-like than any of the existing dummies, it may look more human as well. Current dummy designs incorporate a wide

variety of materials, including steel hoops that model the rib cage. Modern plastics and other materials could even give WorldSID a more human appearance.

Initially, the new dummy will be, well, pretty standard. The dummy's size will reflect the average height and weight of a man: about 1.8 meters tall and weighing 75 kilograms. Eventually, however, it could father other



family members in other human shapes and sizes, such as a smaller female and a larger male.

Biokinetics will manage the design and development of WorldSID. The group will develop specifications that dummy manufacturers will use to design their products. Members from each of the three participating regions – the Americas, Europe and Asia-Pacific – will share equally in the costs involved in the project.

The idea to create WorldSID came from USCAR, the United States Council for Automotive Research (<http://www.uscar.org>), a technological research alliance created by auto giants Chrysler, Ford and General Motors. USCAR was involved in spearheading the development of SID-IIs.

USCAR chose Biokinetics to manage the WorldSID program because it wanted a “group that would be independent of the manufacturing of crash-test dummies but still have sufficient knowledge of the biomechanics involved and the use of crash-test dummies,” says Mr. Beusenbergh.

Once the prototype for WorldSID has been created, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is expected to adopt it as the international standard for side-impact crash-test dummies. ISO’s working group on

anthropomorphic test devices (ISO TC 22 / SC 12 / WG 5) is part of the project.

While ISO’s adoption of WorldSID would be a strong international endorsement of the design, it will still be up to national governments to decide whether they want to reference the standard in their own regulations. And developing a standard dummy is only the first step in harmonizing side-impact testing.

International Harmonized Research Activities, an organization composed of government agencies worldwide that conducts joint research, has formed a working group to develop a set of side-impact test procedures that regulatory bodies can then reference in their own standards.

“There’s a general recognition that you need two or three procedures to evaluate the side-impact protection afforded by a vehicle,” says Mr. Dalmotas. He sees three types of tests emerging: one to simulate a collision between two vehicles, one to simulate a car sliding sideways into a stationary object such as a pole, and one that evaluates the effect of a side-mounted airbag on occupants other than mid-sized males.

More information on the work of the WorldSID group is available on its Web site at <http://www.worldsid.org>. ■

More standards for dummies

Cars and trucks aren’t the only vehicles that get test-driven by dummies. ISO 7176-11, *Wheelchairs – Part 11: Test Dummies* (adopted by the Canadian Standards Association as CAN/CSA-Z323.4.8-94), specifies the construction of test dummies for use in a variety of tests required by a series of wheelchair standards.

Wheelchair dummies don’t look as human as their automotive counterparts: they consist only of a torso and thighs. They’re used to simulate the weight and balance of a human user in tests of a wheelchair’s stability, braking efficiency, strength and resistance to impact, and for electric wheelchairs in tests of speed and acceleration, obstacle-climbing ability, and power and control systems.

Crash-test dummies are intended to mimic the response of the human body to a crash. But how do you judge the realism of that mimicry without using real people?

ISO has the answer. The standards body has developed a six-part technical report (ISO TR 9790) that

offers a guide to assessing the “**biofidelity**” of **side-impact dummies**. Based on studies involving human volunteers and cadavers, the reports describe how the head, neck, shoulder, chest, abdomen or pelvis of a dummy should respond to various types of side impact.



When it comes to **front-impact testing**, Hybrid III is out in front. This family of standard crash-test dummies is recognized in most jurisdictions around the world, including Canada.

The most commonly used version of Hybrid III, which represents an average-sized male, was developed in 1973. A whole family of other versions is also available, including a larger-than-average male, a smaller-than-average female, a six-year-old child and a three-year-old child.

An ISO working group has recommended the use of Hybrid III in front-impact crash testing.

Consumers and industry: c

An industry perspective

Henry Line

Co-chairman, Industry Cooperation on Standards and Conformity Assessment (ICSCA)
Vice President, Global Product Standards, AMP Incorporated (USA)

There is no known better vehicle for accommodating the needs of converging markets and ever-more-rapid technological implementation than standardization.

In some cases, however, standards-driven requirements do not add value to a company's operations or to its customers. Very often the problems involve requirements for demonstrating conformance to standards. These include such things as non-value-adding marking requirements, lack of transparency in test requirements, and mandatory third party certification.

Business does not challenge the need to provide a quality product, to preserve the environment, or to provide a safe and healthy workplace. In fact, company policies in each of these areas are often more demanding than the externally imposed requirements. What companies do question is the need for new, possibly duplicative requirements, especially those that demand third party certification.

Many companies believe that no external certifier can better demonstrate compliance than can they themselves. While these companies encourage the use of third party certification by those who choose it, they resent having it imposed upon their operations. Companies have the same reaction to unnecessary marking requirements, unnecessary re-testing of their products, or any imposition of costs that threatens their ability to compete.

In short, business opposes any standards requirements being imposed upon their operations that add no value, are not market driven, or which are not based upon scientifically verifiable principles.

Enter ICSCA

It is against this backdrop that the Industry Cooperation for Standards and Conformity Assessment (ICSCA) was formed in the fall of 1996. The ICSCA comprises corporate standards executives and other high-level professionals. Fundamental to the group is the principle

that standards should add value to products and processes, especially to customers.

The ICSCA mailing list includes representatives of over 50 companies accounting for nearly a trillion dollars in global annual sales. In addition, several noteworthy industry organizations are participating.

It would be a misconception to suggest, as some have, that the ICSCA opposes international standardization. Indeed, the opposite is true: the ICSCA is a forum to coordinate industry viewpoints in order to strengthen international standardization and to facilitate global trade and business. To this end the ICSCA companies have endorsed many resolutions. Several of the more important ones are:

- To promote the use of global standards when regional or national standards embrace similar requirements
- To oppose any management system standards that add no value, or that would mandate third party certification as the only permissible way to demonstrate compliance
- To affirm the supplier's declaration of conformance as the preferred method of demonstrating conformance, while preserving third party certification for those suppliers who choose to use it
- To promote voluntary private sector consensus standards as preferred alternatives to government-developed standards or regulations
- To support the principle of "one standard - one test and supplier's declaration of conformity" worldwide
- To support the ISO/CASCO single symbol effort
- To support and encourage reengineering by ISO, IEC, and ITU

Please see "An industry perspective" on p. 12.

Industry wants standards that open costs and restrictions. Consumers want performance and safety. Both groups want standards and conformity assessments that meet everyone's needs?

At a special open forum last fall, Standardization (ISO) explored this of the remarks of two participants in an industry view, and the other expressed



Conflict or common ground?

A consumer perspective

Benedicte Federspiel
Executive Director, Danish Consumer Council
Vice-president, Dansk Standard

Consumers have been promised great things as a result of the liberalization of international trade. We have been told that increased competition will lead to lower prices and greater choice for the consumer. In order to bring this about, nations and trading blocs around the world have set to work to harmonize their national standards and conformity assessment regimes.

The concern of many consumers is that their interests are being overlooked in this drive for harmonization. When I read ICSCA's newsletters, I have the impression that its aim is to take back standardization to industry, leaving out other social partners. That is not acceptable, and is especially dangerous at a time when the world focuses more and more on international standardization.

Let me offer a few examples of what I mean.

Industry has expressed great concern over the speed of the standardization process. As a result, new procedures and deliverables are being introduced in an effort to speed up the development of new standards. One such new procedure allows bodies such as ISO to adopt standards developed by other bodies such as industry consortia.

Behind this process, however, is a threat to the consensus process as we know it today. Standardization in its best form consists of a co-operation between industry, workers, consumers and authorities to develop a consensus that brings credibility to the results. These new deliverables and procedures may conflict with core values such as consensus and transparency. Before adopting them, we need to carefully consider the needs of different sectors. What is justified for the information technology sector, where technologies have a short shelf-life, may not be

appropriate for more traditional consumer goods where product life-cycles are longer and technologies more established.

We also have to ask ourselves why the traditional standardization process is so slow. Why are consortia perceived to be quicker? The main participants in both processes are industry. Perhaps agreement is easier in consortia because their membership excludes both consumers and smaller businesses. Ease of achieving consensus should not be our only goal. After all, standards setting is at its easiest when it is done by one company.

Another thing which bothers industry advocates such as ICSCA is third party certification. Particularly when it comes to consumer goods, we have a long tradition of third party certification. Yet there are already substantial numbers of dangerous products that do not comply with the relevant national, regional or international standards in circulation on the world's markets.

Certification is important to consumers. Third party certification creates transparency and trust for the consumer. Yet industry is calling for a wider application of the manufacturer's declaration of conformity, even in areas where there is a long tradition of third party testing. Here again, we need to carefully examine the requirements of individual sectors. Do we really think that what is appropriate for, say, silverware is also appropriate for more complex and potentially dangerous items such as automobiles, medical devices, heavy machinery, gas appliances or drugs?

The proliferation of marks is being discussed constantly. Research shows that most consumers will not trust marks that do not have any form of control. If industry wants the confidence of consumers, it is not enough to rely on manufacturers' declarations.

Please see "A consumer perspective" on p. 13.

*markets without imposing undue
standards that ensure perform-
a bigger say in the development of
systems. Is there a way to satisfy*

*the International Organization for
every issue. Here are abridged versions
of that forum — one representing an
the consumer position.*



"An industry perspective" from p. 10

- To endorse sector-specific requirements and oppose cross-sector legislation as the most effective way to ensure protection of personal data
- To investigate how standards-developing organizations can satisfy their funding requirements by means other than selling standards

National standards bodies have been and will continue to be a necessary part of the global standards development process. However, the same phenomena that are

"Standards still take too long to produce and do not always have adequate technical content or market relevance."

forcing business to alter its approach will likely have a similar impact on the national bodies. The perceptions of the ICSCA could therefore be quite useful in helping the national bodies into the 21st century.

How to improve the process

In a recent resolution, the ICSCA applauded the re-engineering efforts of ISO/IEC, encouraged them to continue their efforts, and encouraged ICSCA members to join in this work.

Here are some industry-driven suggestions on how to improve the standards development process.

Better accommodating the needs of industry

Companies accept the need to get more involved in standards development and are working hard to improve their participation. After all, standards exist primarily to be used by companies or by their customers. Key to achieving this objective is getting executive management properly involved. However, both the national bodies and ISO/IEC can do more to provide greater access by companies.

- Sector boards should be established for those industries that wish to have a stronger say in ensuring the market relevance of standards.
- There needs to be greater use of electronic tools.
- A body similar to ISO's conformity assessment (CASCO), developing country (DEVCO), and information systems and



services (INFCO) policy committees could be established to address the needs of industry.

Improvements to the standards development process

Standards still take too long to produce and do not always have adequate technical content or market relevance. Tested and proven project management techniques could help to resolve this:

- Process maps with performance requirements and measures
- Continuous improvement at every step of the process, by every function involved, to increase added value
- Comprehensive leadership training for TC/SC chairs and secretaries, convenors, rapporteurs
- Continue TC/SC terms in office based upon proven performance
- Business cases for new technical work to assure that there is a demonstrated need for a new standard and that it is scientifically feasible to produce it
- A supermajority requirement for the initiation of new technical work
- Periodic re-evaluation of the need for existing committees and the items on their program of work
- Re-evaluation of DIS approval criteria to minimize voting outcomes that do not reflect the consensus of the participating national bodies
- Resolution of language clarity and translation problems at the earliest possible opportunity
- Web sites for TC and SC activities

Funding Issues Industry is willing to fund the process of standards development and routinely does so. However, industry is unwilling to pay any non-value-adding costs, particularly unnecessary elements of a process or those that delay it. Industry will pay for well-managed administration, efficient distribution of documents, high quality editorial services and the like, but it will not pay for excessive bureaucracy or any other non-value-adding "service."

- Efforts should be made to seek funding for ISO/CS operations from other sources than the sale of documents
- Pricing of ISO standards should be based upon their production and publication costs
- The ISO financial model must respond to the needs of individual sectors, some of which desire to make their standards available free of charge
- The entire system should be analyzed to determine where costs are incurred, where they can be reduced, and where duplicative functions can be eliminated
- Better use needs to be made of electronic tools system-wide ■

"A consumer perspective" from p. 11

There are already too many marks competing for the attention of the consumer. If manufacturers want their products to carry a mark, they should take into account consumers' expectations of such schemes.

If companies want to boast that they do something, consumers should have some confidence that someone has verified that that claim is correct. I believe that the future will bring more demands for transparency and put even more demands on industry. Perhaps that is why industry is on the war path now.

In short, if industry seriously wants to reduce this administrative burden, then they must address how to ensure the high levels of safety which even today we must struggle to maintain.

Another area of concern for industry is management systems such as ISO 9000 and ISO 14000. There is a trend underway towards expanding management systems into areas such as occupational health and safety or privacy. This is a development that industry also seems to be against.

Curiously, while multinational companies are often very much against management systems, they still demand that their suppliers have them.

ICSCA doesn't want certification in the areas of value management, risk management or occupational health and safety. I find this somewhat surprising. Many products and services are becoming similar all over the world. Once consumers realize that any dishwasher, for example, will wash their dishes, they start to base their buying decisions on other criteria. Areas such as occupational health and safety and risk management are ones that consumers might focus on in the future, so it seems shortsighted to slow down or stop work in these areas. Nobody says that management systems standards in these areas should become mandatory, so it is strange – and very anticompetitive – to be so negative towards developments in these areas.

Mutual recognition agreements between trading partners help to eliminate the cost to industry and consumers of multiple assessments, marks, test reports and so on. Therefore, there is general support for worldwide acceptance of international standards. However, it is important that the governing principle of such schemes remain the assurance that the systems being recognized are basically equivalent. Otherwise, the trust consumers have in tests and conformity assessment will go down the drain.

The greatest challenge that globalization presents to consumers, however, is simply the right to be heard. ICSCA says that its mailing list includes more than 50 company members accounting for nearly a trillion dollars in annual sales. Anyone familiar with the consumer move-

ment can see at a glance the difference in resources between consumer organizations and industry.

Consumer representation in both national and international standards bodies is severely limited. According to one estimate, only 39 of the more than 100 national standards bodies around the world make any provisions for consumer representation. Only 18 national member bodies of ISO appear to have any consumer participation at the international level.

ISO also seems to have a different attitude towards consumer representation than some other standards

"The greatest challenge that globalization presents to consumers, however, is simply the right to be heard."

bodies, particularly those in Europe. The European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardization (ANEC) is directly represented in many of the technical committees of the principal standards bodies. Consumers International, the international consumer organization, does not have similar standing within ISO.

I believe it is important to strive for a high level of consumer protection, and I hope that the recommendations in the ISO/IEC statement on consumer participation in standardization work will be implemented by the national standards bodies.

My impression of the resolutions from industry bodies such as ICSCA is that companies rarely seem to consider that they are actually in the market to provide goods and services to others, and not just to maximize profit for their shareholders.

The expectation and demands of the other end of the chain – consumers and other stakeholders – seem somewhat forgotten. This is contrary to what is said on other occasions when industry takes a much more visionary view of the future. Let's hope that such fine statements are not just window-dressing, and that industry will embark on a fruitful discussion of where we should go – together – in the areas of standards, certification and management systems. ■





A teddy bear's tale

In which a travelling bear discovers a world full of standards and conformity assessment requirements

The toy industry, like most others, is facing a world demand for safe, well-made products at competitive prices. How do standardization and conformity assessment

requirements affect producers of a relatively straightforward and traditional product like a teddy bear? A small white teddy bear made in the People's Republic of China can help answer this question.

All of the components of the bear, with the exception of polycore thread, come from countries other than China. The eyes are moulded in Japan and are fixed ultrasonically by a machine made in South Korea. The dress is imported from France. The stuffing material, made of polyester fibre, comes from either Germany or the United States, and the pile fabric is produced in Korea. All of the components are assembled in China. The bear was designed by a mid-sized U.S. manufacturer, whose engineers produced the manufacturing and safety specifications for customers in Brazil, Canada, the European Union, Japan, Mexico and the United States.

For shipments to the United States, a number of standards and regulations must be observed. Because some of the bears are sold on a direct basis via Hong Kong to four different U.S. retailers, four different certifications from four different Hong Kong facilities are obtained. Each must attest that the toy complies with U.S. federal regulations as well as the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification on Toy Safety* (ASTM F963), the voluntary toy safety-standard in the United States.

To take advantage of freight rates, the product is shipped to Canada, Brazil and Mexico at the same time. The labels and hang-tags on the toy therefore appear in English, Spanish and French. Products headed for Brazil require certification from a recognized U.S. or Brazilian facility that the requisite standard – partially U.S. and partially European in origin – has been met.

For shipments headed toward Japan, the Japanese "ST" mark must be placed on the tags and labels to indicate compliance with Japanese regulations on toy safety, and the toy must meet testing requirements on the formaldehyde content of products destined for infants.

For shipments to the European Union, the teddy bear must have hang-tags and labels with the appropriate "CE" mark, indicating compliance with the European standard *Safety of Toys* (EN 71). The company making this particular toy has designated its London office as the official site for the "technical file", which establishes the fact that the company uses quality-assurance methods and has the systems necessary to assure compliance with European standards. All E.U. customs inquiries about this product must be referred back to this office. In case of disputes, customs officials may detain the shipment pending translation of the file. This can result in delays and increased costs for a product which has already been extensively tested. ■

*Reprinted from the OECD Observer, No. 202, October/November 1996
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Easing Teddy's travels

The Standards Council of Canada is one of a number of organizations around the world working to harmonize standards and conformity assessment systems.

Under the auspices of the Standards Council, some 3,000 Canadians take part in the development of international standards. Those standards are increasingly forming the basis of National Standards of Canada.

The Standards Council is also taking part in regional and international agreements intended to bring about mutual recognition in the field of conformity assessment (testing, certification and registration). Agreements in various industry sectors have already been developed with the United States, Mexico, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and the European Union. See past issues of *CONSENSUS* or visit our Web site at <http://www.scc.ca> for details.



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New accreditations

Certification organization

- **PFS Corporation**, Madison, Wisconsin

Manufactured Wood Products pertaining to the physical characteristics, load-carrying capability, dimensional stability, bond integrity and durability of products, materials, structural shapes and assemblies made of wood, wood fibres and composite materials, including:

- structural insulated panels
- wood composite panels
- structural glue laminated timber
- structural composite lumber
- I-joists, open web trusses and other structural shapes

"A tangled web" from p. 7



"Viewable With Any Browser" campaign at <http://www.anybrowser.org>.

However, a growing number of designers and users feel that they shouldn't have to work around the incompatibilities of the major browsers, and that the browsers should conform to the specifications instead.

In March 1997, computer magazine publisher Ziff-Davis Inc. launched its Web Interoperability Pledge campaign. The campaign urged browser vendors to sign a pledge promising to support the W3C specifications, and to submit any proposed extensions to W3C before adding them to their products. In response to a 35,000-name petition, Netscape, Microsoft and W3C agreed to the pledge in July 1997.

Then, in August 1998, a coalition of Web developers launched the Web Standards Project, or WSP (<http://www.webstandards.org>). The group calls upon browser vendors to ensure that their products support a core set of W3C specifications before adding new features. With the help of The Open Group, an industry coalition specializing in cross-platform technology, WSP

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Voluntary withdrawals of accreditation

Calibration and testing laboratories

- **Beak Consultants Ltd. Ecotoxicology Laboratory**, Dorval, Quebec
- **Les Laboratoires Shermont Inc.**, Sherbrooke, Quebec

is also developing a set of tests that will evaluate browsers against the HTML specifications.

The user revolt has started to make a difference. Both Netscape and Microsoft have promised that the next generation of their products will fully implement W3C recommendations, and have made preliminary versions available to users. It appears that they're keeping their promises: users who've tested portions of the new version of Navigator report that it appears to implement most features of the specifications.

The problem of incompatible browsers isn't solved yet – in fact it may never be. Because so many people have used non-standard HTML in their Web pages – to work around the incompatibilities, to exploit a particular feature of a particular browser, or just because they didn't know any better – future browsers will have to be tolerant of non-conforming HTML.

The tangled Web is a good example of what happens when companies rely on proprietary standards rather than open ones. ■

National Standards of Canada

Since the last issue of *CONSENSUS*, the following standards were approved as National Standards of Canada by the Standards Council of Canada. For information on availability and prices, or to order copies of these standards, please contact the appropriate standards development organizations below. Some documents may be available in only one language.

Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB)

Telephone: (819) 956-0425 or
1-800-665-CGSB (Canada only)
Fax: (819) 956-5644



CAN-CGSB 1.171 Inorganic zinc coating
CGSB 4.2 No. 49 Textile test methods – Resistance of materials to water vapour diffusion
CAN-CGSB 7.1 Lightweight Steel Wall Framing Components
CAN-CGSB 85.10 Protective Coatings for Metals

Canadian Standards Association (CSA)

Telephone: (416) 747-4044
Fax: (416) 747-2475



CAN-CSA C1325 Insulators for overhead lines with a nominal voltage above 1000 V – Ceramic or glass insulator units for d.c. systems – Definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria
CAN-CSA C50052 Cast aluminium alloy enclosures for gas-filled high-voltage switchgear and controlgear
CAN-CSA C50064 Wrought aluminium and aluminium alloy enclosures for gas-filled high-voltage switchgear and controlgear
CAN-CSA C50068 Wrought steel enclosures for gas-filled high-voltage switchgear and controlgear
CAN-CSA C50069 Welded composite enclosures of cast and wrought aluminium alloys for gas-filled high-voltage switchgear and controlgear
CAN-CSA C50089 Cast resin partitions for metal-enclosed gas-filled high-voltage switchgear and controlgear
CAN-CSA E968 Self-ballasted lamps for general lighting services
CAN-CSA ISO 14041 Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Goal and scope definition and inventory analysis
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10608-1 Information technology – International Standardized Profile TAnnnn – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connectionless-mode Network Service – Part 1: General overview and subnetwork-independent requirements
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10608-14 Information technology – International Standardized Profile TAnnnn – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connectionless-mode Network Service – Part 14: MAC, PHY, and PMD sublayer dependent and Station Management requirements over an FDDI LAN subnetwork
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10608-2 Information technology – International Standardized Profile TAnnnn – Connection-mode

Transport Service over Connectionless-mode Network Service – Part 2: TA51 profile including subnetwork-dependent requirements for CSMA/CD Local Area Networks (LANs)
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10608-4 Information technology – International Standardized Profile TAnnnn – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connectionless-mode Network Service – Part 4: Definition of profile TA53, operation over a Token Ring LAN subnetwork
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10608-5 Information technology – International Standardized Profile TAnnnn – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connectionless-mode Network Service – Part 5: TA1111/TA1121 profiles including subnetwork-dependent requirements for X.25 packet-switched data networks using virtual calls
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10608-6 Information technology – International Standardized Profile TAnnnn – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connectionless-mode Network Service – Part 6: Definition of profile TA54, operation over an FDDI LAN subnetwork
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-1 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 1: Subnetwork-type independent requirements for Group TB
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-12 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 12: Definition of profile TC51, provision of the OSI connection-mode Transport Service using the OSI Connection-mode Network Service in an End System attached to a CSMA/CD LAN
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-2 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 2: Subnetwork-type independent requirements for Group TC
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-20 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 20: Overview of the generalized multi-part ISP structure for TC and TD Group profiles for OSI usage of ISDN
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-22 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 22: Subnetwork-type dependent requirements for Network Layer and Data Link Layer for ISDN B-channel X.25 DTE to DCE operation
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-23 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 23: Subnetwork-type dependent requirements for Network Layer and Data Link Layer for Data Transfer concerning a packet switched mode Integrated Services Digital

Network using virtual calls: B-channel access case
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-24 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 24: Subnetwork-type dependent requirements for Network Layer and Data Link Layer for Data Transfer concerning a packet switched mode Integrated Services Digital Network using virtual calls: D-channel access case
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10608-12 Information technology – International Standardized Profile TAnnnn – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connectionless-mode Network Service – Part 12: MAC sublayer and physical layer dependent requirements for a CSMA/CD LAN subnetwork
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-10 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over connection-mode Network Service – Part 10: LAN subnetwork-dependent, media-independent requirements
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-11 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 11: CSMA/CD subnetwork-dependent, media-dependent requirements
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-14 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 14: Definition of profile TC53, provision of the OSI Connection-mode Network Service in an End System attached to a Token Ring LAN
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-15 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 15: Definition of profile TC54, provision of the OSI Connection-mode Transport Service in an End System attached to an FDDI LAN
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-21 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 21: Subnetwork-type dependent requirements for Network Layer and Data Link Layer for ISDN B-channel X.25 DTE to DTE operation
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-25 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 25: Subnetwork-type dependent requirements for Q.931 circuit-switched operation
CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-26 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 26: Subnetwork-type dependent requirements for Network Layer for Call Control procedures concerning the outgoing call of a packet switched mode Intergrated Services Digital Network in case B using virtual calls

CAN-CSA ISO/IEC ISP 10609-27 Information technology – International Standardized Profiles TB, TC, TD and TE – Connection-mode Transport Service over Connection-mode Network Service – Part 27: Subnetwork-type dependent requirements for Network Layer for Call Control procedures concerning the incoming call of a packet switched mode Integrated Services Digital Network in case B using virtual calls
CAN-CSA Z11140-1 Sterilization of health care products – Chemical indicators – Part 1: General requirements
CAN-CSA Z275.4 Competency Standard for Diving Operations
CAN-CSA Z314.10 Selection, Use, Maintenance, and Laundering of Reusable Textile Wrappers, Surgical Gowns, and Drapes for Health Facilities
CAN-CSA Z810 Life Cycle Impact Assessment: Pulp and Paper Production Phase

For a searchable database of all National Standards of Canada, please visit the Standards Council's Web site at <http://www.scc.ca>.

Notice of public review

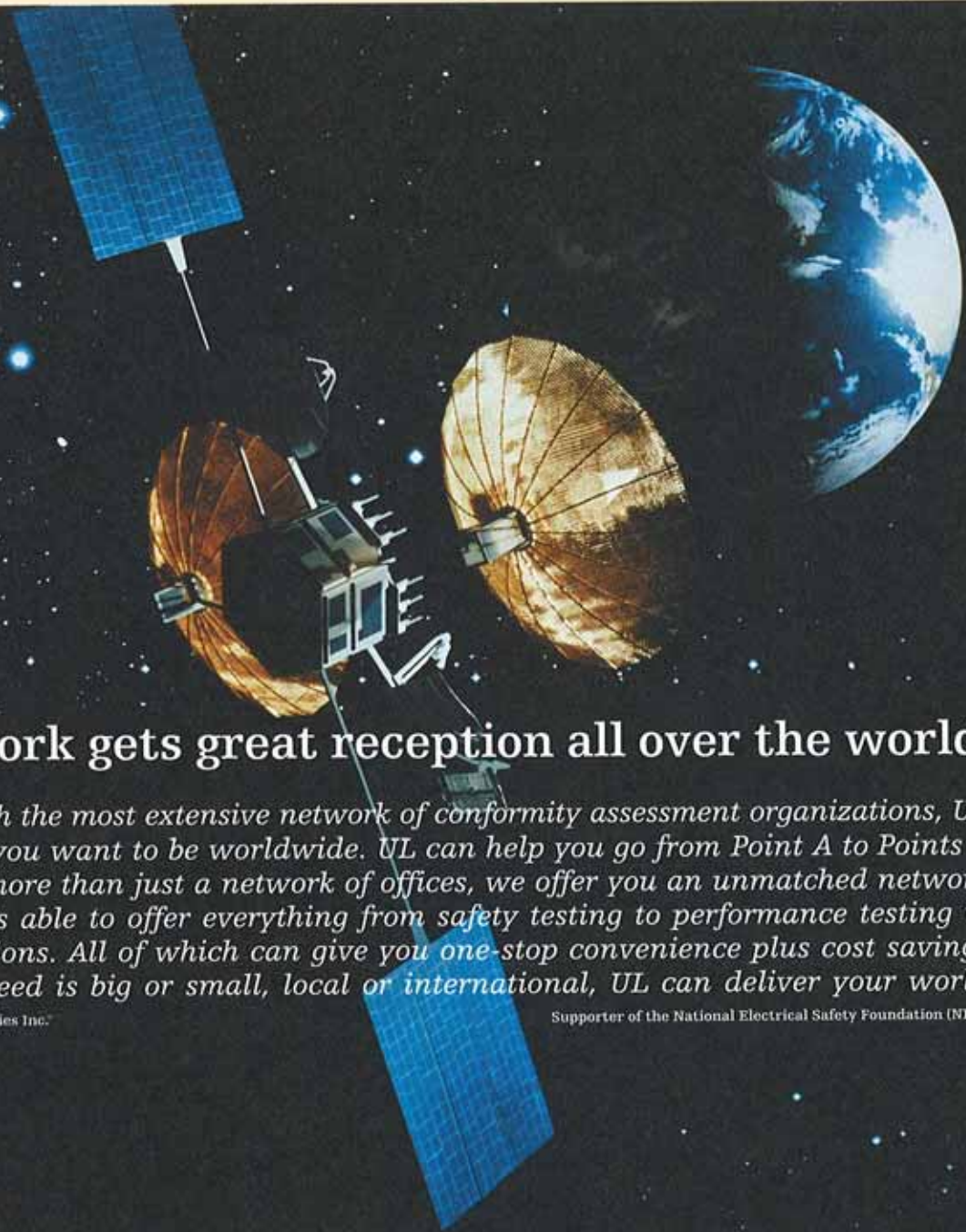
Canadian OSI Registration Authority (COSIRA)

In accordance with the Canadian Standards Association's *Canadian OSI Registration Procedures and Guidelines* (Z243.110 Series-93), the organizations below have applied for authorization to use the following Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) identifiers.

Company	Object Type	Value
Syncrude Canada Ltd.	NSAP Org-ID	301
Bcnet Networking Society	NSAP Org-ID	302

For details, to comment on this application, or to obtain more information on OSI registration in Canada, please contact the administrator, COSIRA at (819) 956-3557, fax (819) 956-4848, e-mail cosira@pwgsc.gc.ca.

A list of approved OSI identifiers currently in use in Canada is available on-line through the Standards Council of Canada's database. Information on database access can be obtained by contacting Doug Langlotz at (613) 238-3222, e-mail dlanglotz@scc.ca.



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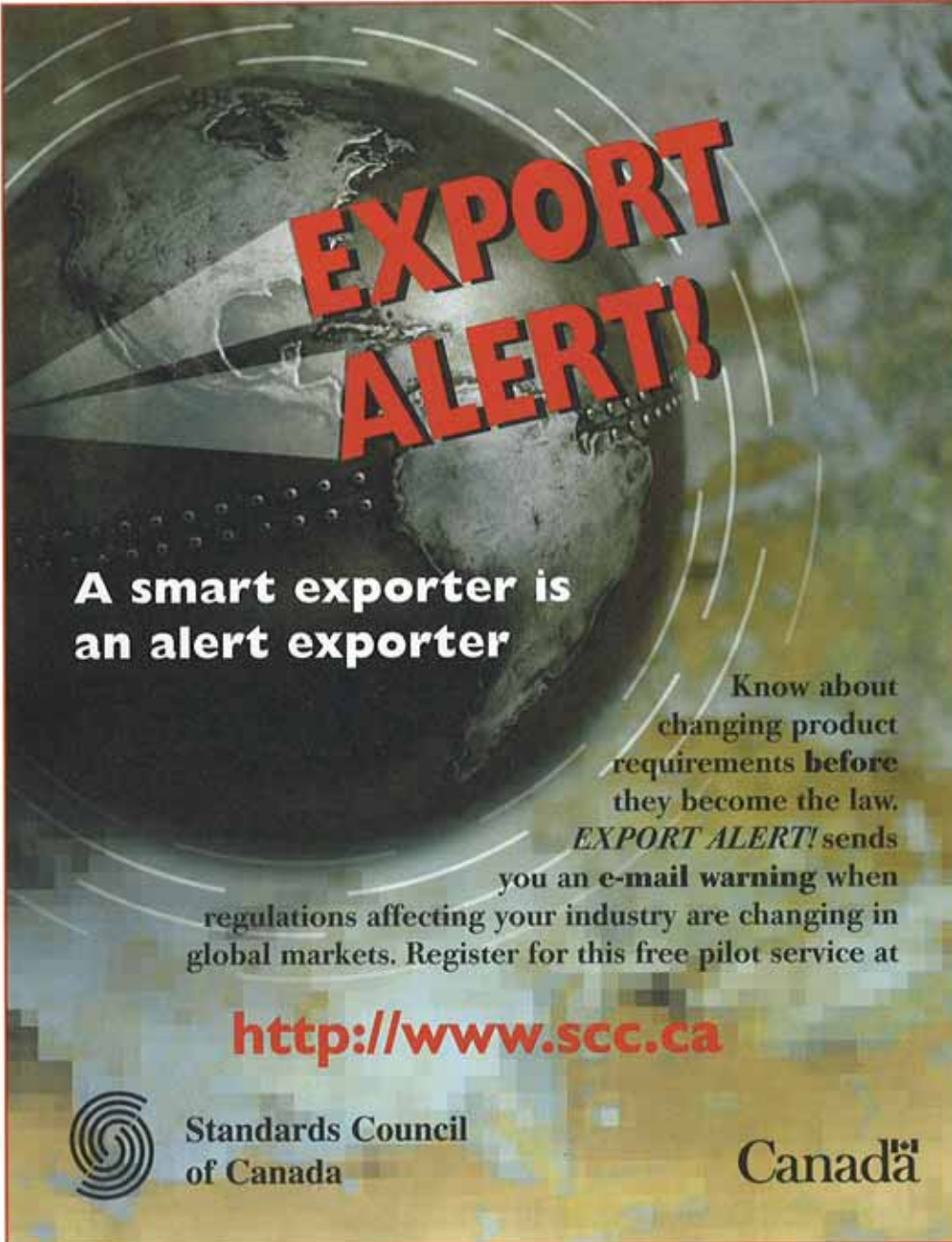


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