



Questions and SES Responses from the National Survey on U.S. Standards Policies

QUESTION 1: Given the impact of Globalization, is there a need to change current United States policies for development of private-sector technology standards; *i.e.*, that the private sector will provide the leadership and resources for development of such standards, as necessary, and the government will play a supporting role? If so, what specific changes should be made to roles of the private and public sectors in developing such standards?

SES RESPONSE 1: The SES endorses the United States Standards Strategy, as well as the private-sector led and public-sector supported standardization system coordinated by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and does not believe the system needs changing.

QUESTION 2: Given increased attention to national standards education programs around the world, should the United States increase its support for U.S. standards education programs in order to maintain or enhance its competitive position in the global marketplace? If so, what are your organization's specific recommendations for increased standards education support in the private, public and academic sectors? Does your organization currently have an existing standards education program?

SES RESPONSE 2: Yes, the SES supports an increase in support for U.S. standards education programs in order to maintain or improve its competitive position in the global marketplace.

Since 1947 the Standards Engineering Society (SES) has been dedicated to furthering the knowledge of standards and standardization. As part of this mission, the SES takes a proactive stance in providing a number of education-based initiatives to the standards community:

1. SES Annual Conference: A two-day event showcasing discussion panels with industry leaders in the field of standardization;
2. Professional Development Courses: Instructor-led and internet-based coursework geared towards skills development of the standards professional;
3. Professional Certification: The SES certification program recognizes those who demonstrate a high degree of professional competence in core areas of standardization with the professional designations of AStd. and CStd.

The SES believes that the U.S. standards community should work with U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of Education to produce public awareness messages on the values of standards education. Further, there should be a public/private partnership to target university business and engineering schools for the promotion of standards education.

In keeping with this approach, the SES also recognizes and supports the activities of ANSI, and specifically their endorsement of Strategic Initiative 10 of the United States Standards Strategy, dedicated to the establishment of standards education as a high priority.