Role of Voluntary Standards in Consumer Product Safety Programs

North America
Consumer Product Safety Summit
November 2015
Mexico City
Creating a better, safer, more sustainable world where standards work for people and business.

- Established in 1919
- Independent, not-for-profit
Value of Standards

**Industry/Business**
- Cost Savings
- Improved customer satisfaction
- Access to new markets
- Increased market share

**Government**
- Regulatory requirements
- Subject matter expertise
- Facilitates trade
- Technology

**Consumer/Society**
- Greater consumer confidence
- Products are good quality, reliable and safe
Value of Standards

Consumers Safety & Protection

- Enhanced safety & reliability
- Better, more consistent quality
- Greater selection
- Easier choices
- Better value
CSA Group - Standards

54 Areas of technology

3,000 Standards

Over 8700 Expert committee members
CSA Directives and Guidelines Governing Standardization

- A rigorous process
- Balanced representation
- Consensus-based decision making
Standards Development Process

REQUEST / EVALUATION / AUTHORIZATION → ASSIGN TO COMMITTEE → NOTICE OF INTENT → MEETINGS / DRAFT → PUBLIC REVIEW

TC REACHES CONSENSUS → PRE-APPROVAL EDIT → TECHNICAL CONTENT APPROVAL → PROCEDURAL APPROVAL

FINAL EDIT / PUBLICATION → DISSEMINATION → MAINTENANCE
Key Principles - Balanced Matrix

- Total membership of the Committee maintained in terms of categories, not affiliations. Typical interest categories include:

- General Interest
- Producer Interest
- Regulatory Authority / Government
- User Interest
Key Principles – Consensus Decision Making

- Substantial agreement
- More than a simple majority
- Not necessarily unanimity
CSA Group
Consumer Program
Ensuring that the needs of consumer and end users are included in our standards.

“Correlation between strong, active, healthy standards systems and strong economies.”

http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/benefitsofstandards.htm
Global Business Units

Hazardous Locations & Products

Industrial Products

Product Evaluation

Lighting and wiring

Transportation

Alternative Energy & Sustainability

Appliances & Gas

Plumbing & Construction

Medical, Safety & Technology

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Commitment

Improvements to CSA Standards Help Reduce Residential Fires
Thank you