



What makes a standard a great standard?

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DITTA Workshop on Standardization
Date: Sept 18, 2017
Location. Ottawa (remotely)



**International
Electrotechnical
Commission**

Scope of the IEC



- All electrical and electronic components, devices and systems
- From power generation, transmission and distribution incl. all renewables, off-grid/rural electrification to smart grids and cities
- Overall: safety, electromagnetic interference, environment & waste management

IEC in figures

- IEC family (Members & Affiliates) 83 + 87 = 170
- Number of technical committees 216
- Number of working groups close to 1 450
- Number of experts approx. 20 000
- Number of pubs. in catalogue close to 10 000
- Conformity Assessment Systems 4
- Number of CA certificates approx. 1 mio
- Regional offices 5

What makes a standard a great standard?

Addresses market needs

- time to market,
- wide access
- fit for purpose: performance based

All stakeholders involved

- Regulators
- Industry
- Users
- Academia
- Testing laboratories

What makes a standard a great standard?

Regulators:

- Alignment between regulators
- In EU: presumption of conformity
- Fits in regulatory context

Industry:

- Performance based rather than design based
- Measureable
- Certifiable
- Technology agnostic
- Time to market
- Coordination with other SDO's: no duplication of efforts

What makes a standard a great standard?

Process:

WTO principles: transparency, openness, consensus and impartiality, effectiveness and market relevance

- **Consensus =**

Views of all stakeholders are taken into account and all conflicting arguments are reconciled

Absence of sustained opposition to substantial issues

⇒ essential to achieve broad relevance and use

- **Early Involvement**
- **Early Feedback (public commenting)**

What makes a standard a great standard?

International Standards

- **Fit for purpose:**
 - International: trade, vendor choice
 - IEC has the experts, and CA Systems
 - Most medical devices covered
 - Horizontal topics: Safety, security, privacy
 - Not just device alone, but components of a system



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