

Questions and Help Text for FY 2007 Annual NTTAA Report to OMB

Name of Bureau/Office: _____

Question 1

Please describe the importance of standards in the achievement of your agency's mission, how your agency uses standards to deliver its primary services in support of its mission, and provide any examples or case studies of standards success. *Please include relevant internet links to your agency's website.*

Question 1 Help

Briefly describe your agency's standards program as it relates to the agency's mission and services. Provide examples of your agency's successful use of Voluntary Consensus Standards (VC) and the beneficial outcomes that resulted. Successful outcomes may include: significant cost and/or time savings; improved public health and/or safety; more free and fair competition, commerce or trade; improved collaboration and cooperation with the private sector; avoided duplication of private sector activities; innovation and application of better technology, increased goodwill for the Federal government; and any others. *You are encouraged to provide in your response internet links to additional information on your agency's website.*

Question 2

Please list the government-unique standards your agency used in lieu of voluntary consensus standards during FY 2007.

Question 2 Help

In responding to this question, you should:

- 1) First review your agency's inventory of Government Unique Standards (GUS) used in lieu of Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) from FY 1997 to FY 2006 as provided for you by the NTTAA Reporting System accessible via <http://standards.gov>
- 2) Identify any Government Unique Standards (GUS) that were introduced for the **first time** in FY 2007. For each instance of new use:
 - a. Identify each new GUS by document number and title
 - b. Identify each Voluntary Consensus Standard (VCS) not used by document number and title
 - c. Provide a rationale for each instance of a GUS used in lieu of an existing VCS

SPECIAL NOTES:

- 1) You do not need to report your agency's use of a GUS where no similar VCS exists.
- 2) A GUS used by a federal agency must be reported by that agency regardless of which agency actually developed that standard. For example, any agency using a MIL-SPEC should not expect or rely upon DoD to report its use but must itself report the standard as being used.
- 3) Rationales must be explicit and demonstrative of why the GUS is being used. For example, rationales may be based on cost concerns, technology issues, performance standards, time (need vs availability), policy matters, etc.

Question 3

Please list the Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS) your agency substituted for Government Unique Standards (GUS) in FY 2007 as a result of review under Section 15(b)(7) of OMB Circular A-119.

Question 3 Help

Identify the document title and number for each Voluntary Consensus Standard (VC) that was substituted and for each Government Unique Standard (GUS) that was discontinued from use.

Question 4

Please provide the total number of Voluntary Consensus Standards your agency BEGAN to use during FY 2007. Optional: If possible, also please provide the total number of Non-consensus Standards that are developed in the private sector your agency BEGAN to use during FY 2007. In addition, please provide your agency's rationale for using the Non-consensus Standards that are developed in the private sector counted in this question.

Question 4 Help

Your report preparation process should include a review of your agency's use of VCSs over the part year where your agency introduced the incorporation of a VCS in whole, in part, or by reference for procurement purposes, and the inclusion of a VCS in whole, in part, or by reference in a regulation.

Question 5

Please enter the Voluntary Consensus Standards Bodies (VCSB) in which your agency participated in during FY 2007.

Question 5 Help

List all VCSB organizations that apply.

Question 6

Please provide the total number of your agency's representatives who participated in voluntary consensus standards activities during FY 2007 and the total number of activities these agency representatives participated in.

Question 6 Help

Enter the total number of individuals who represented your agency as participants in voluntary standards activities during FY 2007. Count each individual only once regardless of the number of committee responsibilities he or she may fulfill. For purposes of this report, an activity is equivalent to one individual serving in some specific capacity with one Standards Developing Organization (SDO). Therefore, in calculating the total number of activities in which your agency's representatives participate, you should count the multiple times any individual representative who is involved in multiple activities with Voluntary Consensus Standards Developing Organizations (Note: An agency representative can participate in more than one activity so the total number of activities can exceed the total number of agency representatives.)

An Example:

<i>Representative</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Person # 1</i>	<i>3 ASTM Committees</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Person #2</i>	<i>2 NFPA Committees</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Person #2</i>	<i>1 ASHRAE Board Seat</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Total Agency Activities</i>		<i>6</i>

Question 7

Please provide any conformity assessment activities (as described in “Guidance on Federal Conformity Assessment Activities” found in the Federal Register, Volume 65, Number 155, dated August 10, 2000) in which your agency was involved in FY 2007.

Question 7 Help

Enter a summary description of all your agency’s relevant conformity assessment activities.

Question 8

Please provide an evaluation of the effectiveness of Circular A-119 policy and recommendations for any changes.

Question 8 Help

Enter your agency’s views and suggestions on the Circular, the reporting process, and other relevant subjects in the text box provided.

Question 9

Please provide any other comments you would like to share on behalf of your agency.

Question 9 Help

Enter any relevant information in the text box provided.

Question 10

10.1 – This question was deprecated in 2005

10.2 – This question was deprecated in 2005

10.3 – This question was deprecated in 2005

10.4 – Does your agency report standards that is uses for guidance purposes (as opposed to compliance purposes)?

(a) Yes

(b) No

© No Applicable

10.5 – Does your agency report use of standards from non-ANSI accredited standard developers, industry consortia groups, or both?

(a) non_ANSI Accredited

(b) Consortia

(c) Both

(d) Neither

(e) Not Applicable

10.6 – Does your agency have a schedule for periodically reviewing its use of standards for purposes of updating such use?

(a) Yes

___ (b) No

10.7 How often does your agency review its standards for purposes of updating such use (enter the number of years).

10.8 Please provide any additional comments on how your agency currently reports its use of voluntary consensus standards.

Question 10 Help

No help text provided.