

VCAT Subcommittee

U.S. International Standards Development Activity

Mr. Jason Matusow
Subcommittee Chair

Dr. Jayne Morrow
NIST Sr. Advisor for Standards Policy

Objective

Develop specific recommendations for deliberation of the full VCAT that assess the opportunities to enhance NIST's engagement in, support of, and coordination policy efforts in support of international standards development activity.

Subcommittee is charged to report to the VCAT and make recommendations on the following, among other related topics:

- barriers to U.S. participation in standards development activity, and opportunities for knowledge and resource sharing to ensure U.S. equities from the private and public sector are supported -- especially in potentially disruptive, fast-moving technology areas;
- opportunities to increase the number of professional in CET sectors engaged in standards development activity, particularly in small and medium size enterprises (SMEs);
- opportunities for NIST to work effectively with private-sector stakeholders to foster greater U.S. investment in pre-standardization research that is essential to standards development activity.

Designated Federal Officer (DFO) – Stephanie Shaw

Subcommittee Structure

Name	Affiliation
Jason Matusow	VCAT Member - Chair (Microsoft)
Vint Cerf	VCAT Member (Google)
Mary Saunders	ANSI and ITAC 10
Phil Wennblom	Intel and ISO/IEC JTC 1
Susan Miller	ATIS
Glenn Reynolds	ATIS - alternate
Joshua Meltzer	Brookings Institute
Tim Simcoe	Boston University
Jim Matthews	Corning and IEEE SA
Veronica Lancaster	CTA and IEC USNC

Subcommittee Process Update

Hold 8 Listening Sessions

- 1**
 - JUN – OCT 2023: 16 Perspectives
 - 90-min. format: 2 presentations, Q&A, and visiting experts discussion

Develop Visiting Expert Written Findings

- 2**
 - Complete by first week DEC 2023

Submit Version 1 Report

- 3**
 - Due mid-JAN 2024

If FEB VCAT Approves Version 1 Report

- 4**
 - Submit document to NIST
 - Socialize via inter-agency process
 - Socialize with related FACA committees

Revise Document or Develop Version 2

- 5**
 - Incorporate USG NSSCET RFI materials
 - Incorporate NIST Listening Session feedback
 - Incorporate liaison outreach feedback

Subcommittee Preliminary Findings



USG NSSCET Feedback

Overall supportive

Overreach cautions

Consortia inclusion

Open Source Software
inclusion

U.S. Leadership

Standards system vs.
individual SSO

Protect & promote
democratic principles in
good governance

International community
engagement

USG Actions

Engage as stakeholder

Long-term commitment for leadership roles

Prioritize public-private partnership
collaboration

Address visa challenges

Facilitate hosting

Incentive funding with care

Funding for workforce development

Finalize Entity List resolutions – do not
politicize or constrain SSO engagement

Subcommittee Preliminary Findings

Blockers

Small/Medium
Enterprise
challenges

Hosting challenges

Long-term
executive support

Pre- Standardization

Best opportunity for
proactive impact

Numerous existing
efforts for
collaboration

Measurement

Most essential
need, least
understood path
forward

Outcomes-based,
avoid simplistic
context

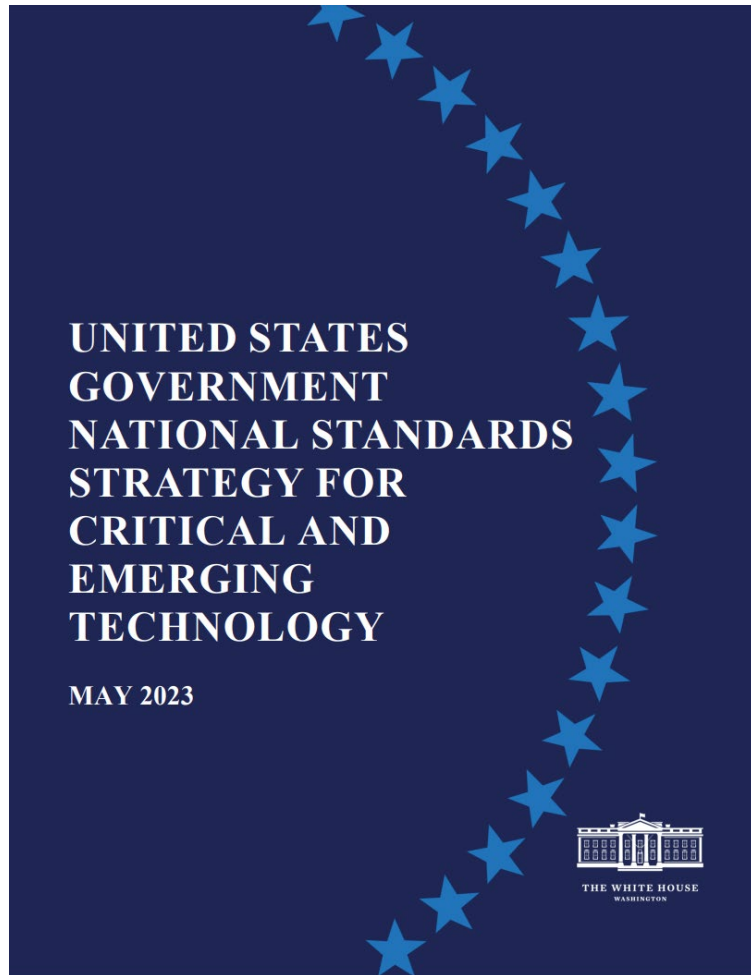
Workforce Development

Executive
sponsorship
challenge

University vs. mid-
career training

Recognition and
career challenges

USG NSSCET Implementation Team



Dr. Jayne Morrow
Sr. Advisor, Standards Policy

Team Lead



Ms. Brandy Phillips
National Standards Strategy Advisor

External Communications
& Affairs



Dr. Nicholas Barbosa
National Standards Strategy Advisor

Internal Engagement
& Coordination



Mr. Dimitrios Meritis
National Standards Strategy Advisor

International Policy
& Engagement



Ms. Natalia Martin
National Standards Strategy Advisor

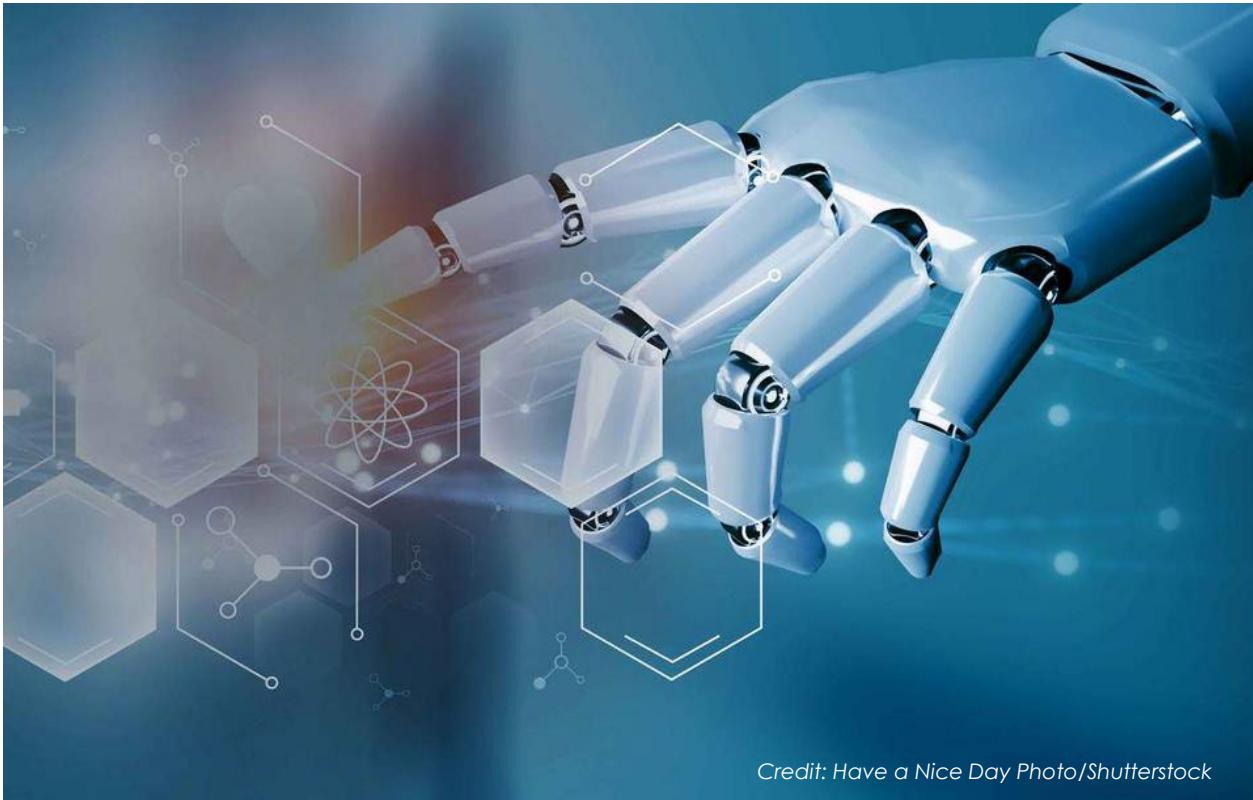
Partnerships &
Implementation



Ms. Maria Knake
National Standards Project Manager

SDOs & Consortia
Engagement

Implementation Planning: Listening



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The U.S. Government National Standards Strategy for Critical and Emerging Technology (USG NSSCET) was released in May 2023

Request for Information (RFI)

- September 7 RFI seeking public input on how to best implement the Strategy.
- Seeking input on investment, participation, workforce, and integrity and inclusivity.
- Responses are due on November 6, 2023.

Listening Sessions and Stakeholder Engagements

- NIST and the United States Patent and Trademark Office led a business roundtable on the Strategy on September 12, 2023.
- Focused on automated, connected, and electrified transportation and infrastructure.
- Additional listening sessions will be held across the country while the RFI is open.

USG NSSCET Implementation RFI



**NOTE: THE RFI WILL CLOSE
ON 06 NOV 2023**

The screenshot shows the Federal Register website interface. At the top, it says 'FEDERAL REGISTER The Daily Journal of the United States Government' with the date 'Tuesday, August 1st'. Below this, there are sections for 'Current Issue' (110 documents from 46 agencies, 540 Pages) and 'Public Inspection' (Special Filing: 21 documents from 15 agencies; Regular Filing: 142 documents from 44 agencies). A search bar is visible with the text '923,287 documents'. At the bottom, there is a 'POPULAR DOCUMENTS' section with a list of document titles. A red box highlights a QR code located in the bottom right corner of the screenshot.



Broad questions: Benefits, risks, and challenges faced by small- and medium-sized enterprises



Investment: Policies, R&D and pre-standardization budget to support standards development and encourage USG adoption of standards and demonstrated CETs.



Participation: Support coordination, communication, collaboration with private-sector, civil society and state and local government in participation in CET standards development



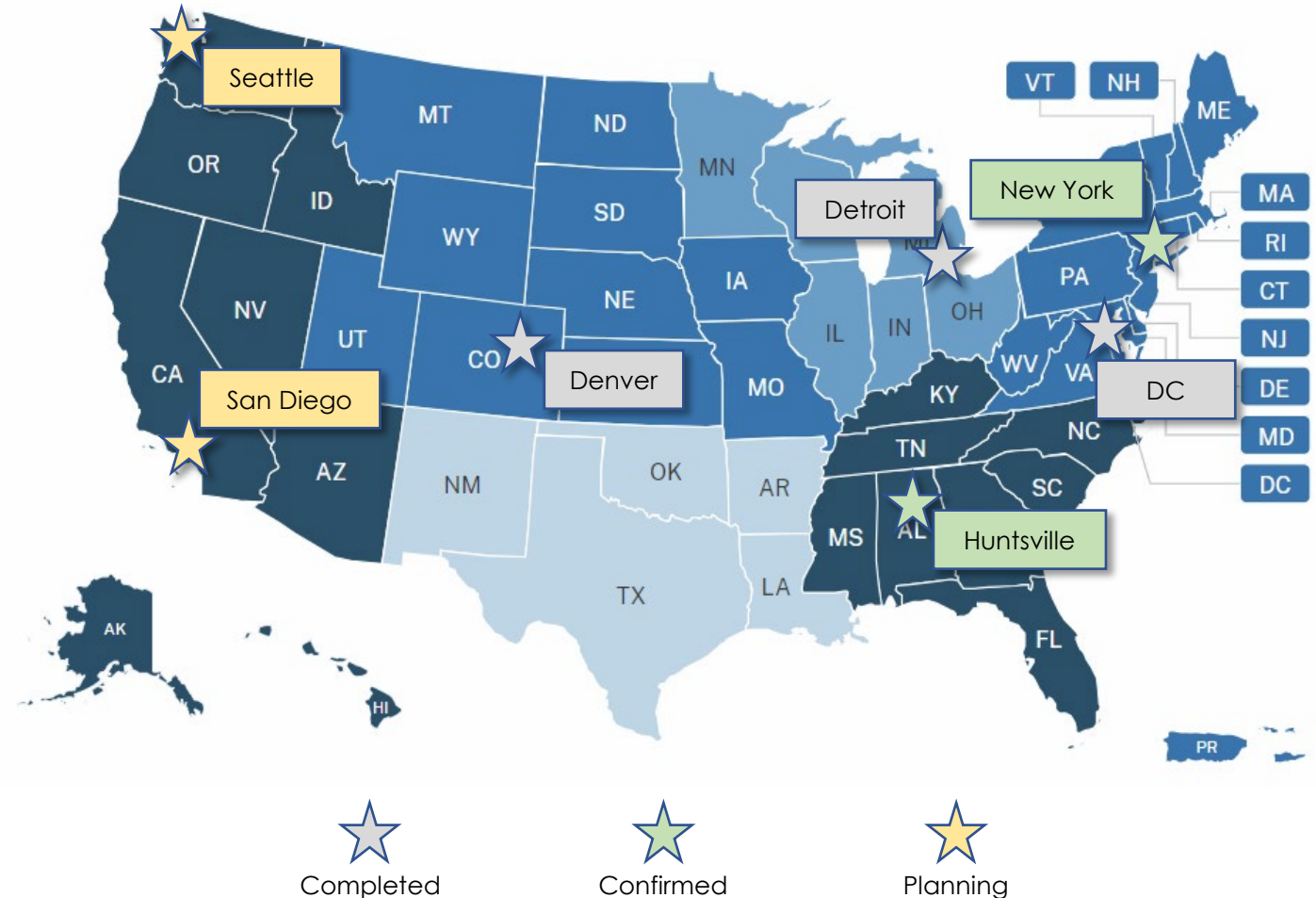
Workforce: Tools, resources, curricula, activities to encourage engagement and awards for increased recognition for participation in CET standards development



Integrity and Inclusivity: Support coordination, communication, and collaboration with partners and allies to reinforce TBT principles

Listening Sessions: Locations

- Listening sessions planned around the country
- Align with the RFI to increase coordination and engagement in standards development
- Updated list on standards.gov



Listening Sessions: Key Findings

Workforce

- Framing standards as a critical component to the innovation ecosystem
- Recognition and incentives for sustained engagement (5-10 years)
- Training – taking research to standards vs bootcamps and skill development

R&D Coordination

- Technology convergence is a unique challenge
- Interagency coordination of CET programs and credit for standards essential to sustained standards investment

International Coordination

- Better coordination and support through the WTO TBT
- Need stronger engagement with industry to define policy engagement
- Establish strong coordination of standards with conformity assessment processes



Thank you!