

IT/00-0204

NCITS/W1 voted by a tally of 7-0-1-2-10 (total membership) to approve this new W1 project.

NCITS-W1 2000-0152

Proposal for a Project to Develop a New ANSI/NCITS Standard

1. Source of the Proposed Project
 - 1.1 Title: ANSI/NCITS Standard on the Quality and Performance of Office Equipment That May Contain Reused Components
 - 1.2 Date Submitted: February 17, 2000
 - 1.3 Proposer: NCITS W1
2. Process Description for the Proposed Project
 - 2.1 Project Type: D -- Development within NCITS W1
 - 2.2 Type of Document: Standard
 - 2.3 Definitions of Concepts and Special Terms: None at the time of proposal submission.
 - 2.4 Expected Relationship with Approved Reference Models, Frameworks, Architectures, etc.: This office equipment standard is intended for use in a closed system.
 - 2.5 Recommended NCITS Development Technical Committee: NCITS W1
 - 2.6 Anticipated Frequency and Duration of Meetings: Monthly teleconferences will be held until June 2000. One in-person meeting is scheduled for April 2000. After June 2000, teleconferences will be held every other month.
 - 2.7 Target Date for Initial Public Review (Milestone 4): December 2000
 - 2.8 Estimated Useful Life of Standard: It is estimated that this standard will have a life of ten years.
3. Business Case for Developing the Proposed Standard
 - 3.1 Description: This national standard applies to office equipment that may contain reused components and is complementary to other standards dealing with quality systems and performance. This standard defines a way to describe equipment that ensures quality, safety and performance equivalent to new regardless of whether the product is manufactured of all new components or contains reused components that have been reprocessed / remanufactured to original product specifications. This standard will also ensure that the

equipment meets safety and environmental standards. This standard is purposefully technologically neutral. When its model and supporting methodology are combined with regulatory and procurement requirements, it yields an approach to describe office equipment, regardless of its product content. This standard will provide a user / consumer perspective and will be useful in answering questions such as:

- (a) Does this office equipment, that may contain reused components, perform equivalent to equipment containing all new components?
- (b) How does this office equipment's quality help meet the technical, safety, and environmental requirements for my business?

This standard will also help promote and recognize extended product responsibility (EPR) among manufacturers and consumers. It also reflects the new importance placed on environmental preference purchasing by governments.

3.2 Existing Practice and the Need for a Standard: This standard is useful for the procurement, selling, and marketing of office equipment. It complements governmental regulations and sales and marketing information in communicating the office equipment's quality and performance regardless of product content. This national standard specifies performance, testing, and safety criteria for use in a supplier's self-declaration to demonstrate that a product that may contain reused components performs equivalent to new, has integrity and quality, and that it operates at a high level of performance and safety. To comply with the standard, the factory that produces the equipment must also meet various other standards that demonstrate commitments to quality and environmental performance. This national standard will be applicable in the following situations:

- (a) A Government requires a neutral benchmark to evaluate the quality, safety, and performance of equipment that may contain reused components, and to evaluate the environmental responsibility of the supplier. When environmental regulations mandate a neutral benchmark for equipment, this standard would provide the benchmark for proving compliance with regulations.
- (b) A commercial supplier requires a neutral benchmark to demonstrate and communicate the quality, safety, and performance of equipment that may contain reused components and to demonstrate the environmental responsibility of the supplier.
- (c) Consumers require a neutral benchmark to identify or distinguish environmentally responsible products.

This standard applies to office equipment regardless of its product content. It reflects current approaches that yield products from many manufacturing processes including the reuse of components, with the equipment's

guarantees and warranties playing an important role in the equipment's market acceptance. Often, technical equipment definitions used by regulators must be addressed and, in some cases, this standard will be useful in communicating with the regulators. It specifically addresses office equipment. However, in the future, it may provide valuable directions for explaining the capabilities and output of equipment that may contain reused components in other industries and industrial sectors.

This standard will exclude the topics of office equipment noise, telecommunication, interoperability, electromagnetic emissions and compatibility, and the user interface design that is prevalent in office equipment. These are tremendously important aspects of office equipment characteristics. However, they are topics of numerous other standards and are outside the scope of this standard.

3.3 Implementation Impacts of the Proposed Standard:

3.3.1 Development Costs: This standard will be developed through the voluntary contributions from and cooperation between NCITS W1 members.

3.3.2 Impact on Existing or Potential Markets: This standard will have a positive impact on office equipment procurement and applications.

3.3.3 Costs and Methods for Conformity Assessment : The conformity assessment is accomplished by self-assessment. The self-assessment costs will be borne by the organizations of the various committee members. Typically, the conformity assessment is conducted by the participating organizations as adjunct activities of their normal operations.

3.3.4 Return on Investment: The return on investment for this development project is expected to be the increased market acceptance of office equipment that comply with this standard relative to the design, compliance testing and reporting costs for this standard's development and implementation.

3.4 Legal Considerations

3.4.1 Patent Assertions: Calls will be made to identify assertions of patent rights in accordance with the relevant NCITS, ANSI, and ISO/IEC policies and procedures. If any patent assertions are identified during the call, NCITS W1 will notify NCITS immediately.

3.4.2 Dissemination of the Standard: Drafts of this document will be disseminated electronically. Dissemination of the final standard will be restricted as the document becomes the property of NCITS, ANSI and the ISO/IEC. A call will be made for any intellectual property right (IPR) assertions to determine if such assertions will hinder the document distribution. If IPR assertions are made, the proposer will notify NCITS W1 and, subsequently NCITS W1 will notify NCITS.

4. Related Standards Activities

4.1 Existing Standards include but might not be limited to:

4.1.1 Information Technology Equipment Safety Standards

-International Standard: IEC 60950 "Safety of Information Technology Equipment"

-National Standards (counterparts to IEC 60950): Underwriter's Labs (UL) 1950 - "Standard for Safety for Information Technology Equipment, Including Electrical Business Equipment" and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) "70 National Electric Code"

4.1.2 Laser Safety Standards

-International Standard: IEC 60825 "Safety of Laser Equipment"

-National Standard (counterparts to IEC 60825): "Code of US Federal Regulations (21 CFR) 1010 & 1040"

4.1.3 Radio Disturbance and Electromagnetic Compatibility Standards

-International Standards: CISPR 22 "Information technology equipment - Radio disturbance characteristics - Limits and methods of measurement" and CISPR 14 "Electromagnetic compatibility - Requirements for household appliances, electric tools and similar apparatus - Part 1: Emission - Product family standard; Part 2- Immunity - Product family standard"

-National Standard (counterpart to CISPR 22 and 14): U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) "PART 15, SUBPART B (1998)"

4.1.4 Consumer Product Safety Standard

-National Standard: "Consumer Product Safety Commission 15USCA 2051"

4.1.5 Resin Content Standards

-International Standard: ISO 11469, "Resin Content Classification"

4.1.6 Quality Systems Standards

-International Standard: ISO 9002 standard, "Quality Systems - Model for Quality Assurance in Production, Installation and Servicing"

-National Standard: ANSI/ASQ Q9002-1994

4.1.7 Environmental Standards

-ISO 14001, "Environmental Management System"

4.2 Related Standards Activity:

American Society for Quality Control, International Standards Organization (ISO) 207 on the Environment

4.3 Recommendations for Coordinating Liaison: US Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

4.4 Recommendations for Close Liaison:

American Society for Quality Control; International Standards Organization (ISO) 207 on the environment