Standards Update

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Presented by: Engineering, Petroleum & Energy Resources, and Science-Technology Division Sponsored by: American Society of Civil Engineers, ASTM International, IHS/Global, SPIE – The International Society for Optical Engineering

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The **Standards Update** session, formerly the Standards Roundtable, was held at the Baltimore Convention Center, in a room more than twice the size of the 2005 session. Kudos to SLA-ENG Chair Kathy Nordhaus for ensuring we had better facilities this year!

The 2006 Standards Update featured ten speakers, down from the previous year's number of thirteen. The following are selected highlights from the presentations, in order of speaker.

IHS/Global: Alison Ruger discussed IHS going public and the company's new blue logo. She mentioned IHS's purchase of American Technical Publishers and USA Information, and the integration of all three into one company, IHS. Alison also discussed new content and the new retail library update service.

IEEE – **The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers**: Jerry Walker discussed the changed look and feel for online subscriptions. Custom subscriptions will be available, and he mentioned CD-ROMs being produced which are powered by the VuSpec browser-based user interface.

ASTM - American Society for Testing and Materials: John Pace talked about ASTM's expansion into new areas, including flying vehicles, nanotechnology, and unmanned space vehicles. The number of volumes of the annual ASTM Book of Standards is increasing beyond seventy-seven. New specialty areas include environmental and hazardous materials. ASTM is digitizing books and manuals and over 15,000 technical papers, with a release date of the fall of 2006. The ASTM Academic Outreach program is expanding to include more student participation, with free memberships for students. ASTM student members using ASTM standards in their studies and research will be able to download standards for \$1.00. Consortium packages for universities are also now available.

Techstreet: Andrew Bank reported on a new subscription platform to appear in July 2006, on a Web 2.0 platform. Reports can be run anytime for up to five criteria, and access will be "location neutral", meaning users can access the reports from anywhere. Techstreet is adding more content, and is working on more accommodation to the needs of academic institutions. Techstreet, which is a Thomson division, is giving consideration to incorporating standards into the Web of Science database in the near future.

NIST - National Institute of Standards and Technology: Jo Ann Remshard noted that NIST is a non-regulatory agency which focuses on the assurance of technical soundness of standards, and works with manufacturers. NIST does not create standards. NIST offers many services, including help in identifying standards and answering questions about US federal standards

ILI Infodisk: Paul Crosta reported that ILI now features searchable .pdf files. A keyword search function is now available, and ILI plans to incorporate other search criteria in the near future. Click2View is a new subscription service, allowing users to view and print the full text of a self-defined set of European EN standards. ILI offers access to Logicom, a comprehensive database listing suppliers and parts for US Government Procurement and Commercial Enterprise. ILI/Infodisk has been acquired by SAI Global, the commercial arm of Standards Australia.

ASCE – American Society of Civil Engineers: Will Farnam confirmed that ASCE now has 58 standards, with new editions of seven ASCE standards. ASCE/SEI 7-05, Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures, now includes Supplement No. 1. ASCE standards are available via Techstreet and IHS. Standing orders for hardcopies are available from ASCE.

ANSI - American National Standards Institute: Leanne Lowry talked about ANSI's new webstore, which has additional search features. ANSI is updating NSSN.org, the "National Resource for Global Standards." ANSI is providing tables of contents for ISO and IEC standards, and will add historical IEC and ISO documents in late 2006. More historical documents are forthcoming, and ANSI is

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considering translating Chinese standards. ANSI is working on a pilot program, in collaboration with a select group of universities, to introduce standards into the classroom. Consideration is being given to offering customer service using IM (Instant Messaging) technology.

IAEA – International Atomic Energy Agency: Sophy Le Masurier joined us from Austria, and discussed the IAEA safety standards. New standards and new editions were launched in 2005-06. The category of Radioactive Sources was added. IAEA produces safety reports, which are companion publications to its standards. All IAEA standards are free from the IAEA site.

East View Information Services: Ryan Tauer joined the Standards Update session for the first time. He talked about the history of East View, dating back 16 years in Minneapolis. East View is a distributor for GOST, the state standards office for Russian standards. They provide a document delivery service, and distribute Russian standards in .pdf format.

The 2006 Standards Update was the third one organized and moderated by Randy Reichardt, University of Alberta. Lee Pharis of E*ponent, Menlo Park CA, will assume the reins for the 2007 Standards Update session in Denver.

