How does the implementation of standards benefit from an internationally recognized national metrology system?

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Outline of my presentation

- A World in turmoil
- An update on ISO
- The answer to the question!
A World in turmoil

- World trade in products and services
- Global supply chains
- Volatile financial markets and economies in recession
- Aspiration for sustainable development. Inter-related issues of climate change, energy, food and water
- Pervasiveness and exponential growth of ICTs
- UN Millenium Goals and developing countries
- Converging technologies
Scorecard on current ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010

- 162 members
- Over 18,000 standards
- Over 40 new technical project committees established
  - Information and societal security
  - Response to climate change
  - Energy efficiency and renewable resources
  - Sustainable building design and operation
  - Water services
  - Nanotechnologies
  - Intelligent transport systems
  - Food safety management
  - Health informatics
  - Social responsibility
Topical standards areas in ISO

- Oil and gas
- Industrial engineering
- Automobile
- Ships and marine technology
- Building and construction
- Finance
- Biotechnology
- Services
Question – How does the implementation of standards benefit from an internationally recognized national metrology system?

Answer – It builds confidence!
METROLOGY
Establishment of accurate, reliable, traceable measurements (Basis for performance requirements in standards)

ACCREDITATION
Demonstration of competence of testing and calibration laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies

STANDARDIZATION
Standards facilitate trade, provide basis for technical regulation Developed by international, regional or national standards bodies

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT
Sampling, inspection, testing, certification

LEGAL METROLOGY
(Consumer protection, fair weights and measures in trade)

EFFICIENT TRADING SYSTEM
Reduction of unnecessary variety, interoperability, economies of scale, quality assured, consumers empowered to demand fitness-for-purpose products and services that conform to standards

SUPPLIER

CUSTOMER
BIPM and ISO

- Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement (GUM) – referred to in 312 ISO Standards
- International vocabulary of Metrology (VIM) (and predecessor document) referred to in 190 standards
- 59 ISO Technical Committees have cited above documents
- 7 A-Liaisons
So, the answer to the question –
Really, it all comes down to a can of Tuna!!

**The can**
- Materials used
- Coating inside the can
- Size
- Shape

**Wider issues?**
- Quality
- Origin
- Carbon footprint?
- Safe for dolphins?
- Traceability
- Legality of the catch?

**The label(s)!!**
- Ingredients
- Marks
- Design
- Size
- Barcode

**The contents**
- Is it tuna?
- What else? (Oil, salt, water?)
- Quality
- Weight (Gross / net?)
So What? - Worldwide tuna production

- Tinned tuna worth USD 2.7 billion p.a. (*Tuna Industry Seafood Report August 2007*)
- Declining stocks since late 1990’s
- Major problem with by-catch
- Controls essential
- Metrology, Standards AND conformity all essential

![Graph showing worldwide tuna catch in 1000MT from 1986 to 2004](Image)

Courtesy of GLOBEFISH
Thank you for your attention!

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