

ISO Scene

Food safety seminar in Middle East

A two-day regional seminar, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in June 2006, brought together 117 officials, experts and specialists in food safety, as well as representatives of major food industries in six Gulf states.

The seminar was organized by the Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA) in cooperation with the Standardization Organization of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GSO). Dr. Martha Petró-Turza, former secretary to ISO/TC 34, *Food products*, presented the requirements of ISO 22000, and Dr. Fady Elassaad provided a regional perspective on the challenges of promoting and implementing food safety using the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point.

This successful seminar illustrates the growing importance of partnerships between the public and private sectors to strengthen food industries and assure public safety. The GSO plans follow-up events to encourage more food companies throughout the Gulf region to implement ISO 22000 and thereby enhance food safety and open up wider export markets for their products.

For more information, see: dev-t@iso.org



Speakers and organizers of the ISO/GSO Regional Seminar on Food Safety Management and ISO 22000

Introducing quality training in Colombia

In June 2006, the ISO Committee for developing country matters (DEVCO) secretariat organized the first regional seminar in South America, entitled "ISO 10015 and quality



Speakers and organizers of the Regional Seminar on ISO 10015 in Bogotá

management in human capital formation", to raise public awareness of the ISO 10015 quality standard for training. The ISO member for Colombia, ICONTEC, hosted the event, which attracted some 30 local participants, including delegates from Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela. Following the regional seminar in Bogotá, two additional workshops were organized in Cali and Medellín in order to better inform Colombian industries, enterprises and public organizations of this important training quality management standard and the related calculations of return on investment on training. More than 40 participants, representing large, medium and small enterprises and social organizations, attended.

For more information, see: dev-t@iso.org

Promoting ISO standards in Ireland

The ISO Secretary-General Alan Bryden paid an official visit to Ireland in June 2006 as guest of the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI), the ISO member for the country.

During a meeting of ISO/TC 176, *Quality management and quality assurance*, SC 2, *Quality systems*, the Secretary-General outlined ISO's latest developments and commended the experts for developing and maintaining ISO 9001:2000, that has so profoundly impacted

international trade in over 160 countries.

His schedule of VIP meetings included a meeting with the Minister for Trade and Commerce, Michael Ahern, and with Lord Mayor Catherine Byrne. Discussions focused on the merits of standardization in the governance and maintenance of a large, densely-populated city, in the health and safety of the water systems as well as in social responsibility.

Mr. Bryden also addressed a gathering of senior industrialists at Caragh Lake, where he was received by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dick Roche.

A meeting with the President and Director-General of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland provided an opportunity for a discussion on the impact of International Standards on Ireland's national and international trade. Mr. Bryden expressed his appreciation for the country's economic performance, and emphasized the importance of ISO International Standards in consolidating and expanding the economy's global outreach.

Mr. Bryden is presented with a gift to mark his visit to Ireland at Caragh Lake, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

(From left) Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Mr. Dick Roche, ISO Secretary-General, Mr. Alan Bryden, and NSAI Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Simon Kelly.



Nanotechnology plenary

More than 75 delegates from 16 countries gathered in Tokyo, Japan, for the second plenary meeting of ISO technical committee ISO/TC 229 on nanotechnologies. The purpose of the meeting was to develop the plans and roadmaps that will advance the committee's efforts to develop international standards for the emerging field.

"By giving nanotechnologists a common language and processes," ISO President Tanaka said at the committee's banquet, "standardization will contribute to safer and faster product development and production and facilitate international scientific and industrial cooperation."

At the meeting of Nanotech Industry Social Gathering (from left), Mr. Hajime Sasaki, Chairman of NBCI and Chairman of NEC Corporation; Dr. Peter Hatto, Chair of TC 229; Dr. H. Roland Hosein, Representative of Canada, Vice President Environment, Health & Safety of GE; ISO President Masami Tanaka.



In conjunction with the plenary session, the ISO/TC 229, three working groups, on (1) terminology and nomenclature, (2) measurement and characterization, and (3) health, safety and the environment, held two days of developmental meetings. The working groups sought to build frameworks for their respective activities and to identify criteria for use in evaluating and selecting future standards.

On the occasion of the ISO/TC 229 meeting, the Nanotechnology Business Creation Initiative (NBCI) and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) organized the Nanotech Industry Social Gathering. The event brought together 100 attendees, including 62 participants from ISO/TC 229.

The next ISO/TC 229 meeting will be held in December 2006 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.