



**Pacific Area Standards Congress (“PASC”) report to PAC
June 2012 – Hong Kong, China**

<p>Preamble</p>	<p>The importance of international standardization to trade and commerce is recognized throughout the world. Countries on the Pacific Rim agree on the need for a forum to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthen international standardization programmes of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and to improve the ability of Pacific Rim standards organizations to participate in these programmes effectively • improve the quality and capacity of standardization in economies of the region • support free trade within the region and with economies in other regions • support improvement of economic efficiency and development of the region through the promotion of standardization • interact with other bodies that represent elements of the standardization technical infrastructure, industry, consumers and government <p>The members of PASC have adopted by consensus a number of important resolutions concerning international standardization, the work of IEC and ISO, and communication and interrelationships among 24 PASC members. PASC is concerned not only with standards preparation but also with conformance.</p>
<p>PASC themes and issues</p>	<p>Key themes that PASC is working on are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the importance of involving regulators in standardization and of meeting regulators’ needs. 2. the need to clearly explain the value of a robust standards and conformance infrastructure in an economy to assist in economic growth and provide appropriate safety for citizens of that economy.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. consideration as to how PASC and other Specialist Regional Bodies (“SRBs”) in the Pacific region might work more effectively with APEC SCSC. This initiative led to an activity in the APEC SCSC in which a strategy paper to improve and coordinate capacity-building and awareness of standards and conformance in the APEC region was written and approved in 2007. 4. encouragement of closer working between IEC and ISO with Co- operation Agreements signed with each organisation in 2006 and 2007 respectively. 5. establishment of a mechanism (PASC priority "pilot projects") to further facilitate cooperation among PASC members in developing international standards to reflect regional views in standards which will be the basis for free trade in the region. 6. enhancement of collaboration with business people. PASC notes with satisfaction the continuing and productive PASC interaction with the Asia Pacific Business Advisory Council (ABAC), and looks forward to working with ABAC on new initiatives to enable ABAC members to realize greater value from standardization activities, while simultaneously understanding ABAC members’ standards priorities and needs. <p>All of the above are incorporated in a PASC Action Plan which records agreed projects and which is monitored by the PASC Executive Committee (EC). An updated Action Plan and progress on the actions is presented at each PASC annual meeting and PASC EC meeting.</p>
<p>PASC meetings in the last 12 or so months</p>	<p>PASC Annual Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 34th PASC meeting was held on 31 March – 1 April 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand. <p>PASC EC meeting (3 times a year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39th PASC EC meeting held on 3 April in Bangkok, Thailand in conjunction with the 34th PASC meeting. • 40th PASC EC meeting held on 18 September in New Delhi, India in conjunction with ISO/GA. • 41st PASC EC meeting held on 8 March (Sydney time) by teleconference.

<p>Participation in International and Regional Initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in ISO GA held in September 2011 in New Delhi, India. • Participation in IEC Council and IEC/SMB held in October 2011 in Melbourne, Australia. • APEC SCSC1 meeting held on 9-10 February 2012, and SRB Forum meeting held on 8 February 2012 in Moscow.
<p>Highlights in the last 12 or so months</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PASC membership is composed of 24 countries/economies as it now stands including GOST-R (Russian Federation) which was invited to join PASC as the 24th member body at the PASC 34 in April 2011. • PASC was represented and participated in the IEC General Meeting and the ISO General Assembly respectively. PASC also looks for further cooperation between IEC and ISO and suggests them to consider establishing a standing annual joint IEC/Standardization Management Board and ISO/Technical Management Board meeting as well as a mechanism between IEC/SMB and ISO/TMB which can anticipate resolving issues of converging technologies. • As the contribution for ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015, PASC members were encouraged to share their draft inputs for it. As a consequence, 44 ISO members have submitted their comments to ISO/CS, and 17 out of them were PASC members (around 70% of PASC members). • PASC 34th meeting was held on 31 March and 1 April in Thailand under the theme “Standards Development and Public Policy Making”. PASC members and the audience exchanged information about their respective experiences in addressing issues at the intersection of standards and public policy. PASC 34 identified potential topics for PASC 35 in 2012, including HEMS (Home energy management systems) within the Smart Grid. • PASC 34 resolved to communicate the discussion and ideas from members regarding the implementation of the Vienna Agreement to ISO. PASC Executive Committee also resolved to enquire ISO and IEC on their view on the “private standards” and urge them to increase their promotion activities to demonstrate their value-adding processes. • PASC 34 agreed to work with international organizations and businesses to identify existing gaps in the area of critical infrastructure and support systems including natural disasters management and encourage members and relevant experts to propose new work items/technical areas as appropriate. • PASC has identified IEC/ISO technical committees, sub-

	<p>committees and working groups and international standardization subjects of greatest common interest to PASC members as PASC Pilot Project. Three on-going PASC pilot projects are on ISO/CASCO, IEC/TC111 (Environmental standardization for electrical and electronic products and systems), and newly approved ISO/TC22 (Road Vehicles) concerning which the related information has been shared and exchanged effectively. Progresses of the projects were reported and some future possible areas of work were discussed at the PASC 34th meeting in Thailand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PASC has involved the APEC SCSC activities, and participated and supported each other in these activities.
<p>Future PASC meeting schedule</p>	<p>PASC Annual Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35th PASC Meeting to be held in June 2012 in Yeosu, Korea. <p>PASC Executive Committee meeting (EC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 42nd PASC EC meeting to be held in June 2012 in conjunction with the 35th PASC meeting in Korea. • 43rd PASC EC meeting to be held in San Diego, USA in conjunction with ISO/GA. • 44th PASC EC meeting to be held in 2013 in Indonesia in conjunction with APEC/SCSC 1.
<p>Conclusion</p>	<p>PASC appreciates the opportunity to report to PAC and would appreciate any feedback you may have with respect to issues and ideas in this report.</p> <p>We take this opportunity to wish PAC and its members every success at the PAC Plenary Meetings to be held on 16-23 June 2012 in Hong Kong, China.</p> <p>Juichi Nagano For PASC Secretary May 2012</p>