

The Strategic Standardization Forum for Aerospace

A Stakeholder Partnership



Presented to the 2006 Defense
Standardization Conference
May 23, 2006
Arlington, VA
Laura E. Hitchcock
Chair, SSFA

How the SSFA Got Started ...



Global standards and regulations are critical to the efficient operation of the global aviation system and international markets – Final Report of the Commission on the Future of the United States Aerospace Industry, 2002

Report on the Future of Aerospace Standardization

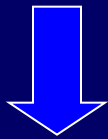
**AIA Board of
Governors (CEOs)**

**Commissioned
the Study (2003)**



**AIA Tech Ops
Council (Sr. VPs
of Eng.)**

**Sponsored
the Activity**



**Future of Aerospace
Standardization WG**

**Carried out
the Study
(2004)**

- Boeing
- Lockheed Martin
- Northrop Grumman
- P&W / UTC
- Parker Aerospace
- Harris
- Raytheon
- Rolls-Royce
- Rockwell Collins
- Defense Standardization Program Office

Report on the Future of Aerospace Standardization

➤ **Report Goals:**

- **Provide an overall assessment of the current state and health of aerospace standardization**
- **Define requirements for standards and standards systems which will support continued growth of the industry**
- **Establish a set of recommendations for actions to ensure health of standards in the future**

Examples of Specifications and Standards Used by Aerospace



The Future of Aerospace Standardization

The Report -

- **Confirmed the critical value of standards to the aerospace industry**
- **Emphasized the size, complexity, overlap, and sometimes duplicative nature of the standards systems supporting aerospace**
- **Noted a number of emerging issues with the potential to seriously impact the standards systems and data**
- **Revealed a crucial lack of strategic management, guidance, or planning for this vital source of technical data**

The Future of Aerospace Standardization

Recommendation #7

Senior DoD and Aerospace industry leadership must recognize the extent to which the commercial aviation and space industries, as well as defense industry, depend upon the library of technical knowledge and discipline of configuration control embodied in the system of military specification and standards.

DoD needs to proactively support and participate in the development of industry standards and utilize industry standards to the greatest extent practicable.

The Strategic Standardization Forum is Born



On January 19, 2005

- The US Aerospace CEOs on AIA's Board of Governors voted unanimously to accept, endorse, and publicly release the Report on the Future of Aerospace Standardization
- Then, acting upon the recommendations and findings in the Report, the CEOs on AIA's Board created the [Strategic Standardization Forum for Aerospace](#)



The SSFA's Charter

- **To be a recognized forum where the aviation, space, and defense industry, in partnership with government, SDOs, and all other relevant stakeholders collaborate to:**
 - **Address and respond to aerospace standardization issues, opportunities, and challenges;**
 - **Provide visibility on standards activities to help prioritize and reduce duplication and proliferation of standards;**
 - **Promote robust, responsive, and responsible tools, processes, and business models to support aerospace standardization;**
 - **Achieve globally recognized, accepted, and used standards which support international trade and the global business of aerospace; and**
 - **Provide education, awareness, and advocacy with industry, standards developing organizations, and trade bodies**



What the SSFA Does...

- **Serves as primary point of contact for US aerospace industry standards position**
- **Unites voices of the US aerospace industry regarding standards issues and policies**
- **Facilitates Public/Private partnerships relative to standards and standardization**
- **Enhances coordination of US input to global standards activities and issues**
- **Promotes a global standards infrastructure**

Member organizations of the SSFA :



- **Work to improve the standards policies, processes, tools and practices which will guide standards development and use for the aerospace industry;**
- **Learn of standardization tools, methods, and processes being implemented by the world's leading aerospace companies;**
- **Receive mutual support in the implementation of global standards policies and initiatives.**
- **Address the latest initiatives being pursued and promoted by the SSFA and even drive new ones.**
- **Have the opportunity to network with key personnel from major government and industry stakeholders in aerospace standardization.**



SSFA Projects

- **SSFA Recently Completed:**
 - **CSI – Workshop**
 - **Position Paper on Standards for Technical Excellence**
 - **EU Standardization for Defense Procurement Impact Evaluation**
- **SSFA Current Projects include:**
 - **UAV/UAS Standards Mapping (Activity is mentioned as part of congressional testimony before the Aviation Subcommittee)**
 - **RFID standards mapping**
 - **ISO TC20 Value Statement**
 - **Aerospace Response to ISO Standard 26000 for Corporate Social Responsibility**
 - **Input to NIST and ANSI for the Department of Commerce's study on how standards contribute to innovation and trade**



Value of the SSFA to Defense Standardization Activities

- **SSFA acts as a forum/facilitator/integrator to allow DoD to partner with industry and complement each other to address standardization issues of mutual importance**
- **SSFA provides an advocacy role to emphasize the importance of Mil Specs to the aerospace industry to DoD Senior Management and to emphasize the importance of industry standards to the DoD.**
- **SSFA facilitates communications between senior leaders of both government agencies and industry regarding standards issues & policies**



Questions?

SSFA Website:
www.ssf-aerospace.org