

PANEL: COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS: IMPACT ON THE MARKETPLACE

Session Chair: Helen M. Wood

National Bureau of Standards

Summary

Computer and communications standards can help to reduce marketplace risks and uncertainties for both users and vendors. Standard specifications promote common understandings and expectations for products. When widely recognized and supported, such standards promise to provide users with off-the-shelf, compatible products needed to achieve increased productivity and delivery of services at reduced cost. Without these standards, users cannot easily link products of different manufacturers together into systems and networks.

This session will identify and explore the intended and likely impact of emerging standards in the national and global marketplaces.

Panelists

Donald Abelson, Director, Technical Trade Barriers, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, will focus on how standards relate to international trade.

Michael A. Kaminski, Manager of Manufacturing Automation Protocol, General Motors Technical Center, will discuss the benefits to large industry users from standards.

Helen M. Wood, Deputy Director, Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology, National Bureau of Standards, will represent the perspective of the U.S. Government as a large buyer of computer and communications products.