



ExMC/310/Inf
April 2006

**INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION (IEC) SCHEME
FOR CERTIFICATION TO STANDARDS RELATING TO EQUIPMENT FOR
EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES (IECEx SCHEME)**

To: Members of the Management Committee ExMC and ExTAG

INTRODUCTION

During April 2006, the IECEx Secretary presented at the ICSCA Industry meeting held in Tokyo. Representatives of many of the major Global Companies attended the meeting and while reaching agreement on various matters, did cite their support for the IECEx Scheme and recognised the Scheme's value to industry. This has now been formally acknowledged in a recent Press Statement.

We are pleased to provide a copy, attached, for your information.

Chris Agius
IECEx Secretariat

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Industry Cooperation on Standards and Conformity Assessment

Meeting Location

Tokyo Sankei Bldg, 17F,
CIAJ,
Room #1 - #4

Press Statement
17 April 2006

ICSCA XIII, April 13, 2006 MEETING

Organized and hosted by Fujitsu Limited, Hewlett-Packard Japan, Ltd., Hitachi, Ltd., IBM Japan, Ltd., Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd, NEC Corporation, OMRON Corporation, Siemens K.K., Sony Corporation, Toshiba Corporation and CIAJ.

Standards professionals from ICSCA member companies, located in the US, EU and Japan, conducted a dialogue with principal representatives of the IEC, ISO and ITU addressing key issues highlighted in the strategic plans of these leading International Standards Organizations.

The meeting focused on the ISO 26000 draft guidance standard for social responsibility, and the work of IEC TC 111 addressing environmental standards for electrotechnical product design. The meeting also discussed e-accessability for ICT equipment, the alignment of IP and Patent policies between the organizations, and the industry trend towards an increase in product certification for deployment in safety systems and hazardous locations. The latter are being successfully addressed by use of the IECEx conformity assessment scheme of which Japan is a new member.

This meeting presented a unique opportunity for leading Global Industrial companies to align their views and present them to the current ISO President, Mr. Masami Takada, the immediate past president of the IEC, Dr. Sei-Ichi Takayanagi and the Vice-Chairman of the ITU-T TSAG, Haruo Okamura in cooperation with Japan's own leading Industry Representatives. The meeting was also attended by METI, Director, International Standards Policy Office & Deputy Secretary General of JISC, Shinji Fujino.

Alec McMillan
US Co-Chair
Rockwell Automation

Peter Linnert
EU Co-Chair
Siemens

Fumio Onimaru
Japan Co-Chair
NEC

Details of the organizations can be found at

www.icsca.org.au
www.iec.ch
www.iecex.com
www.iso.org
www.itu.ch