Standards Council of Canada
Conseil canadien des normes

Canada

Overview on the implementation of the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement

Stephen Head, Manager of Strategic Policy and Sector Engagement
Standards Council of Canada

Standards **experts**. Accreditation **solutions**.

Presentation Overview

- Standards Council of Canada (SCC) mandate and role

- SCC and CETA

- Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol

- Implementation and Next Steps

Standards Council of Canada mandate and role

- Federal Crown Corporation established in 1970

- Reports to Parliament through the Minister of Industry, Science and Economic Development

- Canada's national accreditation body

Mandate to:

- *Coordinate* standardization activities in Canada
- *Accredit* Standards Development Organizations & Conformity Assessment Bodies
- *Approve* National Standards of Canada
- *Advise* federal and provincial governments
- *Support* strategic priorities of industry and governments
- *Represent* Canada in international and regional forums

Canada

Canadian Regulatory System

- Under the Canadian constitution there is a division of powers between the federal and provincial and territorial governments.
    - Federal government has jurisdiction over certain areas such as defense and communications.
    - Provinces and territories have jurisdictional authority over other sectors, such as education, health, and electrical safety.

- SCC accredits conformity assessment bodies to test and certify to federal, provincial and territorial regulatory requirements.

Canada

SCC and the Canadian Regulatory System

- SCC requires Conformity Assessment Bodies to establish working relationships with Regulatory Authority Advisory Bodies (RAABs) in order to effectively confirm regulatory requirements such as corrective action and dual language requirements.

- RAABs are bodies, councils and committees consisting of representatives from Provincial and Territorial government organizations.

- RAABs support public safety and standardization in areas such as building, electrical systems, plumbing, elevators, gas and fire safety.

Canada

SCC and CETA

Canada-European Union (EU) Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

- CETA is a progressive trade agreement that aims to increase the flow of goods, services and investment to the benefit of both Canada and the EU.

- SCC was involved in the CETA negotiations and provided input on the Technical Barriers to Trade and Regulatory Cooperation chapters, and the Protocol on the Mutual Acceptance of the Results of Conformity Assessment.

Canadä

Technical Barriers to Trade Chapter - CETA

- The Chapter includes a commitment to encourage cooperation in technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment with a view to avoid implementing measures that act as unnecessary obstacles to international trade.

- The chapter encourages Canadian and EU standard-setting bodies to cooperate more closely on joint priorities, in recognition of the important role of standards.

- The SCC - CEN & CENELEC Cooperation Agreement promotes the harmonization of standardization activities in sectors of mutual interest and the resolution of trade issues of concern to industry.

Canada

Technical Barriers to Trade Chapter - CETA

- CETA incorporates 10 provisions contained in the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, including:

  - Preparation, Adoption and Application of Technical Regulations by Central Government Bodies;

  - Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards; and,

  - Procedures for Assessment of Conformity by Non-Governmental Bodies.

Regulatory Cooperation Chapter - CETA

- CETA is the first bilateral trade agreement in which Canada has included a stand-alone chapter on regulatory cooperation.

- CETA enhances cooperation and information sharing between Canadian and EU regulators to facilitate the development of more compatible regulatory measures.

- <u>Bottom line</u>: CETA facilitates earlier access to regulatory development processes to reduce differences in approach in order to achieve more compatible measures and fewer trade barriers.

Conformity Assessment Protocol

Conformity Assessment Protocol - CETA

- The Protocol establishes a framework for the mutual recognition of accreditation.

- The Protocol maintains the preservation of right to regulate.

- The agreement does not require recognition or acceptance of the other Party's technical regulations, or limit a Party's right to set technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures.

- The Protocol is unique among Canadian trade agreements and was developed specifically to complement the provisions in the TBT chapter.

Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol - CETA

- CETA CA Protocol establishes a mechanism through which conformity assessment bodies in certain product categories can certify/test their conformity with Canadian or EU technical regulations, and have that certification recognized and accepted in the other jurisdiction.

- The Protocol builds off established international recognition agreements, IAF and ILAC.

Conformity Assessment Protocol - CETA

- <u>Scope</u>: the Protocol applies to the product categories listed in Annex 1 for which a Party recognises non-governmental bodies for the purpose of assessing conformity of goods with that Party's technical regulations.

- Some of the product categories listed in Annex 1 include:
    - Construction products
    - Electrical and electronic equipment
    - ATEX/HAZLOC

- Some of the product categories listed in Annex 2 include:
    - Pressure equipment, including vessels
    - Appliances burning gaseous fuels

Canada

Conformity Assessment Protocol - CETA

- The CA Protocol allows for the acceptance by Canada and the EU of product certifications by recognized bodies in the other party to increase market access for Canadian & EU industry.

- This will allow EU companies in selected product categories to have their products tested and certified for the Canadian market in the EU, as well as Canadian companies to have their products tested and certified for the EU market in Canada.

Questions