Implementing instructions from APEC Energy Ministers

**Strengthening the APEC Energy Standards Information System (ESIS)**

At EGEE&C 37 held in Washington DC, US in March 2011, options were tabled for maintaining ESIS but no consensus was reached and issues were raised that required further investigation. It was agreed that a ‘way forward’ for ESIS would be identified out-of-session and circulated to EGEE&C members for endorsement. This occurred in September 2011.

At EGEE&C 38, the ESIS Secretariat from the Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP) confirmed that APEC ESIS will be re-launched on a new server at the end of the year. Until that time, the existing website will remain in place.

The driver for the transition to a new server is CLASP’s decision to move its own website and global standards and labeling (S&L) database to a new server hosted by a new service provider. If ESIS were to remain under the existing server, it would become more expensive to maintain and would lose linkages with the CLASP database, which would result in reduced functionality (ability to perform searches, etc.). The technical solution identified by CLASP costs less to maintain than the status quo.

ESIS will continue to share a common database with the CLASP S&L database and the information under ESIS will continue to be kept up-to-date by ESIS key economy contacts, working with the ESIS Secretariat, and supplemented by CLASP research. The same URL will be kept for ESIS; it will link to the new landing page which will link to specific pages for individual products and economies under the CLASP website. As an added feature, users will now be able to perform searches for APEC economies (e.g. to draw up a single list of all the standards that apply across APEC for a given product).

**Request for funding contributions:** CLASP is seeking funding contributions from APEC economies to extend the use of APEC Energy Standards Information System (ESIS) branding from the APEC ESIS landing page to the product pages and economy pages that link from the landing page. (These product and economy pages currently display CLASP branding.) This has been identified as a cost that cannot be met through US DOE funding. CLASP is seeking to raise funds of **20,000 USD in total** to undertake this work so that APEC branding is consistently applied throughout the website for ESIS users (who access pages from the CLASP website via the ESIS landing page).

A request for contributions will be sent to APEC EGEE&C representatives out-of-session. This will occur within several weeks of the meeting.


Implementing a Collaborative Assessment of Standards and Testing (CAST)

The US Department of Energy has contributed funding from the Super-efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment (SEAD) initiative towards the APEC CAST initiative to advance the development and alignment of standards and procedures used to test the energy performance of key energy-using products in APEC economies. CLASP is the Operating Agent for SEAD and also manages the APEC ESIS database on behalf of the EGEE&C; this will enable CLASP to help create synergies between SEAD and EGEE&C activities.

CLASP is seeking to identify projects under CAST that can be launched in early 2012 - they will shortly invite EGEE&C members to submit proposals for projects. CLASP welcomes offers of in-kind support (funding, expertise) from submitting economies to implement those projects.

CLASP has suggested four product categories to focus on: Commercial refrigeration, Computers, Distribution transformers, and Motors - these align with work-streams that are led by APEC economies under the SEAD initiative, and for each of these, there is good potential to harmonise test standards and procedures.

However, EGEE&C members are also welcome to submit proposals for other key product categories outlined in the “Mapping Exercise for Energy Efficient Products” produced in 2010 - i.e. air conditioners, refrigerators and freezers, domestic and commercial lighting, computers and monitors, televisions, clothes washers and driers, and water heaters.

Proposals from EGEE&C members will be due by the end of the year to allow the project selection team to make decisions around the end of January so that projects can commence by April, in time for the next Clean Energy Ministerial.

The EGEE&C Chair and Secretariat will work with CLASP and US economy representatives to align dates and activities for CAST with APEC project and reporting cycles.

As noted below, the International Copper Association has identified two potential projects that it would like to undertake jointly with the EGEE&C under the CAST initiative.

Expert Group on Energy Efficiency and Conservation website

The EGEE&C website has been hosted on the same server as the APEC ESIS website. Now that ESIS is migrating to a new server, a decision needs to be made about how the EGEE&C website will be maintained. (For the past few years it has been maintained under the same server.)

The EGEE&C Secretariat will circulate options for maintaining the EGEE&C website to members, for comment out-of-session. Any comments/suggestions received will be considered by the Chair and Secretariat before deciding on a solution. A decision needs to be made by the end of the year.

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1 The US leads the Super-efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment (SEAD) initiative under the Clean Energy Ministerial.
2 In the Fukui Declaration from the Ninth Energy Ministers’ Meeting (EMM9), APEC Energy Ministers instructed APEC EGEE&C to implement CAST for the products identified in Phase 1 of the Collaborative Energy Efficiency Design for Sustainability (CEEDS) initiative, led by the Asia Pacific Energy Research Centre. (Phase 1 of CEEDS focussed on energy efficiency standards and labelling for products.) At EGEE&C 37, it was agreed that the Mapping Exercise for Energy Efficient Products identifies the key products from the APEC CEEDS Phase 1 so this will be used as a reference when identifying projects under CAST.
APEC project proposals for 2012

The Secretariat informed the group about deadlines for submitting concept notes and full-length proposals under Sessions 1-3 in 2012, noting that the dates are subject to confirmation with the APEC & Energy Working Group (EWG) Secretariats. Once the Secretariat has confirmed the deadlines, they will be circulated to EGEE&C members and any changes to the dates advised in the meeting will be highlighted.

Concept notes for Session 1, 2012 are due with EWG by 15 December 2011 so will need to be submitted to the EGEE&C Secretariat by 5 December (not 20 December as initially advised).

Proposals for air conditioners and transformers: The International Copper Association (ICA) plans to draft and distribute four concept notes for comment out-of-session for proposals drawing on opportunities identified during the 7 November Workshop on Energy Efficiency Air Conditioners and Transformers.

The following concept notes will be drafted:

- A proposal to help APEC economies quantify the benefits of adopting the ‘best available’ energy efficient air conditioning technologies (drawing on the experience of economies who have already undertaken market analysis)
- A proposal to help APEC economies quantify the benefits of adopting the ‘best available’ energy efficient distribution transformer technologies (drawing on the experience of economies who have already undertaken market analysis)
- A proposal to assess existing standards and promote the adoption and convergence of testing standards and procedures for air conditioners in the APEC region (to determine their energy performance) - this will be proposed under the CAST initiative
- A proposal to assess existing standards and promote the adoption and convergence of testing standards and procedures for distribution transformers in the APEC region (to determine their energy performance) - this will be proposed under the CAST initiative.

A lead sponsor from an APEC economy will need to be identified for each of these concept notes.

Joint project opportunities identified by the APEC Subcommittee on Standards and Conformance (SCSC): The SCSC identified opportunities to collaborate with EGEE&C on:

- A joint project to progress regional and international alignment of test methodologies for computers and monitors (to determine their energy performance)
- A multi-year joint project on energy efficient buildings, drawing on opportunities identified in Green Buildings workshops held by the SCSC in 2011 (and attended by EGEE&C representatives).

It was agreed that the EGEE&C Chair will discuss these opportunities with the SCSC Chair out-of-session and will come back to the group to share suggestions and invite comment.

The Chair welcomed any other out-of-session proposals from economy representatives and encouraged members to seek advice from the Secretariat if they need any information on how to submit project proposals.
It was noted that further proposals may emerge from the APEC Smart Appliance Workshop that was due to occur over the next two days, following the close of EGEE&C 38.

It was also noted that, when identifying potential projects, EGEE&C members should consider how EGEE&C can contribute to outcomes identified under the Energy Smart Communities Initiative (ESCI) coordinated by the Energy Working Group (EWG). ESCI was launched in response to the 2010 APEC Leaders Declaration. (Dr Cary Bloyd, a US representative for EGEE&C and the Expert Group on New & Renewable Energy Technologies (EGNRET) is acting as a liaison between the ESCI working groups and EWG sub-fora to help coordinate ESCI-related activities across APEC.)

Scope to share data on test results: The Chair recalled that, at EGEE&C 37, compliance activities for standards and labelling programmes in the APEC region had been estimated to cost in the vicinity of roughly 10M USD. The Chair suggested there might be opportunities for economies undertaking check-testing activities to share test data for products traded within the region.

Next meeting of the Expert Group on Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and other upcoming events

39th Meeting of the APEC Expert Group on Energy Efficiency and Conservation

The next meeting will occur in Sydney, Australia on 27-28 February, to be followed by Australia’s first Energy Efficiency ‘Summer Study’, from 29 Feb to 2 March. The Summer Study is being organised by the Australian Alliance to Save Energy and is modelled on the Summer Study programmes that have been held during the past ten years by the European Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy (ecee). More information will be circulated to EGEE&C members and contacts within several weeks of the meeting.

Theme for economy presentations at EGEE&C 39: The Chair will identify a topic for economy presentations out-of-session, drawing on the upcoming release of the 2011 APEC Leaders’ Declaration. (As a potential theme, the representative for Australia suggested that economies could outline the evaluation methodologies they use to assess impacts of standards and labelling interventions.)

Market Compliance Workshop planned for first half of 2012 - currently considering dates and venue

The project implementers for the US-led project ‘Survey of Market Compliance Mechanisms’ are looking for opportunities to host a compliance workshop in the first half of 2012, preferably somewhere in Asia (due to the big manufacturing base there). A two-day workshop is envisaged which would focus for one day on policy makers and for the other day on industry representatives. Some options are currently being explored but the project implementers and sponsors would welcome further suggestions from EGEE&C members. Suggestions can be conveyed via the US or Australian representatives for EGEE&C (as the implementing agency is based in Australia) or the EGEE&C Secretariat.