

# SABIT STANDARDS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

August 21, 2004 – September 18, 2004

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*The SABIT Standards Program, managed by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), provides intensive training opportunities for standards and conformity assessment experts from Eurasia. The program offers in-depth training on effective and efficient practices of product and equipment standards and certification used in the United States as well as inspires confidence in U.S. products and services.*

## Scope and Mission of the Program

The Special American Business Internship Training (SABIT) Standards in Information Technology Program is designed to provide 18 mid-to-senior information technology specialists from Eurasia one month of intensive exposure to U.S. practices in standards development, product certification, and laboratory accreditation, as well as offer site visits and direct interaction with U.S. computer hardware and software manufacturers, industry associations, and testing labs, as well as local, state, and federal government agencies.

The 18 delegates, screened and selected by the U.S. Department of Commerce, will represent both national regulatory bodies, standards agencies and testing laboratories as well as private IT companies from up to twelve countries in Eurasia. The delegates are valuable contacts for U.S. companies looking to do business in Eurasia and many represent gatekeeper agencies, key to getting new products into the evolving markets of the region. *Biographical information for the delegation will be available in early July on the SABIT website.*

## Benefits of Participation

Participation in SABIT offers a unique opportunity for both U.S. companies and Eurasian delegates. These visits offer solid, practical experience for the Eurasian standards experts and give U.S. businesses and organizations an unparalleled opportunity to establish firsthand contacts key to working in the markets of Eurasia.

For companies that are not currently active in the region, participation in the program will enable them to learn about potential opportunities in Eurasia and establish valuable industry and government contacts.

SABIT is currently seeking U.S. hosts in Silicon Valley, New York/New Jersey, and Texas to provide training for half- and full-day sessions in topics including standards development, product manufacturing, software testing, and quality control. *A detailed list of possible training topics is available.*

## Session Structure

This program will begin with a two-week session in the Washington, D.C. area, with government and industry association presentations and site visits, in addition to a focused business roundtable and panel discussions (August 23 – September 3). The group will then travel to New York/New Jersey, Texas, and Silicon Valley for targeted site visits to U.S. companies, laboratories, and other host organizations (September 6 – September 16.)

## Options for Training and Site Visits

U.S. companies are welcome to develop a training event or site visit that suits each host's needs.

Suggested models include:

- Speakers/presentations at your facility (SABIT can help arrange sites for presentations if your facility is unavailable)
- Manufacturing/testing tours
- Interactive discussion sessions with the delegates

## Cost of Participation

SABIT will cover the majority of program costs for all delegates, including round-trip airfare to the United States, all domestic U.S. transportation, housing, insurance, per diem for meals and incidentals, and interpreters to travel with the group. In turn, U.S. host organizations are asked to cover all costs of the training they provide.

## For More Information

To learn about this session and hosting opportunities, please contact SABIT Standards Program Coordinator Melissa Jordan:

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