Personal Protective Technology (PPT) Conformity Assessment - FY15 (939ZNRY)

Objective

Improve worker safety by establishing a national framework for PPT conformity assessment (CA) providing guidance for certification scheme ownership assuring products intended to protect workers reduce personal exposure to hazards and conform to basic health and safety requirements and applicable PPT standards based on risk.

Stakeholders

- PPE certification bodies and scheme owners (USCG, NIJ, FDA)
- PPE and RPD manufacturers, suppliers, users
- US CA accreditors and accredited bodies
- ANSI accredited Standards Development Organizations (SDOs)

Partners

- NIST, OSHA, MSHA
- PPT Conformity Assessment WG members
- ANSI, A2LA

Project Scope

Essential functions and activities for effective national PPT certification schemes are defined. The Framework provides guidance for scheme ownership, defines research and data required to support it, and recommends uniform national CA functions and activities.

Milestones FY15

3Q15 – Conduct Personal Protective Equipment Conformity Assessment Working Group Public Meeting Webinar
4Q15 – Finalize CA Framework Document
1Q16 – Initiate documents to work in compliance with ISO 17067 guidelines as scheme owner for respirators and determine what level of activity is necessary for ISO 17065 for respirators
2Q16 – Develop strategy to implement CA framework
3Q16 – Move toward ISO 17065 processes for certification bodies for respirators; Initiate activity to focus on one industry sector or PPE type for framework implementation

Potential Outputs

- Final PPT Framework
- ISO 17065 Certification Body Accreditation Scope
- ISO 17067 Respirator Scheme Scope
- ISO 17067 Non-respiratory PPE Scheme Scope

Potential Outcomes

- Uniform national PPT CA practices used by Federal Agencies and private-sector certification scheme owners
- Improved confidence the PPT conforms to declared standards
- Reduced illnesses, injuries, and deaths resulting from ineffective PPE