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April 17, 2007

Representative David Wu  
Chair, Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation  
House Committee on Science and Technology  
2320 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Phil Gingrey  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation  
House Committee on Science and Technology  
H2-389 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wu and Ranking Member Gingrey,

On behalf of the ASME National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Task Force, I would like to applaud you for introducing the “Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Stimulation Act of 2007” that would authorize appropriations for the National Institute of Standards and Technology. We commend you for your bold leadership in championing this important authorization bill, and look forward to working with you to support its enactment.

America’s leadership in science, engineering and technology is facing significant challenges in an increasingly global economy. Reports such as the National Academies *Rising Above the Gathering Storm* emphasize the need to strengthen investment in U.S. industries. Part of the mission of NIST is to promote the use of American codes and standards in countries and industries around the world as a means of enhancing U.S. competitiveness. Additionally, ASME works very closely with NIST on many projects and recently completed a five-part series of standards designed to evaluate the accuracy –and thus usability–of manufacturing measurements. NIST researchers chaired several ASME B 89.7 working group and contributed to other related development work during the five-years it took to develop these five standards.

Founded in 1880 as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, ASME, a 120,000-member professional organization focused on technical, educational and research issues of the engineering and technology community. ASME contributes to the development of over 500 codes and standards that are in use in more than 100 countries and serve as the basis for a number of conformity assessment and related standards activities.

Again, we are grateful for your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you to support NIST reauthorization legislation. If you, or your staff, have any questions or would desire more information, please contact Anthony R. Quinn, Government Relations Representative at 202/785-7392 or [quinna@asme.org](mailto:quinna@asme.org).

Sincerely,

Wade Troxell, Ph.D  
Chair, ASME NIST Task Force