

STANDARDS ALERT

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Standards Development Opportunity: Glass Clarity

AFNOR, the national standards body of France, has submitted a proposal to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for a new ISO technical committee to develop standards for glass clarity. The work in ISO would establish classification and test methods that would be used to designate “clear glass” and “ultra-clear glass” for non-colored glass according to their clarity and iron content.

The work would cover mineral glass and glass in items where the glass component is not covered by coating or decoration, and is therefore accessible for sampling. The standard would apply to glass used as tableware, giftware, jewelry and lighting. Excluded would be glass used in construction work, containers, medicine and laboratories, or in other types of technical applications.

The International Trade Administration’s (ITA) Office of Standards and Investment Policy (OSIP) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) are teaming up to alert U.S. parties about this new work so that those potentially affected have a chance to comment on the proposal, identify any concerns about duplication with existing standards or programs, and express support or disapproval of the work. If the proposal advances, U.S. stakeholders would later be able to get involved in the actual development of these standards in ISO. **Feedback is due to ANSI by April 27 and should be directed to SCornish@ansi.org.**

The full proposal can be found at:

https://www.ansi.org/news_publications/news_story?menuid=7&articleid=d24554e3-f411-416d-b53a-86c37f53b39e&source=whatsnew032618

AFNOR asserts that clear and ultra-clear glass products for tableware, giftware, jewelry, and luminaries is a growing market worldwide and that developing a generic definition and classification for glass clarity will lead to a common quality requirement, enable precise product characterization, and facilitate commercial exchanges through transparency of information.

The work would build upon an existing ISO International Workshop Agreement (IWA 8:2009.)

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About STANDARDS ALERT

Standards Alert is a service from ITA in cooperation with ANSI, the private sector coordinator of the U.S. Standards system, to ensure ITA clients know about opportunities to participate in standards development.

For background, the following link provides an overview of the U.S. standardization system and how it relates to international standards development. http://www.ansi.org/standards_activities/overview/overview.aspx.

Have an idea for a future edition of STANDARDS ALERT? Contact Michael Boyles at 202-482-1935 (Michael.Boyles@trade.gov).



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