

Thailand : Partnership for Development

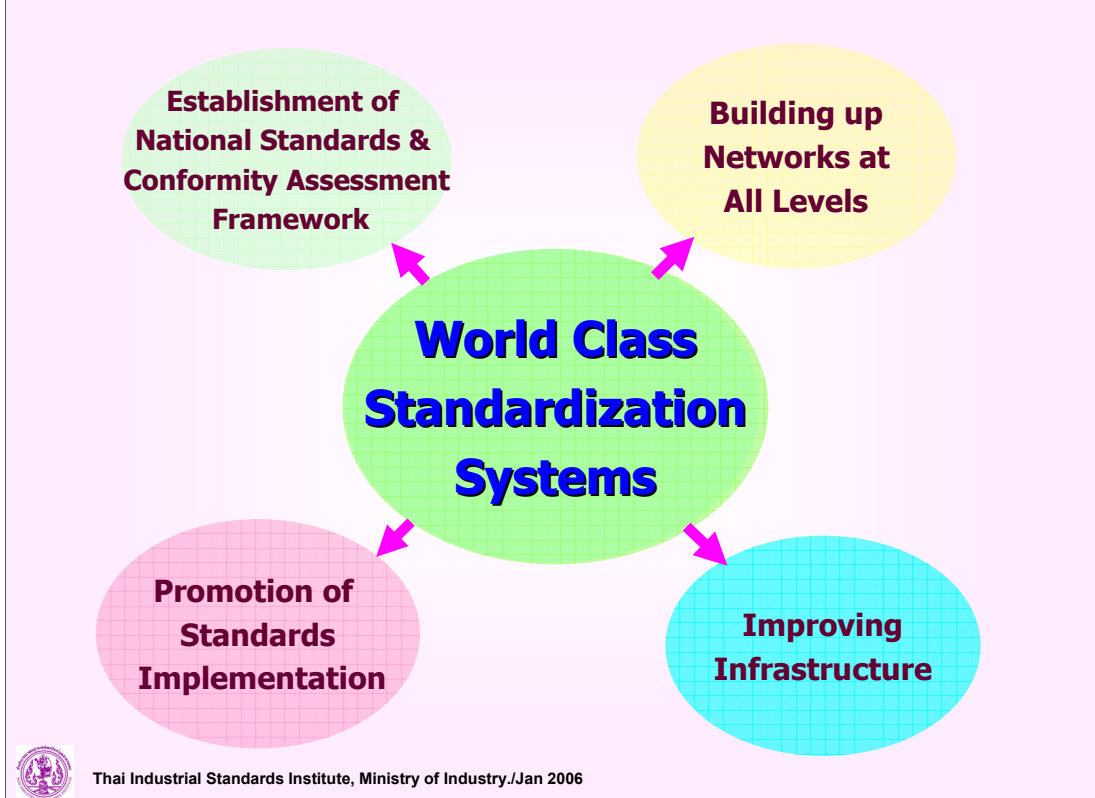
Modernization of Thai Standardization System



Thai Industrial Standards Institute
www.tisi.go.th

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Globalization, which facilitates the movement of information, products/services and people, makes the world smaller. It has led to free and fair trade, where all parties need to rely on international practices or standards for mutual recognition.

Standardization, therefore, has an important role in the enhancement of competitiveness and facilitation of international trade. This has made it necessary for Thailand to improve and strengthen its standardization infrastructure to be both adequate and internationally recognized to support the country's rapidly growing industries, especially the targeted industries that generate significant export volumes.

Standardization in Thailand has been implemented for a period of time. However, with a number of governmental organizations involved, there have been differences in procedures from agency to agency, which has resulted in duplication of effort, lack of uniformity, and adoption of standards that are not fully in line with international practices. Therefore, it is necessary for the country to improve its standardization in the following areas:

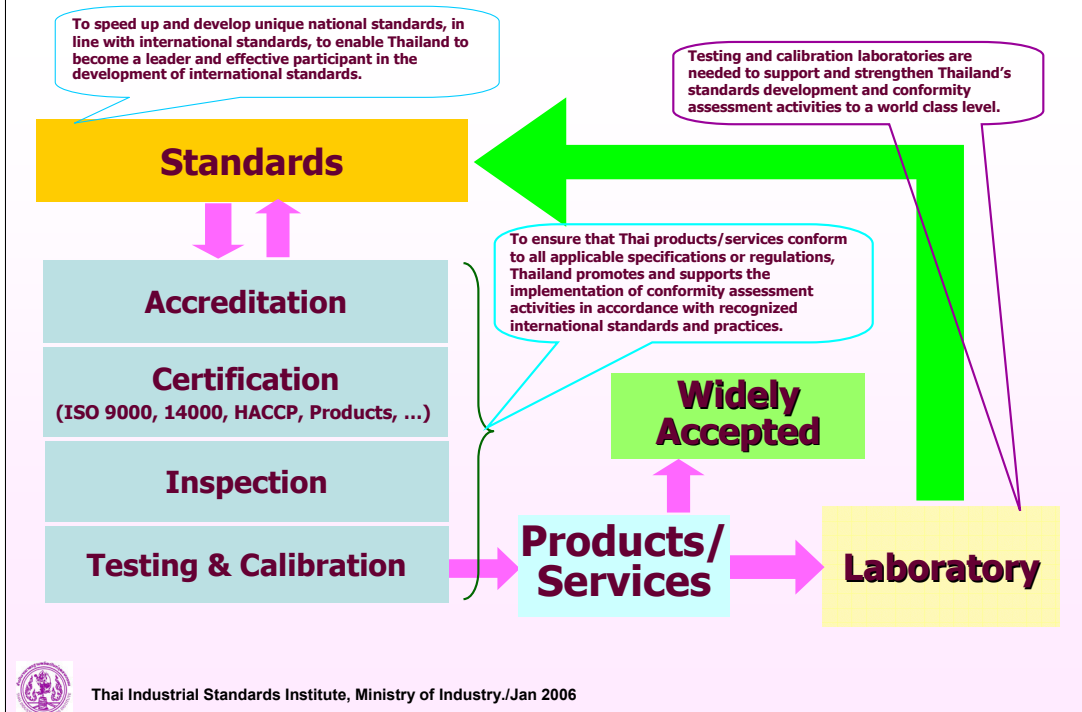
Establishment of national standards and conformity assessment framework to reduce duplication and ensure the uniformity in the standardization systems used in Thailand;

Building up network at all levels to encourage participation at all levels, both national and international, to achieve recognition and acceptance;

Improving infrastructure to support all standardization activities;

Promotion of standards implementation: to promote the benefits of standards and encourage their usage by all parties concerned, either on voluntary basis or through the issuance of technical regulations.

Infrastructure Needs



Thai Industrial Standards Institute, Ministry of Industry./Jan 2006

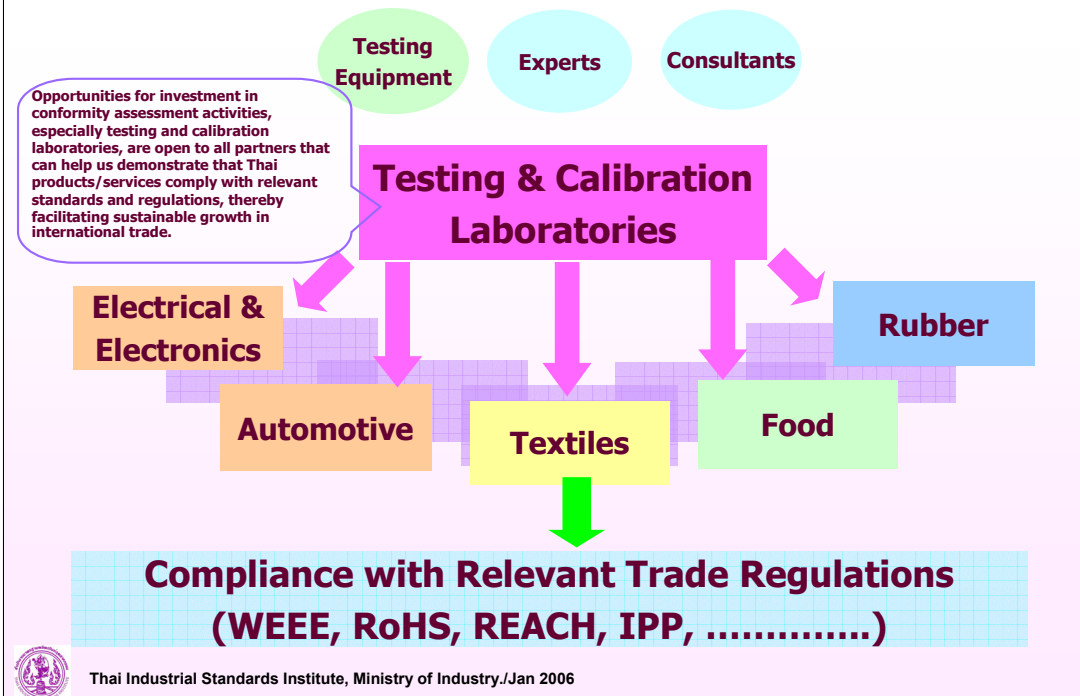
The role of standardization in Thailand is to set up rules and conformity assessment systems to ensure confidence in Thai products and services.

To accomplish this objective, it is necessary to have a standardization system in place that can serve to speed up the development of standards, respond to the needs of users, and conform to international requirements.

For the certification of products and services, necessary mechanisms for conformity assessment include separate bodies to carry out testing, inspection, certification and accreditation activities, and all of these bodies must operate in compliance with international standards to generate confidence and gain acceptance.

In this respect, one key factor to successful operation of all standardization activities is the adequacy and capability of testing and calibration laboratories. This is an area in which Thailand needs to increase both the number and capability of its testing and calibration laboratory facilities to support the country's standards development and conformity assessment activities.

Investment Opportunities



Therefore, to help us strengthen our standardization regime. Thailand, extends a cordial invitation to those who have expertise on standardization activities to consider investment that establish laboratories for specific industries, for example, electrical and electronics, automotive, textile, food and rubber, and we would also welcome investment in certification bodies.

In addition, we are seeking advisors who can assist in the strengthening of Thai standardization system to become unique, internationally recognized and world class.