



Press Release

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COLOMBIA ONCE AGAIN HOSTED THE TENTH VERSION OF THE COPANT INTERNSHIP ON STANDARDIZATION

From 30 October to 2 November 2017 he was held the X Internship on Standardization of [COPANT](#), organized by the Instituto Colombiano de Normas Técnicas y Certificación ([ICONTEC](#)) in Bogota, Colombia.

This activity has been carried out uninterruptedly every two years for the last 20 years, the management experience of ICONTEC has been advanced and the information provided by the attending countries, which has resulted in a very enriching experience for all. In this opportunity we also have the participation of [UNE](#) of Spain who showed their national and international experience in standardization.

25 representatives from 18 countries participated: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia and Uruguay.



Participants of the X Standardization Internship

This event is aimed at training new personnel of the National Standards Organizations, members of COPANT, and the following topics were developed:

1. Operating framework of ICONTEC:
 - Strategic framework, governance, value chain, process map and organizational chart; organizational management and customer service.
 - Human development management.
 - National Quality System; Relationship of Technical Standards and Technical Regulations;
 - National Standardization Process;
 - Support services: Conformity Assessment, Education, Metrology Laboratory, Health Accreditation, Innovation and Cooperation.

2. International Standardization.
3. Standardization at AENOR.
4. Workshop “Development of a service standard”.
5. Discussion: “Problems, solutions and future of standardization”.
6. Presentation of the National Standards Organizations of the invited countries.

The attendees were standards professionals from different economic sectors, who during these days shared successful experiences and common problems faced by standards bodies.

A workshop oriented to service standards was held, and the objective was achieved "to identify the common parts that a service standard must have, and to unify criteria for its elaboration". An example of a service NTC was presented (NTC 5520-2).

A discussion was held aimed at visualizing what the standards body should look like in the future, in aspects such as sustainability, new technologies and relationships, among others.

At the end of the internship a positive balance was evidenced because the participants showed their satisfaction with what they learned, highlighting the expertise of the speakers in their presentations and also the logistics throughout the event. This space contributed to:

- Improve relations between the Standards Organizations of the region,
- Establish direct contact between peers, and
- Strengthen standardization in the region.

