



**Press Release
2020-03-16**

THE WORLD OF STANDARDS IS MOURNING

COPANT REGRETS THE PASSING OF OUR GREAT FRIEND, COLLEAGUE AND COLLABORATOR: MARIO WITTNER

Last Friday, March 13, 2020, Mario Osvaldo Wittner, a high-level professional who dedicated most of his professional career to the world of quality infrastructure, passed away.

Mario was a very important personality in COPANT, collaborating from his positions in IRAM for several years, he served as our Treasurer for 9 years, and more recently he remained linked to our organization as our expert in conformity assessment issues, facilitating on several occasions the meetings and workshops of the COPANT ISO/CASCO Focal Group.

Mr. Wittner had the respect and admiration of the standardization community, not only in the Americas region, but globally, as he assumed for 3 years with great efficiency and leadership, the Chair of the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment, ISO/CASCO.



Furthermore, he was awarded by the International Electrotechnical Commission - IEC, with the distinction "1906 AWARD" for his invaluable contribution to the participation of Latin America in the IEC Conformity Assessment System through COPANT.

Below, we share Mario's professional background:

- Bachelor of Science in Chemistry - UBA
- Advisor in Conformity Assessment at the Secretariat of Domestic Trade - Ministry of Production - Argentina;
- Consultant in National Quality System, Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment;
- Coordinator of the Delegation of Argentina in the Commission for Conformity Assessment of MERCOSUR Sub-Group 3;
- European Union expert for AENOR, ISO, IDB, UNIDO, ANSI, PTB, BVQI Quality Institute, in several countries: Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador, Cuba, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras, Panama, Mozambique, Bulgaria, Nepal, MERCOSUR, Bolivia, Dominican Republic
- INLAC representative in ISO/CASCO: several Working Groups (WG) and STAR.
- Director General of IRAM - Argentine Institute of Standardization and Certification (2009)



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- Deputy Director General of IRAM (1996-2008)
- Director of Certification of IRAM (1981-1996 and 2005-2008)
- Treasurer of COPANT - Pan American Technical Standards Commission (2002-2011)
- Chairman of ISO/CASCO (2003-2006)
- Member of the ISO Council (2009)
- Convenor ISO/CASCO WG 29 Product Certification (2007-2009)
- Member of the IECEE - ACAG Committee
- Professor of General and Inorganic Chemistry - UADE - Universidad Argentina de la Empresa (1968-2006)
- Guest Professor in Standardization at INCALIN - UNSAM (Universidad de San Martín - Argentina)
- Professor in postgraduate courses of foreign trade, in the subject of Technical Barriers to Trade - Faculty of Economic Sciences - University of Buenos Aires - Argentina

COPANT expresses its deepest condolences to his family and friends.