



**Press Release
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COPANT HAS A NEW PRESIDENT

Ricardo Fragoso, CEO of ABNT, takes on the regional leadership



Eng. Ricardo Fragoso, CEO of the *Associação Brasileira de Normas Técnicas* (ABNT), was elected as President of the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) for a period of two years at the General Assembly meeting of COPANT 2017 held in Vancouver, Canada, on May 1 and 2, 2017. Mr. Fragoso, who previously served as Vice-President of COPANT for two terms, replaces outgoing President Joe Bhatia, President and CEO of American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Replacing Mr. Fragoso as vice president, was elected Mr. Jesus Lucatero, Deputy Director-General of the Dirección General de Normas of Mexico (DGN).

The Pan American Standards Commission, is a civil non-profit association, that comprises the National Standards Bodies (NSB) of the Americas, which currently total 34 active members and 10 adherent members. COPANT is the reference for technical standardization and conformity assessment for the countries of the Americas for its members and international peers, and promotes the development of its members.

About Ricardo Fragoso

He is a Mechanical Engineer, graduated from the University of Taubaté (SP), holds an MBA in Industrial Strategy and Business Management from the Fluminense Federal University, with a specialization in Steel Maintenance Engineering from the Federal School of Industrial Engineering and Quality Management from the Cristiano Ottoni Foundation (MG).

In 1978, he began his professional career at the Companhia Siderúrgica Nacional (CSN), as mechanical engineer of the Technical Maintenance Department, having reached the positions of Engineering Coordinator, Superintendent of Planning, Programming and Control, Superintendent of Maintenance of Altos Hornos, Superintendent General of Engineering, Production and Maintenance, to finally serving as Executive Director, responsible for Engineering, Maintenance, Logistics, Supplies, Utilities, Workshops, Foundry, Finance and Human Resources, after its privatization.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of MRS Logística S.A. and participated directly in the privatization process of Companhia Vale do Rio Doce. He held the positions of Executive Director of Elevadores Villarta Ltda. and Director and Technical Consultant of the Spanish TecnoLama S/A Group, responsible for the implementation of its Tecnoamerica Operative unit in Brazil.

He is President of the Brazilian Committee for Conformity Assessment (CBAC), in his second term.

He currently holds the position of Executive Chairman of AMN (MERCOSUR Standardization Association), President of COPANT (Pan American Standards Commission), member of the Board of Directors of ISO (the International Standardization Organization) and COPOLCO ISO consumer). He is a member of the Standing Committees on Standardization and Finance Policies and Strategies of ISO, of the Brazilian Committee for Standardization (CBN) and TBT/Technical Barriers (MRE).

The challenges for COPANT

The key points of Ricardo Frago's vision for a more strengthened COPANT that he intends to implement in the coming years are the following:

- Put all focus on standardization in the Americas,
- Have a very good representation of our region in international and regional organizations, making sure that our voice is heard and gain greater visibility
- Invest more in marketing and dissemination at the regional and national levels, in order to increase the awareness of the need to build a strong quality infrastructure
- Be more effective with the modest resources we have for good results.

About ABNT

The Associação Brasileira de Normas Técnicas (ABNT), is the national standardization body of Brazil, which has 77 years of existence, and is a founding member of ISO, COPANT and AMN. Since its foundation, it is also a member of the International Electrotechnical Commission - IEC.

ABNT is responsible for the elaboration of the Brazilian Standards (ABNT NBR), elaborated by its Brazilian Committees (ABNT/CB), Sector Standardization Organizations (ABNT/ONS) and Special Study Groups (ABNT/CEE).

Since 1950, ABNT has also been involved in conformity assessment and has programs for product certification, systems and environmental labeling. This activity is based on guidelines and internationally accepted technical principles and based on a technical structure and multidisciplinary auditors, guaranteeing credibility, ethics and recognition of the services provided.

Strategic positions assumed by ABNT are as follows:

Political positions:	Strategic positions:	Technical Participation:
- ISO Board of Directors	- 10 chairmanship of ISO technical committees	- 250 ISO technical committees
- ISO Technical Management Board (TMB)	- 01 chairmanship of IEC Technical Committee	- 120 IEC technical committees
- ISO Conformity Assessment Committee (CASCO)	- 08 secretariats of ISO technical committees	- 34 AMN technical committees
- ISO Consumer Policy Committee (COPOLCO)	- 01 secretariats of COPANT technical committee	- 01 COPANT technical committees
- ISO Committee for Developing Countries (DEVCO)	- 14 secretariats of AMN technical committees	
- IEC Standardization Management Board (SMB)		
- President of COPANT		
- COPANT Board of Directors		
- AMN Board of Directors		
- Executive Chairman of AMN		