



COPANT

Comisión Panamericana de Normas Técnicas
Pan American Standards Commission
Comissão Panamericana de Normas Técnicas

NOTA DE PRENSA
2023-09-21

COPANT HOSTS SUCCESSFUL WORKSHOP ON BEST PRACTICES IN CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

The Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) organized a virtual workshop on "Best Practices in Conformity Assessment conducted by the NSBs" on September 14, 2023. This event saw the participation of 21 professionals from 11 countries, including Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Venezuela.

The primary objective of this workshop was to promote knowledge exchange and collaboration among experts in the field of conformity assessment. Its purpose was to provide a platform where participants could share ideas and experiences related to best practices in conformity assessment.

During the event, distinguished speakers from various countries delivered valuable presentations. Here are some key highlights:

Guy Ladvocat, representing ABNT (Brazil), gave a presentation on ABNT's environmental labeling program. ABNT, a vital standardization body in Brazil, plays a significant role in the country's standardization and conformity assessment processes. Guy elaborated on ABNT's efforts in environmental labeling and its commitment to sustainability.



ABNT's Environmental Labeling Program, often referred to as Ecolabeling, focuses on certifying products based on rigorous criteria aligned with ISO 14024 standards. The program aims to promote environmentally friendly products and sustainable consumer procurement.

Julio Palomo from IBNORCA (Bolivia), presented innovative strategies for integrating information technology into conformity assessment processes. IBNORCA's digital transformation journey, which began in 2017, has led to substantial improvements in efficiency and service delivery. Julio highlighted the advantages of their internally developed system, functioning as an Intranet, which streamlines conformity assessment activities.

The system offers accessibility from anywhere with an internet connection, real-time updates, faster service delivery, and comprehensive data availability. IBNORCA's experience serves as a notable case study in digital transformation within the conformity assessment industry.

IBNORCA
Aplicación de sistemas
informáticos en la Evaluación
de la Conformidad





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Navenia Wellington Ford from Jamaica, representing the National Certification Body of



Jamaica (NCBJ), emphasized the importance of certification and conformity assessment in reducing technical trade barriers, increasing confidence in products and services, and ensuring consistency and customer satisfaction.

Navenia highlighted the challenges faced in encouraging smaller businesses, especially micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), to adopt certification voluntarily. She also discussed strategies, including government collaboration, digitalization, and competency enhancement,

aimed at promoting certification in Jamaica.

The workshop **concluded** with valuable insights and a commitment to continued collaboration among COPANT member countries. It served as a platform for sharing knowledge and best practices in conformity assessment, contributing to the growth and improvement of standards and certification processes in the region.

About COPANT:

The Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) is a regional standards organization that promotes standardization and conformity assessment activities across the Americas. COPANT fosters cooperation among its member countries to develop and implement standards that enhance quality, safety, and efficiency, making lives easier, safer and better.

Note: You can access the recording of the session through this [link](#).