



Consejo de Armonización de Normas Electrotecnicas de las Naciones en las Americas
Council for Harmonization of Electrotechnical Standards of the Nations in the Americas

**Address given by Sr. Rafael Nava, CANENA Ambassador-at-Large
COPANT General Assembly Meeting
September 4-8, 2017 – Quito, Ecuador**

On behalf of the members of CANENA, thank you for your invitation to take part in this meeting and the 81st IEC General Meeting. I welcome the opportunity for the next few minutes to update you on our most recent activities.

Key Accomplishments:

- 1. 2017 Board of Directors Election:** During the 2017 CANENA Annual Meeting, Council Members ratified the following slate of officer candidates presented by the executive committee to serve a two-year term that began March 1, 2017:
 - President: Julián Yarza, Director de Normalización, Hubbell de Mexico
 - Mexico Vice President: Juan Rosales, Regulatory Intelligence, Mabe México
 - Mexico Member-at-Large: Jesús Martín Ricárdez Barber, Codes and Standards Manager, Nacional de Conductores Eléctricos
 - Treasurer: Leonard Letea, Project Manager, Electrical, CSA Group
 - Secretariat: NEMA; Secretary General: Joel Solis, Manager of Conformity Assessment, NEMA
- 2. Standards Spotlight:** The U.S. electrical industry recently submitted a project request to harmonize regional requirements for uninterruptible power systems and power conversion equipment not used for motor control. The harmonization effort will be based on UL 62477-1:2012+AMD1:2016, Safety requirements for power electronic converter systems and equipment— Part 1: General; and UL 62040-1:Ed 2, Uninterruptible power systems (UPS)—Part 1: General and safety requirements for UPS. In May 2017, a Technical Harmonization Committee (THC) was formed to work on harmonizing the standards.

Goals and Strategic Objectives for the Coming Year

- 1. Future Direction of CANENA Looking Bright:** CANENA is approaching its first quarter century with 80 harmonized, electrotechnical standards in its portfolio. Regional harmonization of electrotechnical safety standards, undertaken in support of the North American Free Trade Agreement has now been accomplished. Manufacturer, product standard developer, certification and

testing organization and end-users alike are realizing long-term economic benefits to harmonized standards, and now wish to advance CANENA as a premier player in the highly competitive standards arena. Therefore, our challenge ahead is to sustain progress. Last year the CANENA Board of Directors empowered a task force to formulate a new vision and a new mission for CANENA. Moving toward international harmonization is now a CANENA goal.

Issues, Barriers, Concerns or Opportunities

1. **26th CANENA Annual Meeting:** Once again we welcome IEC to participate at the 26th CANENA Annual Meeting, to be held February 21-22, 2018 at the InterContinental Chicago Magnificent Mile hotel located in downtown Chicago, Illinois. We greatly value the close relationship our Council enjoys with IEC, and are always open to exploring greater areas of cooperation.

CANENA is not an accredited standards development organization in any country. It is an industry-driven process dedicated to enhancing free trade through the harmonization of standards, installation codes and other technical requirements in the countries of our members. Membership in CANENA is individual, by company or industry association and not by country. CANENA Technical Harmonization Committees have defined scopes, and the documents they produce are taken into the separate national approval processes by the participating accredited SDOs. Through separate agreements and procedures established between the participating SDOs, harmonized national standards are then published. CANENA's published Cooperation and Communication Strategy ensures transparency of the process, and is our commitment towards acting in a complementary manner with each official national, regional and international standardization entity. To obtain more information about CANENA, go to www.CANENA.org

Thank you once again for inviting CANENA to participate in the 2017 IEC General Meeting.