



KATS Newsletter

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Insuk NAM Takes Helm as 19th KATS Administrator

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Referencing KS for International e-Learning Standards

The 17th ISO/IEC JTC1/SC36, informational technology for learning, education and training Plenary and its WG meetings took place on 16-21 March at Ramada Plaza Hotel in Jeju, Korea, hosted by KATS. The meeting, attended by 86 international experts from 15 countries, focused on service standards required for industrialization,



Strengthened law and safety criteria for battery to be implemented

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- Strengthened Law and Safety Criteria to Be Implemented

Notice

In February 2008, a government reshuffle was launched by the newly-elected President of Korea Lee Myung-bak. Accordingly, the previous Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy (MOCIE) had its name changed to Ministry of Knowledge Economy (MKE). KATS also carried out a reorganization of divisions. (See page 2-3 for more details)

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Administrator NAM began his career as Deputy Director in 1978, holding key posts in the areas of Industrial Standards Information, Technology Innovation Evaluation, etc. at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy (the current "Ministry of Knowledge Economy") and the affiliation, Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS)

■ KATS Reorganization

KATS launched organization reshuffle, enlarging its scope to information-communication fields and revising the names of departments and divisions (See page 3).

■ KATS Policy Roadmap

Earlier this month, KATS announced policy objectives that focus on establishment of Korean Industrial Standards harmonized with international standards and the safety of consumer products and facilities. It also outlined the 3 action plans and 3S-KATS Project as followings:



3 Action Plans for 2008

Be the Global Korea!

- Strengthen the activities regarding proposal/reflection of international standards and support activities of technical committee chairman/conveners
- Establish a central TBT secretariat to resolve technical barriers to trade and prepare transparent development procedures for technical regulations
- Develop technologies with linkage to standards from the R&D stage
- Establish and utilize standards for future growth industries (e.g. intelligent robots, disaster management system, energy/environment/service, etc.)
- Strengthen comprehensive control function of standards policies, revamp the national standard system

Create Business-friendly Environment

- Prevent duplicated certifications with introduction of National Mark
- Strengthen the role of Korea Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (KOLAS) to avoid duplicated tests of exporters and expand the cooperation between ILAC-MRA, as well

as train international-level assessors

- Promote an equipment modernization plan to nurture domestic testing and analysis laboratories and exchange of idle equipment among organizations for common utilization
- Implement New Excellent Product (NEP) certification to identify competitive new products
- Facilitate 'Private Standard Development Organization' to build standardization foundation of private sector

Promote Advanced Safety & Metrology System

- Establish the self-regulatory safety management system in which manufacturers make self-declaration of the safety of their products
- Build 'Product Safety Management Network' joined by producers and consumers, which provides information for unsafe products on a real-time
- Create safe environment for convenience facilities, including elevators, playground equipment
- Build legal metrology system for consumer protection

3S - KATS Project



STAR project

Standardization Tactics Advanced Resource

- Cultivation of standards experts in the fields of social issues such as climate change, sustainable development, social responsibility, etc.



S-Line project

Slim - Lab, Instrument, Not for profit, Energy

- Optimization of business affairs and organization and efficient management of facilities, equipment, energy, etc.

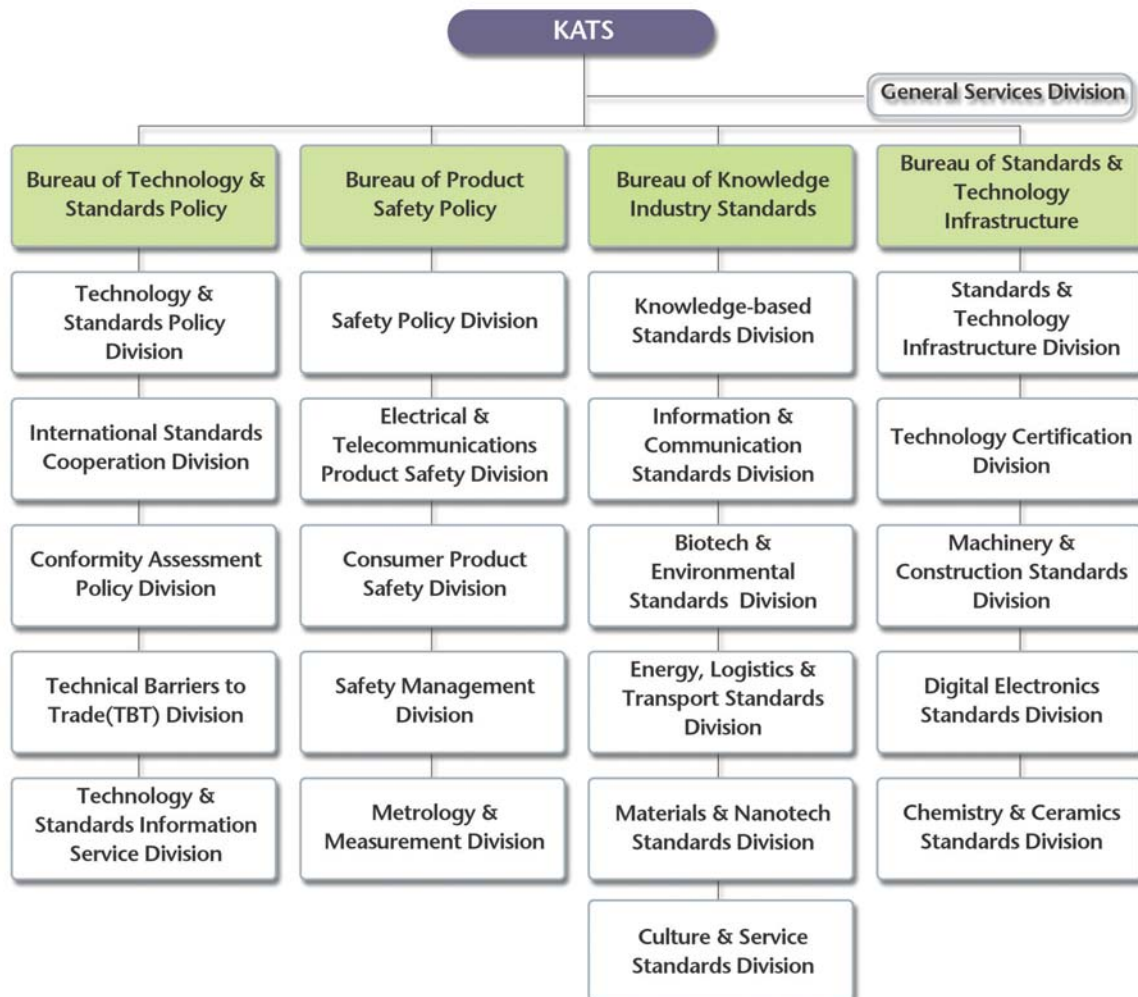


Speedy project

Speed, Dynamic service

- Quick and active public service with improved job procedures and respond efficiently to the customer requirements.

**Korean Agency for Technology and Standards
4 Bureaus and 22 Divisions**



Efficient Cyber Education, Anytime, Anywhere! Referencing KS for International e-Learning Standards

The 17th ISO/IEC JTC1/SC36, *informational technology for learning, education and training* Plenary and its WG meetings took place on 16-21 March at Ramada Plaza Hotel in Jeju, Korea, hosted by KATS.

The meeting, attended by 86 international experts from 15 countries, focused on service standards required for industrialization, such as definition of vocabulary, metadata technology, etc. to unify different e-learning technology concepts of respective countries.

At its meeting, three kinds of Korean proposals on metadata technologies (also referred to as "Korea Educational Metadata" or "KEM") regarding education, technology and copyright, which have been developed under the Korea Education & Research Information Service (KERIS), were reviewed by national committee members. Metadata is an essential technology for e-learning service to share content and to enable interoperability.

Korea Educational Metadata (KEM) is established as Korean Industrial Standards (KS) for educational metadata and classified into two educational fields; elementary/middle and higher education. The following series of standards for KEM have been published by KATS:

- KS X 7001-1, Korea Educational Metadata - Part 1: Synopsis;
- KS X 7001-2, Information Technology - Korea Educational Metadata - Part 2: K-12;
- KS X 7001-3, Information Technology - Korea Educational Metadata - Part 3: Higher Education.

KEM is utilized to improve e-learning service at Learning Support Centers of 16 municipal and provincial offices of



education.

Korea is also strengthening strategic cooperation for e-learning standardization, suggesting 'e-learning content packaging' technology jointly with a private international e-learning consortium, Instructional Management System (IMS), etc.

IMS - Instructional Management System

IMS refers to the association that composed with government, enterprises, educational institutes to research and develop technology standards, including e-learning application program, content service, etc.

Meanwhile, KATS plans to reinforce support policies to accelerate global commercialization in the field, actively discovering technologies related to e-learning content, service, etc. and allowing market to compete through international standardization.

Latest Efforts to Standardize the ITS Technology

The first meeting of the WG 17 under ISO/TC 204, Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), aiming to spur commercialization of its high-tech ITS communication technologies, was held in Jeju, Korea, from 10 March to 14 March, 2008.

The WG 17, *Nomadic Devices in ITS Systems*, is newly established working group for state-of-the-art ITS technologies at the end of 2007.

At this meeting, Korea suggested new proposals including 'Nomadic Device and Vehicle-to-Vehicle Communications' and

Dr. MOON, Young-Jun of Korea Transport Institute, furthermore, proposed 'Nomadic Device service regulations', for enlarging of its ITS scope, that contains the followings:

- Transportation information needed when driving, such as vehicle collision, traffic congestion, warning system, etc.;
- Comprehensive multimedia service needed when carrying the device at outside, e.g. routes and timetable information of bus, location-guide information, movie, game, etc.

If the new proposals are adopted by ISO, nomadic device service methods will be unified to enable related companies to

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Sub-floor Heating System, *Ondol*, Goes Global

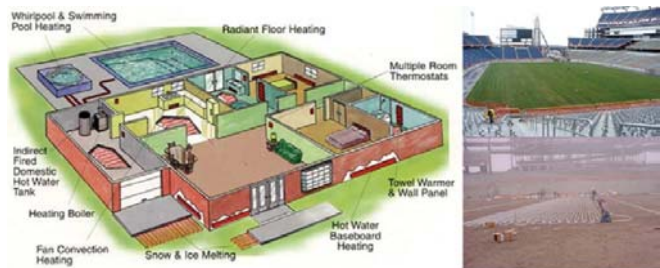
Korea's distinctive method of heating, known as "*ondol*," grabbed the spotlight recently with adapting a series of Korean proposals for "radiant heating and cooling system" including "*ondol*."

Last December, seven proposals for "radiant heating and cooling system" were submitted by Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS), as followings:

- Definition, symbols about the system, and comfort criteria when using it;
- Heating and cooling capacity for calculating heat emission;
- Design and dimensioning;
- Guidelines for operation and maintenance, etc.

All seven draft standards will be published after drafts of these proposals are made and several ballots are approved in the technical committee.

Four features of Korean *ondol* pipes were also published as international standards, last year.



Ondol is being used not only for heating of houses, schools but also for large-scale spaces like gymnasiums.

What is *Ondol*?

Ondol (literally, "warm stone") is a traditional Korean system of heating that uses hot water, which circulates under the floor to warm the house. This heating system is now gaining popularity outside Korea as a result of increasing concern for energy efficiency and of its various effects revealed such as the improving blood circulation and activating metabolic process, etc.

Ondol systems are present in newly built homes in a growing number of countries. Approximately half of all newer houses in Western Europe have been constructed using *ondol* systems. And the U.S. *ondol* market is growing by more than 20% every year.

(Continued from p4)

Latest Efforts to Standardize the...

reduce duplicate R&D investment. As a result, it will be able to supply nomadic terminals that ensure interoperability and to provide its services at lower prices.

Korea is presently evolving the industrialization of ITS technologies and KATS is fostering its international standardization work for ITS, including telematics, jointly with Korea Transport Institute and Electronics and

Telecommunications Research Institute, etc.

As part of the efforts, KATS intends to intensify its support through an 'TTS National Mirror Committee' composed of an industry-academia-research institute, such as ETRI, KOTI, LG Electronics, etc.

Ensuring the Safety of lithium-ion Batteries Strengthened Law and Safety Criteria to Be Implemented

To address a series of recent accidents such as explosion or melting of laptop computer batteries, KATS decided to revise the related law in a way that enables compulsory investigation on products that have caused safety relevant accidents.

For items which had not been regulated by the Quality Management and Safety Control of Industrial Product Act, it has thus far not been possible to seize relevant products for investigation if corresponding companies do not provide them voluntarily.

KATS also plans to prepare and implement stronger safety criteria than the present IEC 62133. For this, KATS has established the committee comprised of lithium-ion battery producers, consumer organizations and testing laboratories, etc. since December last year.

On February 27, with the participation of officials from cell phone, laptop, battery and charger producers and Korea Electrotechnology Research Institute (KERI), KATS held a meeting on the Lithium-ion Battery Accident and Safety Criteria, presided over by Director General Jaebin SONG of the Bureau of Product Safety Policy. Participants examined the causes for battery accidents by cases, the self-regulatory safety management status of industries, as well as trends of domestic and overseas safety criteria.

At the meeting, KATS organized a 'Safety Inspection Team' consisting of related industries, consumers and experts to

comprehensively clarify causes for battery accident.

Through the upcoming investigation, KATS plans to prepare a systematic method for safety management after clarifying the battery explosion causes, whether due to defect of the product (or battery) itself, defect of the charger, carelessness in usage, etc.

KATS requested consumers to take particular care for self-control of long-time use of mobile phones, etc. in an environment where the products can be exposed to high temperature or shock, and not to block air vents of laptop computers as the internal temperature of such products can rise and batteries may overheat.



Why Lithium-ion Battery So Popular?

Lithium-ion batteries widely used in personal mobile equipment such as laptop computers, mobile phones and navigation devices can be down-scaled due to their higher energy density than previous batteries. The batteries have nearly no memory effect, a phenomenon in which function is reduced sharply unless re-charged after full discharge. That's why Lithium-ion batteries have become so popular that the global annual demand reaches 2.4 billion cell units.

One cell constitutes a mobile phone battery and 4-8 cells constitute a laptop computer battery. In Korea, about 18 million units of mobile phones and about one million units of laptop computers are sold annually. The nation produces over 600 million cell units of Lithium-ion batteries and exports about 85% of the total quantity. As of the end of 2007, Korea's global market share for Lithium-ion batteries was at the 30% level.

For More Information or Any Comment?

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