Call for Public Comment - ANSI/LEO-5000 - Standard for Emissions Inventories, Offsets and Reduction Credits

Madison, WI – April 14, 2011 – Leonardo Academy is inviting all interested parties to provide comment on the draft Standard for Emissions Inventories, Offsets and Reduction Credits Standard (ANSI/LEO-5000).

LEO 5000 was developed under the rules of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The goal of this process has been to help develop a comprehensive framework and common set of sustainability metrics that (1) Provide transparent reporting of the scope of emissions sources being addressed and how emissions, sequestration and offsets are calculated; this will help companies and consumers to make sense of claims made by businesses about their emission reduction and offset achievement, (2) Avoid the traditional one-dimensional approach of targeting single emissions by addressing the full range of emissions types, including those that negatively affect climate and those that negatively affect human health and (3) Fill in the gap left by current climate emissions standards by addressing existing forests.

This is a voluntary standard and aims to engage the competitive market in driving the development of a green economy and bringing sustainability to new market sectors. Voluntary standards are important tools for driving change because they allow stakeholders from all levels of interest to get engaged in the standard development process. The standard development committee is comprised of government representatives, labor groups, academics, and individuals and organizations that create, inventory, reduce or sequester, or offset emissions to individuals and organizations that work to preserve and improve the environment.

Michael Arny, President of Leonardo Academy, explained, “We are extremely proud of the work that has been conducted on this standard and thank the committee for volunteering their time and expertise. This standard provides a multi-pollutant approach and will assist companies and organizations that implement energy efficiency, renewable energy and other emission reduction actions, such as forest carbon sequestration initiatives to calculate and earn reduction credits for all types of pollutants reduced.”

To review a copy of the draft standard and guidelines on how to evaluate the document, please visit http://www.leonardoacademy.org/services/standards/emissions-standards.html. For
additional information, contact Michael Arny at Leonardo Academy (Tel: 608-280-0255, Email: emissions_standard@leonardoacademy.org. Reference information about the standard is available at: https://sites.google.com/site/emissionsstandard/. This review period will be open until June 30, 2011.

About Leonardo Academy

Leonardo Academy is a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing sustainability by leveraging innovative tools and information to motivate the competitive market. By utilizing an interdisciplinary approach to sustainability strategies, education and implementation, we strive to make sustainability practical for everyone.

We develop integrative sustainability solutions designed to enhance the environmental stewardship, social responsibility and economic prosperity of organizations, corporations and individuals. We see a world filled with sustainable opportunities that can transform the way we live today and ensure the prosperity of future generations.

Leonardo Academy works on a broad range of sustainability issues and provides comprehensive sustainability programs and services to help companies, organizations, families and individuals implement sustainability. Our programs and services include: organizational sustainability assessments and implementation; emissions footprints, reduction strategies and offsets; LEED® assessments, implementation and certification application preparation; sustainable land management; sustainability training; and sustainability standards development.

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