



Partners for Change

مؤتمر فلسطين للاستثمار
Palestine Investment Conference

Bethlehem, May 21-23 2008

Quality and Standards in Palestine

Background

- The Palestine Standards Institute (PSI) is the sole body in Palestine entrusted with developing and issuing Palestinian standards. Standards are developed by standardization committees, made up of representative specialists from the private and public sectors, academic institutions, industrial associations and consumer protection organizations.
- The PSI started operations in 1996. The institution now employs over 100 people distributed among its main functions, namely Standardization, Certification, and Metrology. PSI's operation is governed by an independent board of directors chaired by the Minister of National Economy, and includes representatives from industry, academic institutions and related PNA ministries.
- PSI recently undertook a critical review of its strategy, operation and laws to discover how it can improve its services to industry, government institutions, and Palestinian citizens in general. The new strategy focuses on working with several international standards bodies on developing its various systems in line with international best practices.
- The most active technical committees include those working on food, the environment, chemicals, plastics, petroleum products, construction and cosmetics. On average, the PSI adopts about 80 standards each year. Most standards adopted by PSI are internationally harmonized.

Methodology for developing Palestinian standards

- Proposal stage: survey and evaluation.
- Committee stage: drafting, discussion, consensus, committee draft.
- Public review stage: public review, final draft.
- Adoption stage: Palestinian standards certificate, dissemination.
- Review stage: review.

Standards

- In the Standards section, all standards-type documents are classified into fields, groups and sub-groups according to the International Classification for Standards (ICS). The ICS is a hierarchical classification which consists of three levels, with Level 1 covering broad fields of activity in standardization.
- The same standard may be classified in several groups and/or sub-groups. If a standard completely covers the subject of a group which is subdivided into sub-groups, this standard is classified under the sub-group which has the notation terminating with '.01'.





Quality and Standards in Palestine

The PSI Quality Mark

The PSI quality mark is the seal of confidence that local consumers look for on products available in the Palestinian market. The PSI quality mark is granted for products that meet these requirements:

- The product complies with all requirements of applicable Palestinian standards.
- The quality management system of the producer meets the requirements of the PS/ISO 9001.
- The manufacturing facility meets requirements of local codes on environment, health and safety.
- The quality mark is granted following ISO guide number 65.

PSI major achievements

- PSI became a subscriber member of ISO in 2001 and upgraded its membership to correspondent member in 2004.
- There are now about 1,000 standards in Palestine.
- More than 50 manufacturers received the quality mark certificate.



Supported by



صندوق الأقصى

