Saudi Standardization Journey Towards Globalization

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Governor

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Economic Figures About Saudi Arabia

- KSA GDP: $746.25 Billion
- KSA economy is oil-based characterized by a major concentration of exports on a single resource.
- KSA have launched many initiatives towards diversification of its economy, particularly through focusing on industry development, and mineral resources.
- Clear focus on Strengthening the role of the private sector, through encouraging its participation in various socio-economic development projects.
Growth in Imports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Imports Value SR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>156,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>177,656</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>222,685</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>361,402</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>338,088</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>346,753</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>358,260</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>400,736</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>463,446</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>583,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>630,582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>646,805</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
About SASO

- Established in 1972 as an Independent Government Body Responsible for all Standardization Activities, under the Name of Saudi Arabian Standards Org. (SASO)
- In charge of Development, Approval and Publishing of National Standards and Technical Regulations
- Oversees the National Measurement & Calibration Center (NMCC)
- Host King Abdulaziz Quality Award (KAQA)
- Enquiry Point for TBT (WTO) & In Charge of Notifications
Our Mission:

*To Improve standards and quality of products & services, aiming at strengthening consumer protection and the improving the competitiveness of the national economy*
Our Vision:

To Achieve regional leadership & scientific reference in the fields of standardization and conformity assessment.
SASO in Figures (cont’d)

- SASO has signed Technical Cooperation Programs with about 35 NSBs and SDO’s all over the world.
- 14 Mutual Recognition Programs (MRP’s), signed with counterpart institutions in other countries.
- 94 National Laboratories have been Accredited by the Saudi Accreditation Committee (SAC).
SASO Presence in Regional and International Standardization Institutions

SASO is a Member of the following Orgs.:
SASO’s Actions for the Accession of the Kingdom

- Because SASO is the National Standardization Body in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, it was a permanent Member of the Saudi team for the Accession.

- Since the early stages of Accession; we started reviewing our activities and evaluating how to make it in line with the requirements of the TBT.

- A Task Force was formulated for this mission.
SASO’s Actions for the Accession of the Kingdom (Cont’d)

- The Task Force prepared an Action Plan that was submitted to WTO with Document No.: WT/ACC/SAU/41

- The Action Plan resulted a Technical Directive consisted of 4 parts:
  1. Standardization and Related Activities – General Vocabulary
  2. Policy for the Preparation of Saudi Mandatory Standards (Saudi Technical Regulations) and Saudi Voluntary Standards.
  3. Conformity Assessment Procedures.
  4. Preparation for SASO’s Information Center to Work as an Enquiry Point.
SASO’s Actions for the Accession of the Kingdom (Cont’d)

- The Technical Directive was approved by SASO Board of Directors on July, 2000.
- It was circulated to Members of WTO on October, 2000.
- Comments on the Directive were received from Members.
- An Updated version of the Directive was developed (taking into consideration the comments received) and approved by the Board on July, 2005.
- The Directive was re-circulated to Members of WTO and was praised.
SASO’s Actions for the Accession of the Kingdom (Cont’d)

- The Accession of the Kingdom as we all know was on 11/12/2005.
- Since that date, SASO standardization strategy has significantly shifted towards the adoption of International standards (e.g. ISO, IEC.)
- SASO is a Member of the Trade Policy Review of the Kingdom.
Growth in SASO Standards

Technical Regulations and Standards
The 1-1-1 Dream

- Standard
- Test
- Conformity Assessment

Done Once ... Done for All
Thank You

www.saso.gov.sa