

# *Biometric Consortium 2006 Conference*

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**Topic:** NIST's Development of Conformance Test Suites for Biometric Interfaces

**Abstract:** Standards-based conformance testing leads to greatly increased levels of confidence in product conformance claims for developers and users. NIST is working in close collaboration with other government agencies in the development of biometric standards and supporting testing tools. A component of NIST's biometric standards program is the development of Conformance Test Suites (CTS) for biometric interface standards. In February 2006 NIST and DoD Biometrics Task Force released two BioAPI CTS beta implementations. Test results derived from both CTS implementations were cross-validated. NIST is currently developing CTS implementations for selected Common Biometric Exchange Framework Format Patron Formats. This presentation will address NIST's CTS developments in support of national and international biometric standards and will discuss the status of these technical developments.

**Biography:** Mr. Podio has worked in different aspects of IT development, measurements, and standards for over twenty-six years. For the past eight years he has been involved in biometrics research, testing and standardization. He is responsible for NIST's Biometric Standards program where he is currently leading the development of conformance test suites for biometric interfaces. Before his work in biometrics began, he conducted research and testing of intelligent data storage devices, sequential data storage media and optical digital data disks and represented NIST in optical digital data disks standardization. He is currently the Chairman of ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee 1 (JTC 1)/Subcommittee 37 (SC 37) – Biometrics and he also chairs the InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards (INCITS) Technical Committee M1, Biometrics. He is the Biometric Consortium co-chair.

Mr. Podio shared a year 2003 Group US Department of Commerce Gold Medal Award for Distinguished Achievement in Federal Service for "development of standards, testing methodology, and metrics for biometric technologies to be used for securing the Nation's borders" and received other national and international awards such as the 2004 and 2006 InterNational Committee for IT Standards Gene Milligan Award in recognition of his leadership work in biometrics standards and NIST's 2000 William P. Slichter Award for "Outstanding Achievement in building or strengthening ties between NIST and industry". He has been selected as a 2006 recipient of an ANSI Meritorious Service Award for his role in advancing the development, adoption and awareness of biometric standards. Mr. Podio has worked at NIST since 1983.