Interest Category (when capitalized) – classification of the company (or comparable body) based on the applicability or use of the standard. The categories used are:

- Producer a company (or comparable body) that develops or manufactures product(s) covered by the ANS
- User a company (or comparable body) that is using or expected to use products covered by the ANS but does not produce them, or that is using or expected to use information covered by the standard (includes consumer, industrial, government, labor, testing laboratory, etc.)
- General Interest a company (or comparable body) that is not a producer or a user, which includes but is not limited to distributor, retailer, or regulatory agency (examples: professional societies, trade associations, media, etc.)