

## Saudi Standardization Journey Towards Globalization

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Geneva, Switzerland WTO, 29 September 2015

## Economic Figures About Saudi Arabia

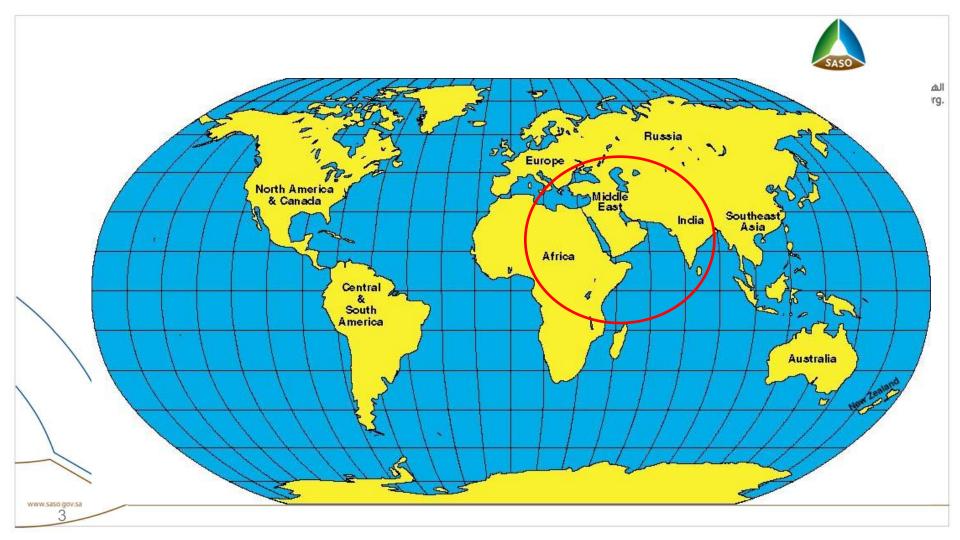


الهيئة السعودية للمواصفات والمقاييس والجودة .Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Org

• KSA GDP:  $\approx$  \$746.25 Billion

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- 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.



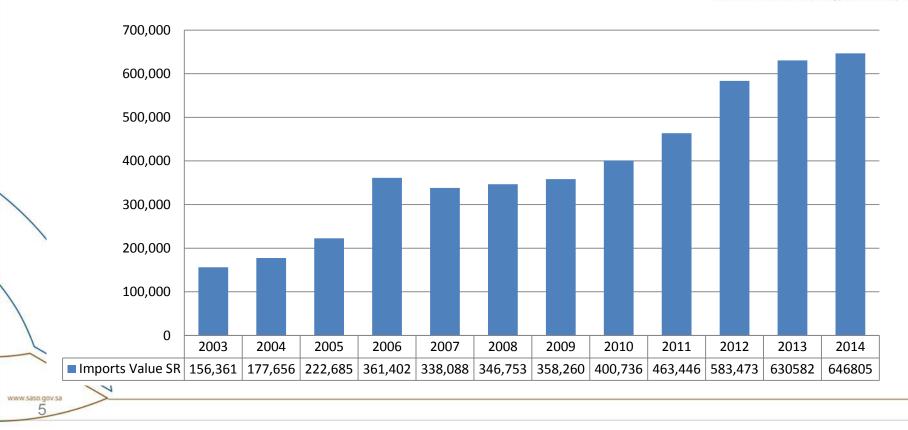




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### Growth in Imports



## 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:

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





#### Our Vision:

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## To Achieve regional leadership & scientific reference in the fields of standardization and conformity assessment.

## SASO in Figures (cont'd)

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- SASO has signed Technical Cooperation Programs with about
  35 NSBs and SDO's all over the word
- 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 is a Member of the following Orgs.:

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#### 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 in consideration the comments received) and approved by the Board on July, 2005.
  - The Directive was re-circulated to Members of WTO and was praised

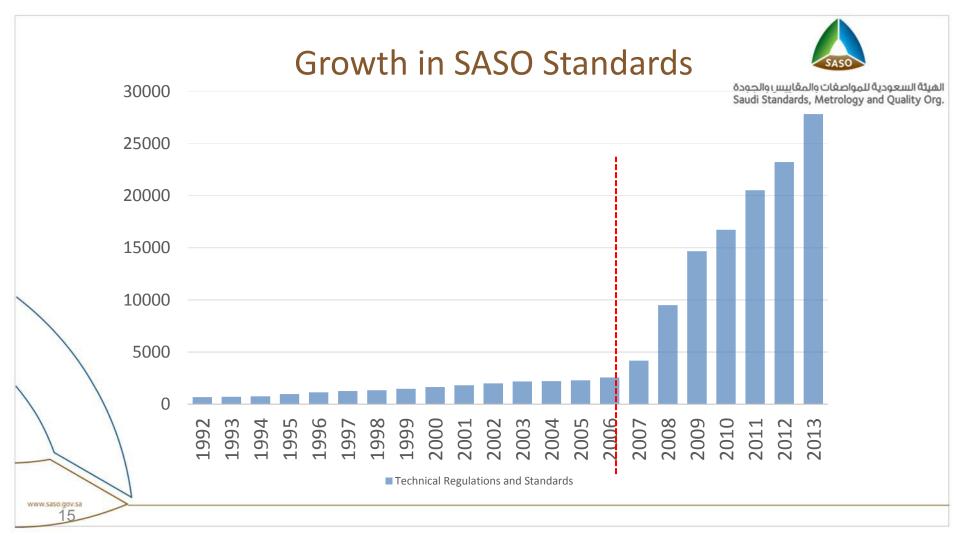
### SASO's Actions for the Accession of the Kingdom (Cont'd)



الهيئة السعودية للمواصفات والمقاييس والجودة Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Org.

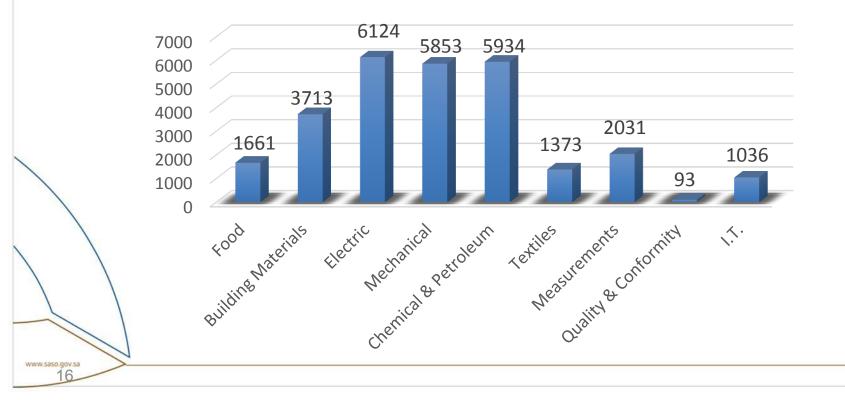
- The Accession of the Kingdom as we all know was on 11/12/2005.
- Since that date, SASO standardization strategy has significantly shifted towards the adoption of International standards (e.g. ISO, IEC.)

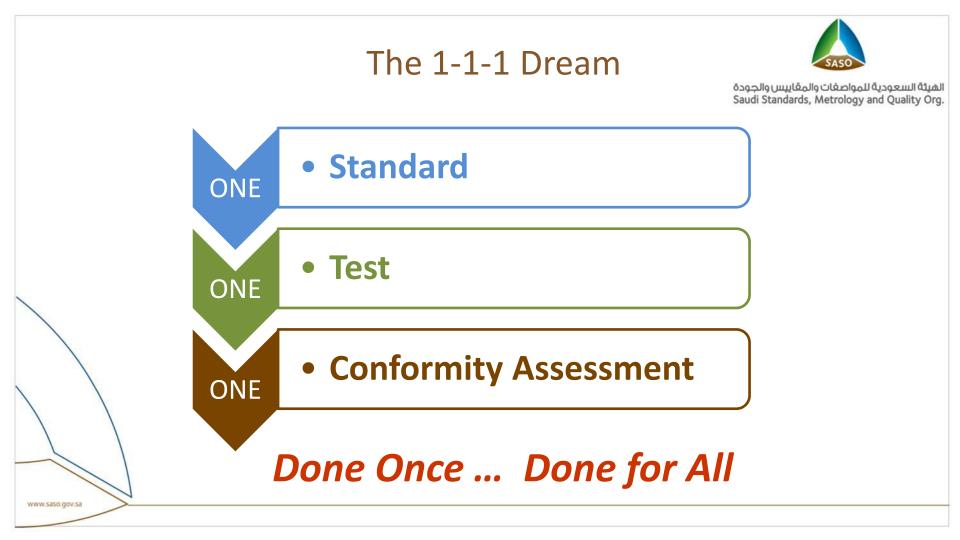
SASO is a Member of the Trade Policy Review of the Kingdom.





#### SASO Standards Distribution









**Thank You** 

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