

STANDARDS WORK FOR SMEs

SME Newsletter – March 2015

➤ **Joint CEN CENELEC and SBS webinar on Guide 17 "Guidance for standards writers taking into account SME needs"**

On 10 March, the CEN CENELEC Management Centre together with SBS organized a 10-10 webinar on the use of Guide 17 by standard writers.

10-10 webinars are organized on the 10th of each month, starting at 10:00 h (CET) and highlight various aspect related to the European Standardization System.

While most sessions are addressed to Technical Body Officers and the staff of national standardization organizations, the 10-March session also addressed SMEs! After all, Guide 17 contains advice, guidance, tips and examples of what standard writers should have in mind when they write their standard in particular because the standard will also be used by micro, small and medium sized enterprises.

Missed it? No problem, all information is available from our website: [video](#), [slides](#), Guide 17 ([English version](#), [other languages](#)).

[More info on 10-10 webinars](#)

➤ **Roundtable: 'Standardization boosts European business competitiveness'**

'Standardization boosts European business competitiveness' was the theme of a high-level Roundtable organized by CEN and CENELEC in partnership with The Parliament Magazine, held on 4 March 2015.

The Roundtable was opened by Vicky Ford MEP, who chairs the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) Committee in the European Parliament. Mrs Ford reflected that standardization is similar to singing in a choir, which is one of her favourite activities, because everyone works together for a common result.

The European Commission was represented by Kerstin Jorna (Director – Industrial Property, Innovation and Standards, DG Growth) who emphasized the strengths of the European standardization system, highlighting the fact that European Standards are developed by business and other stakeholders.

CENELEC President Tore Trondvold underlined the fact that European Standards for products and services are developed through an open, transparent and participative process in which all kinds of businesses can take part alongside other interested stakeholders.

Barbara Sorgato, Secretary General of the European Consortium of Anchors Producers (ECAP), explained that many small and medium-sized companies

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(SMEs) are using standards to demonstrate that their products comply with relevant EU Regulations, by means of obtaining CE marking. She said that standardization allows SMEs to access and share the latest technical knowledge, so they can compete with larger companies.



(from left to right) Elena Santiago Cid (Director General of CEN and CENELEC), Tore Trondvold (CENELEC President), Vicky Ford MEP, Paolo Falcioni (CECED Director General), Kerstin Jorna (Director, DG Growth, European Commission), Barbara Sorgato (ECAP Secretary General), Christian Wetterberg (Director External Relations of the LEGO Group) [© The Parliament Magazine 2015]

[Read more](#)

➤ **StandarDays April 2015**

The next sessions of the CEN CENELEC StandarDays will be held on Tuesday, 21 and Wednesday, 22 April 2015. StandarDays gives you the opportunity to:

- participate in a 2-day training given by European experts
- understand the role and advantages of European Standards
- learn about the process of making European Standards
- hear how businesses can benefit from using standards
- discover current and upcoming trends in standardization
- explore the international context of European Standards
- find out what the link is between legislation and standardization

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- meet standardization experts from CEN and CENELEC
- get answers to your questions about European Standards
- network with other participants interested in standardization

[More info and registration](#)

➤ **New publications**

- Recently published European Standards, CEN Workshop Agreements and other CEN and CENELEC publications as well as future publications: [CEN](#) and [CENELEC](#)
- [Connect](#), CEN CENELEC Newsletter (February 2015 issue)

➤ **Scope statements of all European Standards**

To help identify relevant standards, you can learn what each standard enables you to do by consulting its "scope".

- To search for Electrotechnical European standards, use the [CENELEC search tool](#)
- To search for other European standards, use the [CEN search tool](#)

➤ **National SME Helpdesks**

To facilitate direct contact at national level between SMEs and the CEN and CENELEC members, a network of 42 SME Helpdesks is in place. Contact your [national SME Helpdesk](#).

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