



Technical Boards Newsletter

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90th CEN/BT and 165th CLC/BT

Since the last issue of the BT Newsletter in February 2020, the CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards have met once, from 18 to 20 May 2020 (virtual meeting due to Covid-19 pandemic).

We are pleased to report here on the main outcomes of crosscutting nature discussed in the single-BT and common meetings as well as on the latest decisions of transversal nature taken by correspondence (until 30 June 2020).

Best regards

Cinzia MISSIROLI
Director Standardization & Digital Solutions

BT measures relating to COVID-19 pandemic

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic the CEN and CENELEC community has consistently supported the European joint efforts in the fight against its spread, notably through decisions and measures taken at the Technical Board level.

Standards made available free of charge

In March the Presidential Committee decided to make [14 Standards related to medical and protective equipment available free of charge](#), as urged by Commissioner Breton.

In this context, the BTs agreed that, besides the above Standards, the Members could continue to make available for free additional national implementations of Standards that they deem necessary to help combat COVID-19.

In June the EC encouraged CEN and CENELEC to enlarge the set of freely available Standards in order to address further needs identified to fight the pandemic. The EC request was assessed against the information provided by the Members on the standards that are made available at national level and against their availability free of charge by ISO and IEC. As a result, the CEN Administrative Board followed the CEN/BT recommendation and invited the CEN Members to provide temporarily-free access to the national adoptions of 7 other Standards until 30 September 2020, when the situation will be re-assessed. These Standards cover respiratory and ventilatory equipment.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 029/2020 & 030/2020 and CLC/BT 165/011, applicable from 2020-05-19

Contact person: Ms Catherine VIGNERON (cvigneron@cencenelec.eu)

CWA on Community face coverings (masks)

In answer to an urgent request from the European Commission to deliver a European standardization deliverable for Community face coverings by mid-June 2020, CEN/BT established a CEN Workshop in order to develop a CWA, based on existing national specifications. Following extensive exchanges and work within the Workshop, **CWA 17553** 'Community face coverings - Guide to minimum requirements, methods of testing and use' was issued on 17 June 2020 and will be available free of charge on the [CEN website](#) as well as on the Members'.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 034/2020, applicable from 2020-05-20

Contact person: Ms Catherine VIGNERON (cvigneron@cencenelec.eu)

Tolerance and flexibility in the Standards development process

[Temporary measure to be re-evaluated at the BTs meeting of September]

To ensure business continuity during the sanitary crisis a vast majority of TC meetings were turned to virtual; however, in order to reduce pressure on the Standards developers and to guarantee some flexibility, the BTs took the following decisions:

- In **CEN**:
 - WIs having a delay up to 26 weeks from the target date will not be cancelled
 - TCs may change the initial planning via the 'one-change' option for the affected WIs at any time before enquiry (i.e. without the condition that a decision must be taken at least 4 weeks after the dispatch of the 1st WD)
 - TC Secretaries may shorten the notice period to 1 month for virtual meetings *only* (including submission of the Agenda)

Decision ref: CEN/BT 033/2020, applicable from 2020-05-20

- In **CENELEC**:
 - WIs having a delay up to 12 weeks from the target date will not be cancelled.
 - TCs are reminded of the possibility to request the 39-week (i.e. 9-month) tolerance and may change, at any time before enquiry, the initial planning via the 'one-change' option for the CENELEC homegrown WIs
 - TC secretaries may shorten the notice period to 1 month for virtual meetings *only* (including submission of the Agenda)

Decision ref: CLC/BT D166/C014, applicable from 2020-06-10

*Contact person: Mr Alberto SIMEONI (asimeoni@cencenelec.eu)
The Project Manager following the activities of your TC*

For more information on our free conference service, check the [CEN-CENELEC conferencing tools](#) webpage.

Common CEN-CENELEC matters

CEN and CENELEC strategy 2030

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the CEN and CENELEC Administrative Boards have agreed on a revised timeline for the CEN and CENELEC Strategy 2030, postponing the exercise by 6 months.

The final document should be validated during the General Assemblies of November 2020.

The BTs are kept informed on the progress status at their common sessions.

Contact person: Mr Brecht LEIN (blein@cencenelec.eu)

Processes and Procedures

CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations Part 2 (IR2) – New edition

The BTs endorsed the new edition of the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations – Part 2, which were revised to align them with decisions taken by the CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards since the last edition published in 2018.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C078/2020 and CLC/BT D165/C131, applicable from 2020-04-29

The main changes, compared to the previous edition, relate to i.e. clarification of the procedure for the creation of CEN-CENELEC joint TCs, addition of two cases to Clause 6.1.4 requiring weighted majority, revised deadlines for the circulation of documents related to Technical Board meetings, revision of Annex D (weighting associated to the population).

Another major change relates to the counting of votes for BSI, which is considered as a Member from a non-EEA country as of 2020-07-01.

Furthermore, the full text has been revised to be gender neutral.

The new edition of IR2 was approved by the AGs and is now available on the relevant areas of the [CEN BOSS](#) and [CENELEC BOSS](#).

Flexible standards development process

Since 1 April 2020, in view of optimizing the development process of Standards and their time to market, a new *Flexible standards development process* has been implemented, where the TCs are empowered to autonomously plan and organize their work within a maximum timeframe.

To support the TC Officers, two webinars were given beforehand – if you missed them, you still have the possibility to listen to the recordings:

- *Flexible process - Part 1 - Principles and operational aspects* [[RECORDING](#)]
- *Flexible process: Part 2 - IT tools for planning and monitoring* [[RECORDING](#)]

Contact person: Mr Alberto SIMEONI (asimeoni@cencenelec.eu)

Translation prior to Formal Vote stage

The BTs decided to

- include a 5-week translation period *prior to* Formal Vote for homegrown ENs and ENs under Vienna Agreement with CEN lead, instead of having it *during* Formal Vote
- consider the 5-week translation period as an additional separate stage to the development time, thus not affecting the time for technical bodies' work
- apply this translation period to all drafts submitted to CCMC for Formal Vote as of 1 July 2020.

The relevant CEN and CENELEC BOSS pages will be updated accordingly within short.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 025/2020 and CLC/BT D165/007, applicable from 2020-05-19

Contact person: Mr Gonçalo ASCENSAO (gascensao@cencenelec.eu)

CEN-CENELEC Joint Technical Committees (JTC)

Given the increasing number of cross-sectoral topics in standardization requiring the establishment of JTCs, the Technical Boards took a series of decisions to guarantee a coherent approach relating to the operational aspects related to their way of working, namely:

- **Reporting to BTs:**
 - A CEN-CENELEC JTC report to BT shall be circulated to CEN BT for information and to CENELEC BT for decision
 - Such report shall be prepared using the newly developed dedicated template. The templates are available on the relevant [CEN](#) and [CENELEC BOSS](#) areas.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 026/2020 and CLC/BT D165/008, applicable from 2020-05-19

- **Technical changes after Formal Vote prior to Publication:**

- In case technical changes are needed after Formal Vote prior to the Publication of a deliverable developed by a CEN-CENELEC JTC, the BT Member/Permanent Delegate holding the secretariat of the JTC shall send a request for exceptional technical changes preventing a deficient standard to be published to the VP Technical of the organisation having the WI lead and to Director Standardization.
- Subsequently, a BT document is circulated for decision to the organization having the WI lead.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 027/2020 and CLC/BT D165/009, applicable from 2020-05-19

- **Business Plan:**

A Business Plan for a CEN-CENELEC JTC is optional. However, if a Business plan is developed, it shall be approved by both CEN and CENELEC BTs.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 028/2020 and CLC/BT D165/010, applicable from 2020-05-19

CEN-CENELEC coordination on horizontal topics

Use conditions in Standards

CEN-CLC/BTWG 15 'Use conditions in Standards' has been set up and tasked to prepare some guidance on Use conditions in Standards (intended use, -reasonably foreseeable- misuse, reasonably foreseeable use, ...), building on and complementing the current definitions of ISO-IEC Guide 51:2014 'Safety aspects - Guidelines for their inclusion in standards'. The work will also take into account the interpretations used in the European Regulatory framework.

The BTs invited the Members, TCs and Partners organizations to appoint their representatives in this BTWG.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C050/2020 and CLC/BT D165/C093, applicable from 2020-03-31

Contact person: Mr Geert MAES (gmaes@cencenelec.eu)

Quantum technology

Quantum Technologies (QT) will be one of the key technologies in the coming decades, bringing transformative advances to science, economy and society. In the frame of the EC initiative 'QT Flagship', which mention Standards as a tool to envision an accelerated development and market uptake of QT, the BTs set up the **CEN-CENELEC Focus Group 'Quantum Technology'** (FGQT) for a period of 3 years, with the tasks inter alia to develop a roadmap for potential standardization issues relevant to QT and liaise with the QT Flagship and identify potential synergies.

The BTs allocated the secretariat of FGQT to DIN.

*Decision ref: CEN/BT C056/2020 and CLC/BT D165/C097, applicable from 2020-02-05
CEN/BT C108/2020 and CLC/BT D166/C016, applicable from 2020-06-17*

Contact person: Ms Samira NIK (snik@cencenelec.eu)

Environment

Considering the global and European environmental challenges and policy trends over the past years (e.g. Circular Economy, Green Deal and Sustainable Development Goals) the BTs confirmed the urgent need to tackle environmental issues in a more horizontal approach.

Therefore, the former CEN/BTWG 219 was converted into a CEN-CENELEC group i.e. **CEN-CLC/BTWG 16 'Strategic Advisory Body on Environment'** (SABE), who will provide BTs with strategic advice on Environmental matters related to standardization and support TCs for incorporating environmental aspects in the standards they are developing.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 031/2020 and CLC/BT 165/012, applicable from 2020-05-19

Contact person: Ms Andrea NAM (anam@cencenelec.eu)

Cooperation with EU & EFTA

CEN & CENELEC support to the Recovery Plan for Europe

(i.e. EC initiative to help repair economic and social damage brought by COVID-19 pandemic and kick-start EU recovery)

- **CEN & CENELEC input to the AUWP for Standardisation – 14 Ecosystems**

In the frame of the Recovery Plan for Europe, the European Commission is adapting the draft 2021 Annual Union Work Programme for Standardisation to reflect the priorities for industrial recovery. So far **14 priority industrial areas**, so-called 'Ecosystems' have been identified: tourism, cultural industries, space and defence, textiles, electronics, smart and sustainable mobility, low-carbon energy intensive industries, renewable energy, agri-food, smart health, digital industries, construction, retail, and local life.

CEN and CENELEC have been invited to assess how standardization can contribute to this 14 Ecosystems and provide policy and technical input to the European Commission. The deadline set by the Commission for providing such information is very tight: before the summer.

This would be an opportunity for standardisation to show its added-value in support of Europe's recovery post Covid-19 and link with top policy priorities.

To this purpose a consultation was issued on 2020-06-04 among the Technical Boards and the Technical Committees, who were invited to identify ongoing and future activities in support of the 14 Ecosystems.

Contact person: Ms Cinzia MISSIROLI (cmissirol@cencenelec.eu)

- **CEN & CENELEC contribution to the Twin Transition**

(i.e. Green and Digital transition to ensure resilience-building and leading European economy)

In addition to the above-mentioned 14 Ecosystems, the European Commission has identified specific areas where standardization activities could have a key role, such as Digital transition, Climate neutrality, Circular economy, Innovation skills.

Again, CEN and CENELEC have been invited to inform the EC on their strategic priorities in the identified areas, and this by the end of July at the latest.

Contact person: Ms Andreea GULACSI (agulacsi@cencenelec.eu)

Standardization Request (SReq) on Medical devices and In-vitro diagnostic medical devices – *Not accepted*

Besides the volume of work and the limited timeframe to deliver it (about 225 standards to be revised or developed by May 2024), the BT members opposed several restrictive requirements that would hinder the interrelation between international and European standards (e.g. SReq explicitly restricting the scope of harmonized Standards to exclusively cover Medical Devices under the MDR, use of definitions set by MDR-IVDR only, etc.). It was considered that these requirements could lead to an increased number of decoupling from the MDR and deviation from ISO and IEC.

The BTs ultimately decided not to accept the MDR-IVDR SReq in its present form, recommending further discussions with the EC on its form and contents, towards a mutually supported SReq.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C125/2020 and CLC/BT 166/C015, applicable from 2020-06-16

Contact person: Ms Catherine VIGNERON (cvigneron@cencenelec.eu)

Standardization Request (SReq) on LOT14 products – *(Non)Acceptance pending*

The BTs have accepted the final draft SReq on 'Ecodesign and energy labelling requirements for household dishwashers, household washing machines and household washer-dryers' (LOT14 products) and allocated the work to CLC/TC 59X 'Performance of household and similar electrical appliances'.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C123/2020 and CLC/BT 166/C029, applicable from 2020-07-01

Contact person: Ms Mercedes MIRA COSTA (mmira@cencenelec.eu)

Cooperation with other Stakeholders

New Liaison organizations

Following positive feedback from the concerned Joint Technical Committees, the BTs approved the liaison requests from

- **CECIP**, the European Weighing Industry Association, to participate in the technical activities of **CEN-CLC/JTC 18** 'Non automatic weighing instruments (NAWI)'

Decision ref: CEN/BT C102/2020 and CLC/BT D166/C012, applicable from 2020-06-03

- **GlobalPlatform**, a not-for-profit member association developing specifications on digital services and devices, to participate in the technical activities of **CEN-CLC/JTC 13** 'Cybersecurity and data protection'

Decision ref: CEN/BT C113/2020 and CLC/BT D166/C022, applicable from 2020-06-24

- **EBA**, the European Biogas Association, to participate in the technical activities of **CEN-CLC/JTC 14** 'Energy management and energy efficiency in the framework of energy transition'

Decision ref: CEN/BT C121/2020 and CLC/BT D166/C030, applicable from 2020-07-01

CEN-only matters

Processes and Procedures

Handling negative vote on draft EN ISO standards within a CEN/SS

CEN Subsectors (CEN/SS) mirror the work of ISO/TCs that has no equivalent CEN/TC. The secretariat of a CEN/SS is not allocated to a CEN Member.

As a rule, when a draft EN ISO Standard within a CEN/SS is developed under the Vienna Agreement, CCMC launches an Enquiry associated with a weighted vote and, if the outcome is positive, the EN ISO standard is published (procedure in line with BT decision 12/2018). Recently, CEN/BT was invited to clarify the way forward in case of divergent voting outcomes in ISO and CEN:

- Vote on the 1st edition of an EN ISO Standard, which is negative in CEN and positive in ISO (with subsequent publication of the ISO Standard):
 - the WI shall be abandoned in CEN (and consequently the VA is cancelled),
 - whenever ISO creates a new WI for revising/amending the ISO Standard, upon request of a CEN Member, CCMC shall submit to BT the proposal for creating a new WI under VA.
- Vote on a revision/amendment of an EN ISO Standard, which is negative in CE and positive in ISO (with subsequent publication of the ISO Standard):
 - the WI shall be abandoned in CEN (and consequently the VA is cancelled),
 - CCMC shall submit to BT the proposal to withdraw the EN ISO Standard (as the equivalent ISO Standard has been withdrawn), noting that consideration should be given to whether the concerned standards are normatively referenced in other published standards.
 - whenever ISO creates a new WI for revising/amending the ISO Standard, upon request of a CEN Member, CCMC shall submit to BT the proposal for creating a new WI under VA
- Vote on the 1st edition of an EN ISO Standard, which is negative in ISO and positive in CEN: CCMC shall make a proposal to BT,
 - either to abandon the WI,
 - or to continue with its publication as a European Standard, without any link to the ISO Standard.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 017/2020, applicable from 2020-04-07.

Contact person: Mr Gonalo ASCENSAO (gascensao@cencenelec.eu)

Harmonized Standards - HAS assessment of WIs under Vienna Agreement

CEN/BT examined the current process relating to the HAS consultant's assessment of WIs developed under the Vienna Agreement, where CCMC asks the assessment as soon as notified by ISO of the expected FDIS. As a matter of fact, because this notification is almost immediately followed by the effective submission of the ISO FDIS, the parallel procedure is launched without having received the outcome of the HAS assessment. In practice, this situation has led to a series of negative assessments on voted drafts.

Considering the above issue CEN/BT asked CCMC to approach ISO/CS to consider having the HAS assessment before starting the Formal Vote (following the same approach as for ENs developed outside the Vienna Agreement); this would allow TCs to decide on the next steps *before* the start of the Formal Vote, not leaving this decision after the closure of the vote.

CEN/BT invited CLC/BT to adopt a similar approach with IEC.

Decision ref: CEN/BT 019/2020, applicable from 2020-04-07.

Contact person: Mr Gonçalo ASCENSAO (gascensao@cencenelec.eu)

CENELEC-only matters

Highlights on Directives most relevant for CENELEC

Radio Equipment Directive (RED)

CEN-CLC/BTWG 10 'RED impact on standardization' regularly meets and reports to the BTs, raising awareness on the challenges caused by this Directive for most CLC/TCs in terms of work programme, namely on the difficulties they encounter to adapt their Safety standards to the requirements set in the Directive.

In the frame of the RED the EC is drafting a Standardization Request on 'Hand-held mobile phones to ensure caller location in emergency communications'. A Standardization Request Ad-Hoc Group (SRAHG 'E112') has been set up to coordinate inputs from BTs and relevant TCs during the drafting process.

Decision ref: CLC/BT D165/C065, applicable from 2020-03-18

Contact person: Mr Geert MAES (gmaes@cencenelec.eu)

Low Voltage Directive (LVD)

In their last report to BT CLC/BTWG 143-1 'LVD standardization in the EU regulatory framework' presented an update on the ongoing EC study for the review of the LVD. The key messages therein are that the LVD can be considered as fairly effective and affordable for stakeholders and is found to be still relevant. The key role of harmonized Standards is also confirmed. However, some clarifications are needed on the LVD scope and its interaction with other directives, such as the Radio Equipment Directive (RED). The most significant potential changes relate to the extension of its application below 50V AC (alignment with RED) and the possible inclusion of plugs and socket outlets for domestic use. CLC/BT agreed to ask for the inclusion of electricity meters (safety aspects and coherence with RED) and invited all TCs with an interest in LVD to study the report and to liaise with CLC/BTWG 143 for support.

Decision ref: CLC/BT D165/C068, applicable from 2020-03-18

Contact person: Mr Geert MAES (gmaes@cencenelec.eu)

Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (EMCD)

The EC has started a study for the review of the EMCD. CLC/BT is kept informed on its status through the dedicated CLC/BTWG 154-1 'EMC OJEU listing'. Currently, one of the key discussions is related to the coverage of cables by the EMC Directive. Cables are now exempted, based on the understanding they are benign equipment. This understanding is being challenged by Member States. CLC/BTWG 154-1 has been asked to conduct an inventory and gap analysis of Standards on the so-called 'ready-made connection devices', with subsequent information to BT.

Contact person: Mr Geert MAES (gmaes@cencenelec.eu)

Cooperation with IEC - Frankfurt Agreement

Exemptions from parallel procedures

The CENELEC Technical board is closely monitoring the implementation of the Frankfurt Agreement. At each meeting, an updated review of IEC publications exempted from parallel procedures is presented: a first part lists permanent and temporary exemptions, while a second part indicates those IEC documents that are used as such in Europe. The Permanent Delegates are invited to check beforehand with the relevant Technical Bodies whether the status mentioned is still correct and to inform CCMC of any needed modification. This document remains a key tool in order to apply the Frankfurt Agreement properly.

The Exemption list is available on the [CENELEC BOSS](#).

Next CEN and CENELEC BT meetings in 2020

September 2020 (Format to be decided)

2020-09-29: 91 CEN/BT

2020-09-30: Common Session

2020-10-01: 166 CLC/BT

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