The European Standardization System

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This is the ANSI-ESO Conference – but who are the "ESOs"?

The European Committee for Standardization

The European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization

The European Telecommunications Standards Institute

CEN and CENELEC

❑ 31 full members each – "National Standards Bodies" and "National Committees" :

— 27 in the European Union

— Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Croatia

— Most – but not all – members are in common

❑ Affiliate members:

— EU applicant countries (Balkans, Turkey)

— Mediterranean basin EU trading partners

❑ Associate members/co-operating partners:

— Industry associations at European level

— Stakeholder organizations (SMEs, consumers, environment etc)

❑ CEN links globally to ISO, CENELEC to IEC

ETSI

❑ 752 members from 62 countries:

– 605 Full Members from 40 CEPT countries (including the 27 EU and 3 EFTA countries)

– 121 Associate Members (20 non-CEPT countries) plus 25 Observer Members

❑ Members include administrations, network operators, manufacturers, service providers, academia, societal stakeholders, etc.

❑ Direct membership - but formal European Standards from ETSI meet the same requirements as those from CEN and CENELEC

❑ Standardizes telecommunications and related areas, often in partnership with other regional and national bodies

Making one European market

❑ European Standards (ENs):

– Over 23.000 ENs exist today, with about 1.000 new publications every year

– Required to be implemented as national standards, conflicting national standards must be withdrawn

– 46% in CEN and CENELEC are identical or similar to international standards

– About 20% of CEN-CENELEC-ETSI ENs give presumption of conformity to single market legislation ("the new approach")

❑ Other consensus publications:

– Technical Specifications, ETSI Standards, CEN-CENELEC Workshop Agreements, ETSI Industry Specifications, Technical Reports and Guides

National processes

- ❑ A fundamental for European Standards

- ❑ National processes play a fundamental role in their creation and approval

- ❑ The ESOs differ in detail:

  - Participation in CEN and CENELEC Technical Committees is based on national delegations

  - Participation in ETSI Technical Committees is open to ETSI members (direct participation model)

- ❑ For public comment, formal voting and implementation, all European Standards have the same process

- ❑ The national public approval ensures a level playing-field and full consensus in formal standards

The "New Approach" – how it works

- ❑ European legislation governs placing of products on the market – covers issues such as safety, electro-magnetic compatibility, etc.

- ❑ ONE means of conforming with the legal requirements is to conform with certain European Standards

- ❑ The ESOs agree the content (though often identical to the International Standard)

- ❑ The European Commission lists the relevant standards ("harmonised standards" as ensuring compliance with the legal requirements

- ❑ This does not make standards obligatory - any manufacturer or importer is free to use OTHER means to demonstrate compliance

International links

International level — ISO · IEC · ITU

European level — cen · CENELEC · ETSI

National Standards Bodies

National level — Industry and other stakeholders

In a nutshell

☐ European Standards:

- a powerful and efficient tool to **build a single European Market through ONE standard**

- a successful example of **co-regulation practices**

- a way to enhance **global relevance and global harmonization** through the **use of international standards**

☐ A voluntary system:

— Ensuring the fullest possible participation – consumers, users, SMEs, etc

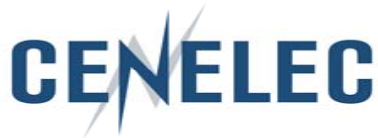— **Flexible and fast** (3 years max for an full Standard, less for other documents)

Thank you for your attention

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