

Webinar of 2026-09-22
Webinar 1 'The EN Development Process - First batch of changes'

1	What is national preparation, for example?	That's the time necessary for the CEN and CENELEC Members to prepare the national consultation and the Public Enquiry (for ENs).
2	Congratulations for the achieved changes. Does the improvement process consider as homegrown ENs also the CENELEC common mod A11s that amend parallel EN IEC documents, please?	In principle the process is for homegrown projects. However, when the A11 is intended to be handled in parallel with the IEC project this will not be applicable (the same is happening today when we align a A11 with a parallel IEC).
3	can you please confirm that there is a translation in French before enquiry and before formal vote?	Translations to French and German will start in parallel with the national preparation period 4 weeks prior to the launch of the Enquiry. If the translation is available at the moment of the launch of the Enquiry, ENQ will be launched with the translation. If not, the translation will follow. Translation at Formal Vote will take place in parallel with the Formal Vote.
4	What does "Enquiry/Vote launched with English version only if not FR and DE available" mean? What could be a reason that FR and DE versions are not available?	See answer above. FR and DE might not be available on time depending on national constraints affecting the Members in charge of the translations.
5	Could you please give example of the activities of national preparation?	See answer 1
6	Direct publication after positive Enquiry: Would this change be back to the older UAP = Unique Acceptance Procedure, 15 years ago?	The Skip of FV already exists today. This is basically pushing for texts that are positively voted and without technical changes necessary to be published after ENQs.
7	Will the direct publication after ENQ will also be applied for hEN, where a HAS-Assessment is required?	The same conditions as today apply: publication after ENQ is possible in case the draft has received a compliant assessment.
8	the enquiry and the formal vote will be carried out without the translate document?	We already answered in 3 and 4.
9	Direct publication after positive Enquiry despite technical comments?	Technical comments shall be considered by the TC in any case. If the TC decides that technical changes are necessary, the draft proceeds to FV.

		If not, it proceeds to publication and comments are considered in a future revision.
10	Could you explain the criteria to jump the formal vote after the enquiry?	See answer above. More details on this process will be given in due time, as this change will only be applicable in Q1/2027.
11	So what is happening with the changes to Guide 25?	Not relevant.
12	Will the direct publication after ENQ also happen, when there were technical comments submitted during the ENQ?	See answer 9.
13	Very often the drafts receive negative assessment from the HAS consultants (lack of compliance) during Public Enquiry which in the past automatically leads to the need of a FV. What will be the role of HAS in the future?	See answer 7. The role of HAS assessment remains the same.
14	We usually have lot of comments after ENQ but the majority is the approval. In case of publication after Enquiry, how do we proceed with the comments?	See answer 9.
15	Could you present the timeline for harmonized standards.	This timeline is under development and will be included in the FAQs.
16	Is it permitted to extend the 4-week ballot by a day or two if the closure falls on a weekend?	The default times are either 4 weeks or 8 weeks. Additionally, a ballot will fall on a weekend only if launched on a weekend.
17	Could you share the link of the timeframe calculator?	Flexible Timeframe Calculator
18	What do you mean by "national preparation period"?	See answer 1.
19	I need some clarification about the change #2.	Not relevant.
20	Nobody will vote without the translation. You will lose a lot of voters to save time.	Not relevant.
21	Will the translation period be extended with one week for requests made during the period running over 24 December to 1 January, as it is the case today?	As the Enquiry can start without the translations, no extension of translation period is foreseen.

22	4 weeks for FV might be too short during summer, due to vacation	Not relevant.
23	Do I understand correctly that national experts might not be able to read the translated version if the translation from English takes the full 8 weeks during the national consultation period?	It is a possibility. Translations will be circulated once available.
24	what is the national preparation period?	See answer 1.
25	For drafts of more than 80 pages, we presently can request an extension of the period of translation. Is it still possible?	No exceptions to the translation period duration will be allowed. ENQ will start with the ENG version only and followed by FR and DE when available.
26	In what ways are these improvements reflected in current tools such as the Submission Interface, Projex-Online and Electronic Voting? Will there be a tool like OSD? How is the HAS assessment reflected in the improvement?	Electronic tools are adapted to these changes. The Innovative Process and the HAS assessment will keep applying in the same way.
27	Publication immediately after Enquiry is optimistic as in my Committee ENs have much Technical Content which generate several comments from enquiry which need a CRM to resolve and hence a subsequent Formal Vote.	Not relevant.
28	In one of my Working Groups, three TR NWIs were approved in September 2023, the 1st working drafts are yet to be tabled! Will these changes include time limits for TR or TS 1st working drafts to be tabled?	Target dates are already in place for any deliverable and shall be respected by the TC.
29	What impact do you anticipate these changes will have on the quality of the standards produced?	The quality of the standards is not expected to be impacted, as the drafting time available to experts is not affected, as well as the time available for the Enquiry (ENs) and Vote (TSs and TRs).
30	That's a good step forward, thank you for this. Most of EU countries do not have access to translated version: now it will be the same for all EU countries, which is good.	Not relevant.

31	Experience is that translation helps correcting clauses with risk of ambiguous understanding. In case such clauses are not corrected before enquiry the risk of negative votes is higher. There has been the case for EN206-3 and the total gain of time is questionable. Modern tools should help making the translation available in shorter time, but launching the enquiry before translations have been made available seems risky	Not relevant.
32	I understand CEN and CENELEC are under pressure to speed up process. The point is: did you ever speak to standard writers? Do you know that to speed up the process as you want, you will need the figure of the "professional" standard writer working 100% on it and surely not being from a SME. Be careful not to loose chairs, convenors, committee members as not many experts can dedicate so much time to the process	Not relevant.
33	Can you please clarify if the common mods will be exempt of this improvement?	
34	Is it possible to extend the 4 week ballot by a few days over a holiday period (e.g. Christmas holidays)?	The ballot period is either 4 or 8 weeks, independently of when they are launched
35	I agree with Amandine: We usually have lot of comments after ENQ but the majority is the approval. In case of publication after Enquiry, how do we proceed with the comments?	For those comments that the TC decides not to integrate in the final draft, these will be addressed in a future revision.
36	Do you already have an idea when the new Guide 36 will be available? Thank you.	Not relevant..
37	Is there any changing in the EN ISO-procedure (Vienna agreement)?	No changes to Vienna Agreement. Parallel EN ISO standards will follow Vienna Agreement and ISO timeline.
38	When should the formal vote take place, given that it is When should the formal vote take place, given that it is we'll be able to get the slides	Not clear/not relevant.

39	What happens if Enquiry or FV fail?	If Enquiry fails, FV can still take place, or the TC might decide to hold a second Enquiry/abandon the project. If FV fails, the TC can decide to hold a second FV/abandon the project.
40	I do not understand - should we prefer negative votes when we have technical comments?	It depends on whether these technical comments are conditional to the publication of the deliverable or can wait for a future revision.
41	Agree with the previous questions regarding comments/improvements at Enq stage - should we still implement them before publication or are they kept until a revision?	See answer 40.
42	some of these times are short and will be challenging - especially anything falling around holiday periods such as end December/early January or during the summer - is there an allowance for natural slow times such as these	Not relevant.
43	Another point: if we are speaking about new standards, where new test methods have to be defined, the work starts already 5-6 years before the TC starts with a NWI. This time is not seen anywhere, but standard writers are working hard, solving technical and "political" problems. You are speeding up the visible part, only.	Not relevant.
44	If you have a positive Enquiry with technical comments does the TC still have to take decision to proceed to formal vote or will it happen automatically?	This aspect will be clarified in due time and in detail before this change enters into force (Q1/2027). In short, the TC leadership will have six weeks from the closure of the ENQ to communicate CCMC what path the EN should follow. No communication after six weeks will result in the publication of the draft.
45	If the ENQ vote is negative do to technical comments, as you explained now, would you need a second ENQ which is positive to continue the process or can you have negative vote on ENQ and then proceed to FV, hoping that it will be positive?	Although it is highly recommended to follow a failed Enquiry with a second Enquiry, rules do not prescribe it, which means that the TC might proceed to FV.
46	You have still not answered the question about the national preparation period. Do we have	No, the Enquiry document is made available at the launch of the Enquiry. The national preparation period is an administrative period

	the enquiry document available during this period?	where CEN and CENELEC Members prepare the national consultation and the Public Enquiry (for ENs).
47	We should always resolve comments from enquiry - not ignore them - or the value of the standard may be compromised and we have to start again with an amendment or revision!	See answer 9.
48	What about the timeframe when the parallel vote is CEN lead?	The development time for a CEN lead follows the CEN rules, though the submission to ENQ and FV follows the ISO timelines as for a parallel process. See https://boss.cen.eu/media/BOSS%20CEN/ref/va_guidelines.pdf
49	Does this mean that Technical Comments submitted at the ENQ stage should be accompanied by a Negative vote	See answer 40.
50	If CEN and CENELEC wants to "survive", which is my outmost wish, we need to change the way national standardization institutes are financed, how participants are encouraged to participate and how they are supported. We have a great problem to find experts, working experts	Not relevant.