



PRESS RELEASE

Brussels/London – 25 November 2021

CEN AND CENELEC GENERAL ASSEMBLIES CONFIRM BSI MEMBERSHIP

The CEN and CENELEC General Assemblies, meeting today in Palermo, Italy, have overwhelmingly confirmed the British Standards Institution's (BSI) continued membership of the two associations from 1 January 2022

This decision follows careful consideration by the CEN and CENELEC members, taking into account the impact of the UK's exit from the EU and is consistent with the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) agreed between the UK and the EU.

Continued BSI membership provides clarity and confidence for CEN and CENELEC's stakeholders in the role of standards across Europe. It will help businesses to trade in a settled system and will support the UK's long-term contribution to European and international standards. All CEN and CENELEC's stakeholders, including those from the UK, will continue to participate and contribute to standards development as today.

Elena Santiago Cid, Director General of CEN and CENELEC, said:

"With the UK's exit from the EU, the overriding priority for CEN and CENELEC was to maintain the stability of the standardization system in Europe. This decision is a welcome reassurance to our stakeholders as it safeguards the principles of the European standardization system based on the adoption of European standards and the withdrawal of conflicting national standards, to provide seamless market access across Europe including in the UK, and to reinforce the future robustness of CEN and CENELEC."

BSI's Director-General, Standards, Dr Scott Steedman commented:

"This decision offers our stakeholders in the UK clarity and certainty that they will continue to be able to influence the development of European and international standards through the CEN and CENELEC system. UK stakeholders will continue to be able to work in all CEN and CENELEC standards developing committees and chair those committees as they do now. Working with our 33 fellow CEN and CENELEC members at European and international level supports our common interests including increasing global trade, addressing the threat of climate change and seizing the opportunities presented by emerging technologies. The UK government recognises the importance of international standards developed by ISO, IEC and ITU and reflected at European level through CEN, CENELEC and ETSI. The UK's new system of designated standards is based on the same set of European and international

standards that are used as a voluntary means of compliance with regulation across Europe”.

- ENDS -

Notes to editors

CEN and CENELEC members are committed to adopting wherever possible international standards as European standards to break down global barriers to trade and to close cooperation with the international standardizing bodies of ISO and IEC. The European standardization system is the most advanced part of this international system, with the principle of one standard developed for any aspect of a product and service, helping to increase trust in the global trading system, based on WTO rules, and reduce trade friction.

CEN and CENELEC

CEN (European Committee for Standardization) and CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization) are recognised by the European Union (EU) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) as European Standardization Organizations responsible for developing standards at European level. These standards set out specifications and procedures in relation to a wide range of materials, processes, products and services.

The members of CEN and CENELEC are the National Standardization Bodies and National Electrotechnical Committees of 34 European countries. European Standards (ENs) and other standardization deliverables adopted by CEN and CENELEC are accepted and recognised in all of these countries.

CEN-CENELEC website: www.cencenelec.eu

Media contact:

Giovanni Collot

Project Manager Policy & Partnerships

T: +32 474 98 21 17

Email: gcollot@cencenelec.eu

Twitter: [@Standards4EU](https://twitter.com/Standards4EU)

BSI

BSI, the British Standards Institution, is appointed by the UK Government as the National Standards Body and represents UK interests at the International Organization for Standards (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the European Standards Organizations (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI). Formed in 1901, BSI was the world's first National Standards Body. Its role is to help improve the quality and safety of products, services and systems by enabling the creation of standards and encouraging their use. BSI publishes over 2,700 standards annually, underpinned by a collaborative approach, engaging with industry experts, government bodies, trade associations, businesses of all sizes and consumers to develop standards that reflect good business practice.

To learn more about standards, please visit: www.bsigroup.com/standards and for the National Standards Body: www.bsigroup.com/nsb

Media contact:

Lucy Robinson

BSI

Tel: +44 20 8996 6330

Email: pressoffice@bsigroup.com