Director General’s Foreword

Autumn is always a very active period in CEN and CENELEC, and this year it seems to be busier than ever! In particular, we have been closely following political developments at European level, and taking this opportunity to renew and reinforce our relationships with the EU institutions.

Following the summer break, I have met with several Members of the European Parliament who will be important contacts for us in the next five years. We want to ensure that Europe’s legislators understand the valuable role that standardization plays in key policy areas such as the Single Market, consumer protection, competitiveness and growth, energy and industry, research and innovation, and international trade.

We are deeply involved in ongoing dialogue with the European Commission on various issues linked to the implementation of EU Regulation 1025/2012. These include: the revision of the ‘Vademecum on European standardization’; the ‘independent review’ of the European Standardization System; the procedure for developing and approving official standardization requests; and, last but not least, the financial sustainability of the system.

CEN and CENELEC are participating in the Committee on Standards, which has been set up by the Commission under Regulation 1025/2012, and provides a forum to discuss issues relevant to the European Standardization System. We are also looking forward to establishing positive working relationships with the new team of EU Commissioners who will take office on 1 November.

Nevertheless, it is important to realize that the work of CEN and CENELEC goes beyond supporting EU legislation and policies. You can find information about the full range of our activities in our Annual Reports and annual Work Programme.

Our horizons are not limited to Europe and we continue to be active on the world stage! The 37th ISO General Assembly in Rio (8-12 September) was a valuable opportunity to nurture contacts with colleagues from around the globe. During a panel discussion on the role of regional standardization organizations, it was clear that many of our international partners see CEN and CENELEC as examples of good practice, notably for our strong commitment to international standardization. I also look forward to the 78th IEC General Meeting in Tokyo (10-14 November).

In the meantime, I hope to see many of you in Brussels on 30 October, at our European Conference ‘Standards: Your Innovation Bridge’. Strengthening the link between standardization, innovation and research is a key priority for CEN and CENELEC.

Elena Santiago Cid
Director General of CEN and CENELEC
The public enquiry is a vital stage in the development of a European Standard, as it allows a wide range of stakeholders to participate in the process. This is why CEN and CENELEC members want to make it as easy as possible for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and other interested parties to comment on the content of draft European standards.

As part of their ongoing efforts to improve the transparency of the European Standardization System, and in line with the provisions of the EU Regulation on European Standardization (1025/2012), CEN and CENELEC have encouraged their national members to provide online platforms that enable interested parties to access draft standards and submit comments via the internet.

This year, six national members of CEN and CENELEC have been able to provide online platforms for public commenting in the framework of a project coordinated by the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre with financial support from the EU's Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). The six NSBs are partners in this project. Each of the participating NSBs has launched a user-friendly online platform, which can be accessed in the national language of the country concerned. These platforms are designed to make it easy for representatives of SMEs and other stakeholders to access the texts of draft European standards and submit their comments via the internet.

The six online platforms were developed in partnership with a company called 67 Bricks, which has already developed similar platforms for other members of CEN and CENELEC, using a tool called ‘Revo’. The next phase of the project will focus on maintaining the online platforms and monitoring the use of each platform. The project is due to continue until the end of 2017.

Following the launch of online platforms by the six NSBs that are participating in the project supported by the EU CIP, a majority of CEN and CENELEC national members are now able to offer access to draft standards and submission of comments via the internet.
CENELEC strengthens cooperation with CEPT ECC

CENELEC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Electronic Communications Committee of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT ECC). This MoU provides a framework for closer cooperation on technical issues related to standards for Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC).

CEPT ECC is the Electronic Communications Committee of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations. The Committee brings together policy makers and regulators from 48 countries to develop common policies and regulations with the aim of ensuring the efficient use of the radio spectrum, satellite orbits and numbering resources across Europe.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) represents an important step forward in the development of cooperation between CENELEC and CEPT ECC. This cooperation includes collaboration between experts on standardization activities related to Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC), including the activities managed by CLC/TC 210, and other topics related to the use of radio frequencies.

The main aims of the MoU are to promote communication and regular exchange of information in areas of common interest, and to encourage cooperation between the standardization activities carried out by CENELEC and the regulatory developments identified by CEPT ECC. Such cooperation should help to strengthen the capacity of both organizations to respond in a precise and timely way to requests that they receive from the European Commission.

European Standards relating to EMC support the efficient functioning of equipment, including radio and telecommunications equipment, in line with the European Union’s EMC Directive (2004/108/EC). The adoption of European Standards in this area contributes to strengthening Europe’s Single Market for electronic communications equipment, and also brings benefits with regard to the environment and consumer protection.

For more information about CENELEC activities in the field of Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC), please see the CENELEC website (About CENELEC > What we do > Technology sectors). CEPT ECC website: www.cept.org/ecc

Jens Erdmann
Programme Manager
Industry, Technology & Infrastructure

New brochures on child safety and bio-based products

CEN and CENELEC have published a 4-page brochure on European Standardization in support of child safety. This publication gives an overview of European standardization activities that contribute to improving the safety of products used by or with children (including toys, furniture, clothing, etc.).

CEN has published a 4-page brochure on European standards supporting the market for bio-based products. This publication provides an overview of European standardization activities in relation to bio-based products, which represent an important part of the bio-economy.

Both brochures are available in electronic format (pdf) on the CEN-CENELEC website (under ‘Publications’). Copies of the printed brochures are available from the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (media@cencenelec.eu).
The Accessible ICT Procurement Toolkit is based on the contents of EN 301549 and related Technical Reports, which were produced by CEN, CENELEC and ETSI in response to a request from the European Commission (EC Mandate 376).

The new European Standard on 'Accessibility requirements suitable for public procurement of ICT products and services in Europe' (EN 301549) is primarily intended for use by public sector bodies during their ICT procurement processes. It may also be useful for manufacturers, suppliers, and accessibility experts who choose to apply it in relation to their design, building and quality control procedures (for more information, see page 14 of CONNECT – Issue 15).

The Accessible ICT Procurement Toolkit provides structured access and guidance on how to consider accessibility in the four stages of procurement: writing a call for tenders, evaluating tenders, evaluating deliverables and managing contracts. A key feature of the Toolkit is the ‘Accessibility Requirements Generator’ which will help procurers to define their accessibility requirements.

Monica Ibido
Programme Manager
Sustainability & Services

Accessible ICT Procurement Toolkit – now available online!

Following the publication of the European Standard on 'Accessibility requirements suitable for public procurement of ICT products and services in Europe' (EN 301549), CEN, CENELEC and ETSI have developed an Accessible ICT Procurement Toolkit – which is now available online.

The Accessible ICT Procurement Toolkit is available online: http://mandate376.standards.eu

On this website you can find a video tutorial which describes how to use the Toolkit.

If you have any questions or suggestions for how the Toolkit could be improved, please write to: accessibility@aenor.es

CCMC Editors Blog offers tips and guidance for standard writers

The people who prepare European Standards for final publication are offering tips, guidance and support to everyone who is involved in the process of drafting standards within the CEN and CENELEC communities. All of this advice can be found on the ‘CCMC Editors Blog’.

The ‘CCMC Editors Blog’ is a new initiative, which has been launched by the Publications Unit of the Standards Department in the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC). The blog provides an interactive environment in which to share knowledge and experience and to answer any questions regarding the drafting process and guidelines.

The blog covers a range of topics that are relevant for people who are involved in drafting standards within the technical bodies, members and partners of CEN and CENELEC. These topics include: procedural matters; key elements of standards ('Title, Foreword, Introduction and Scope'); 'Normative References'; 'Terms and definitions' and 'Notes, Examples and Footnotes'.

If you are involved in the process of drafting standards, then we strongly encourage you to read the 'CCMC Editors Blog'! You can subscribe to the blog, which means that you will be notified of updates via email. The blog also offers you the possibility to post comments and ask questions, which will then be answered by someone from the Publications Unit in CCMC.

Matthew Tomlin
Unit Manager – Publications
Standards Department

CCMC Editors’ Blog for the Standards Drafters’ Community
http://editing4standards.blogspot.be

Back to contents
What role for standards in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership?

The ongoing trade talks between the European Union (EU) and the United States of America (US), which were launched last year, have been the subject of much discussion on both sides of the Atlantic. In this article, Scott Steedman, CEN Vice-President Policy and BSI Director of Standards, looks at the role of standards in the context of the negotiations on the anticipated Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

The concept of a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is bold and ambitious. Both the US and EU sides recognize that formal standards (specifically technical product standards) used in support of regulation represent one of the key areas where progress towards alignment could reduce costs to industry, increasing competitiveness and consumer choice.

Such standards are market led and drafted by industry experts with input from other stakeholders under processes which are overseen in the US by Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and in Europe by the National Standardization Bodies (NSBs) and the European Standardization Organizations (ESOs). ANSI and the ESOs (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI) have been cooperating for over 25 years and there are strong bilateral relations between many of the American SDOs and European NSBs. Furthermore, many US experts work alongside European experts in the technical committees of ISO and IEC, where they cooperate on producing international standards.

However, when it comes to using standards to demonstrate compliance of products and services with regulations, the US and EU systems are completely different. In the US, the standard is either incorporated (fully or partly) in legislation, or is explicitly referenced in the legal text; in each case compliance with the standard is mandatory. In Europe, with few exceptions, the European Commission (EC) publishes a list of standards that are then recognized as means to comply with a series of ‘essential requirements’, which are described in the relevant EU Directive.

Thus, while the standard in the US effectively becomes a legal requirement, in Europe the standard remains voluntary (except in a limited number of cases – such as in relation to construction products). This is the so-called ‘New Approach’ to technical harmonization and standards, which was approved by the EU Council of Ministers in 1985. Over the last thirty years, the number of standards that European industry might have to work with across the EU Member States has fallen by around 90%. This ambition, to have as few standards as possible for trade within the Single Market, has been mainly driven by industry.

In Europe, a sophisticated system of governance by the ESOs and NSBs has developed, which facilitates the development of a single harmonized European Standard (EN) that enables compliance with the relevant regulatory requirements. The NSBs are obligated to withdraw any conflicting national standards when a new EN is introduced. This results in a single standard being adopted across 33 countries – a remarkable achievement.

In the US, however, there is no obligation on anyone to withdraw conflicting standards in the market. State and lower-level public authorities may impose their own additional requirements. All this leads to a complex and fragmented structure for market access.

This multiple standards model of the US economy contrasts sharply with the single standard model of the European Union. Is there any opportunity for ANSI and the ESOs, in support of TTIP, to find common ground?

Tempting as it may sound, ‘mutual recognition’ of standards is not an option. Mutual recognition means that two standards which are not identical are considered equivalent. If there are two standards available where previously there was one, then this approach simply doubles the number of standards in the market and with it, the commensurate burden on industry. Such an approach would destroy the achievement of the European Single Market, which is built on the principle of...
having common European Standards that are accepted in all EU countries.

On the other hand, it is clear that if the same standard could be used in both markets to address issues where there is a common regulatory requirement then this would remove the risk of any additional burdens on industry. Where European and US regulators can agree a common regulatory requirement on a specific technical issue for which there is no work already underway at international level, then it might be possible for a 'transatlantic committee' to develop a common standard. We should focus on the future, not the past.

Scott Steedman
CEN Vice-President Policy

A version of this article was included in the October issue of 'U&C' magazine, published by UNI (CEN's Italian member).

(continued from page 5)

'10-10 webinars' are online presentations, which provide opportunities for Technical Body Officers and staff of CEN and CENELEC's National Members to learn about various topics related to the European Standardization System.

The webinars, which can be accessed via the internet, are normally held on the 10th of each month, starting at 10:00 (CET). Participants are invited to interact and submit questions in writing – both during and after each presentation.

The next webinars will address the following topics: Standards on services and professional qualifications (10 November); Research activities and support (10 December).

For more information, please see the CEN-CENELEC website or contact: 10-10webinars@cencenelec.eu
Latest Policy Opinions issued by CEN and CENELEC

- **European Standardization:** [CEN and CENELEC position and comments on the Draft Vademecum on European Standardization](2014-09-23)
- **Europe 2020 Strategy:** [CEN and CENELEC response to the EC public consultation on the Europe 2020 Strategy](2014-10-23)

Forthcoming Events organized by CEN and CENELEC

- **30 October 2014**  
  ‘Standards: Your Innovation Bridge’ European Conference on standardization, innovation and research  
  (Brussels, Belgium)
- **13 November 2014**  
  CEN-CENELEC Workshop ‘Unfired Pressure Vessels and Pressure Equipment - Standards for the future’  
  (Brussels, Belgium)
- **17 November 2014**  
  ‘Better services: how can European Standards help?’ CEN Seminar on Horizontal Service Standards  
  (Brussels, Belgium)
- **16 December 2014**  
  European Conference on Standardization for Nanotechnologies and Nanomaterials  
  (Brussels, Belgium)
SPECIAL REPORT: Standards & Innovation

Linking standardization and innovation – initiatives on European level

Standardization is an effective and powerful instrument for sharing knowledge and transferring new technologies, ideas and innovations to the market. However, in many cases the results of research and innovation projects are not fully exploited because the potential benefits of linking-up with standardization activities are not properly understood.

The European Commission has recognized the need to support the integration of research and innovation activities with standardization, in order to facilitate the exploitation of project results – for example in the development of innovative products. This is why standardization has been highlighted as an effective means for disseminating the results of projects supported by the European Union’s ‘Horizon 2020’ programme.

The BRIDGIT project was launched in January 2013, with the goal of "Bridging the Gap between Research and Standardization". This project, which is supported by the European Commission and EFTA under a Specific Grant Agreement, is due to end in March 2015. The project consortium consists of nine national standardization bodies: AENOR (Spain), AFNOR (France), ASRO (Romania), BSI (United Kingdom), DIN (Germany), DKE (Germany), DS (Denmark), NEN (Netherlands), SN (Norway) – as well as the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC), with DIN acting as project coordinator.

BRIDGIT is building on the Integrated Approach, developed by the CEN-CENELEC Working Group on ‘Standardization, Innovation and Research’ (STAIR), which seeks to maximize the economic and social benefits of new ideas and technologies. The project aims to build bridges between researchers, industry and standardization bodies, and encourage these actors to work closely together in order to exploit and disseminate the results of research and innovation activities.

As part of the BRIDGIT project, a series of national events were organized by the consortium members in their respective countries. These events provided opportunities to raise awareness of standardization among members of the research and innovation communities, and to discuss ways of linking standardization with research and innovation.

One of the main actions of BRIDGIT was to look at how national standardization bodies communicate with the research and innovation communities in their respective countries, and to identify examples of ‘best practice’. Based on these best practices and other findings from the project, a range of different instruments are being developed to foster collaboration between researchers, innovators and standardization bodies. These instruments include guidance for national standardization bodies on how to approach the research and innovation community and get them involved in standardization activities, as well as information and tools that will enable researchers and innovators to better disseminate and exploit their project results through standardization.

The BRIDGIT project will culminate in a European Conference ‘Standards: Your Innovation Bridge’, in Brussels on 30 October 2014. This event will bring together leading experts from the research, innovation and standardization communities to discuss how standardization can facilitate and support innovation in Europe.

In addition to the BRIDGIT project, CEN and CENELEC have implemented a number of initiatives to link standardization with research and innovation. A lot of relevant information can be found in the ‘Research & Innovation’ section of the CEN-CENELEC website. Further information and advice is available from the CEN-CENELEC Research Helpdesk and also from the network of Research, Development and Innovation Correspondents (RDI-COR) at national level.

Any questions? Please contact the Research Integration Unit at the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre in Brussels: research@cencenelec.eu

This article was prepared in cooperation with Hermann Behrens (DIN).
Metrology, the science of measurement, is a cornerstone of our industrialized society and affects almost every aspect of daily life: precision in industrial production and processes, the reliability of medical diagnosis, environmental monitoring and many more.

In 2010, CEN and CENELEC signed a Cooperation Agreement with the European Association of National Metrology Institutes (EURAMET), which brings together the national metrology institutes of 37 European countries. The three partners are working to promote closer links between standardization and metrology, for example by sharing information about metrological needs identified during standardization activities (and vice-versa).

Last year, EURAMET invited CEN and CENELEC to identify specific needs that could be addressed by research projects in the fields of Energy and Environment. As a result, ten projects that respond to the needs identified by CEN and CENELEC are currently being supported by the European Metrology Research Programme (EMRP). These include the Joint Research Project (JRP) Futuregrid "Non-conventional voltage and current sensors for future power grids" (responding to the needs identified by two CENELEC Technical Committees: CLC/TC 13 and CLC/TC 38), and the JRP MetNH3 "Metrology for ammonia in ambient air" (which contributes to the work of CEN/TC 264/WG 11).

The EMRP, which ran from 2009 to 2013, is now succeeded by a new programme: the European Metrology Programme for Innovation and Research (EMPIR). As was the case for the EMRP, EMPIR is being jointly financed by EURAMET members and the European Union. The number of participating countries has increased from 23 to 28, and calls for project proposals will be launched from 2014 until 2020. It is important to realize that under EMPIR, the range of activities will be extended beyond research to include innovation-related, standardization and capacity-building activities.

The cooperation between CEN, CENELEC and EURAMET that was started under EMRP will be intensified and strengthened under EMPIR. In order to ensure a more structured approach, it has been agreed that representatives from the metrology and standardization communities will meet together on a regular basis. This will happen through STAIR-EMPIR, a new initiative established by the CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards based on a proposal from the STAIR (Standardization, Innovation and Research) Working Group.

STAIR-EMPIR will bring together stakeholders from CEN and CENELEC and from EURAMET in order to identify areas where metrology research could contribute to standardization activities, in line with specific needs identified by technical bodies of CEN and CENELEC. It will also provide a forum for sharing expertise between the standardization and metrology communities, and discussing strategic issues of common interest.

The first meeting of STAIR-EMPIR will take place at the CEN-CENELEC Meeting Centre in Brussels on 6 November 2014. This kick-off meeting will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to learn more about the EMPIR programme and how it could support standardization. Specific attention will be given to the Strategic Research Agendas on priority topics: Energy, Environment and Health.

For more information about EURAMET, as well as the EMRP and EMPIR programmes, please see the EURAMET website: [www.euramet.org](http://www.euramet.org)

Luc Van den Berghe
Programme Manager
Research Integration
SPECIAL REPORT: Standards & Innovation

Building bridges between standardization, innovation and research

Interview with Knut Blind, chairman of the CEN-CENELEC Working Group Standardization, Innovation and Research (STAIR)

What have been the main achievements of the STAIR Working Group since it was set up in 2008?

The STAIR Working Group has achieved several major objectives. The first result, already published by the end of 2008, was the so-called 'Integrated Approach' between research and innovation on the one hand and standardization on the other hand. The Integrated Approach provides a framework to ensure that standardization is taken into account or even integrated into research and innovation projects. It aims at raising awareness of the benefits of standardization in the research and innovation process, transferring research results and outcomes of innovation activities into standardization, and fully exploiting the functions of standards for research and innovation activities in order to increase the competitiveness of the EU.

Another key achievement was the preparation of CEN and CENELEC’s contribution to the European Commission’s consultation in 2011 regarding the next European research and innovation programme*. Most of our proposals have been taken up in the ‘Horizon 2020’ programme, which has started this year. Standards have been mentioned in relation to various fields including information technology, biotechnology and nanotechnology, and standardization has been acknowledged as a coordination and support activity, as well as a channel for the commercialization of research results. Furthermore, standardization organizations are invited to contribute to the evaluation of research proposals, and standards are – like publications and patents – recognized as valid outputs of research and innovation projects.

How would you describe the relationship between standardization and innovation?

Standardization is an important phase of the whole innovation cycle. New technologies and products and even services need the support of standardization in various dimensions. The contents of new scientific and technological insights have to be reflected in the body of standards – either by updating existing standards or by developing new ones.

Standards can contribute to the commercial success of innovative technologies and products in different ways. Cost savings can be achieved by focusing on specific technological solutions or by standardized production processes. Standards, especially quality and safety standards, also help to build trust and make customers more willing to buy innovative products. At the same time, standardized interfaces promote the interoperability of innovations with existing products and infrastructure.

However, there is also a kind of natural tension between established standards and innovation. Innovative products may eventually replace the products and services in current use, and related standards must then be adapted or replaced.

Standards also provide an important infrastructure for research. First, they help to harmonize terminology in new fields of science and technology. Second, successful research often depends on the reliable and valid metrology, measurement and testing methods specified by standards.

* Consultation on the European Commission’s Green Paper ‘From Challenges to Opportunities: Towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU Research and Innovation’ (COM(2011) 48)
What should be done to improve understanding of standardization among members of the research and innovation community?

The understanding and involvement of the research and innovation community varies very much between different fields. For example, the ICT community is very aware of the benefits of using standards for their research and development activities, and for the commercialization of innovative products and services. Researchers active in measurement and testing technologies also have a long tradition of participating in standardization. Consequently, in nanotechnology, which is a field that depends on sophisticated measurement methodologies, a critical mass of researchers and research organizations have started to engage in standardization.

Meanwhile, in the field of biotechnology, where we are starting to see standards being developed at both European and international levels, the research community still has to be made aware of the opportunities of standardization. A recent analysis of consortia standards in the area of biotechnology has found that research results which have been integrated into standards are more frequently cited by other scientific papers. So we can say that standards and standardization are acting as catalysts for research and not only for innovation.

How can CEN and CENELEC help to ensure that the outcomes of research and innovation activities are being taken into account by their technical committees?

Strengthening the relationship between the research and innovation community and the standardization community requires not only the former to become more aware of the benefits of standardization and make greater use of it, but also the technical committees of CEN and CENELEC to open their processes so that new insights generated by research and innovation can be reflected in the contents of standards.

The main stakeholders who are currently active in standardization, especially industry, have to be convinced about the benefits of integrating new players and innovative ideas. The new paradigm of innovation management, the concept of ‘Open Innovation’, should also be applied to standardization. CEN and CENELEC could also consider reviewing and updating standards more frequently, for example by cutting the obligatory review period from five to three years, which would enable research results and technological innovations to be incorporated into relevant standards more systematically.

What are the main priorities of the STAIR Working Group for the coming year?

The major challenge for the STAIR Working Group is to exploit the opportunities offered by the ‘Horizon 2020’ research and innovation programme, by supporting CEN and CENELEC and their national members to get effectively and successfully involved in projects and initiatives.

Another priority for STAIR is to establish an interface with the European Metrology Programme for Innovation and Research ‘EMPIR’ and to identify challenges and opportunities for standardization in the area of metrology, which could then be addressed by working with the partners involved in ‘EMPIR’. We must continue to build bridges between standardization and the world of research, development and innovation, in order to promote this virtuous circle that benefits everyone!

What is STAIR?

The STAIR Working Group was set up by the Technical Boards of CEN and CENELEC in 2008. STAIR develops proposals for strengthening the links between standardization, innovation and research, with a particular focus on research and innovation programmes supported by the European Union.

For more information, see the CEN-CENELEC website: www.cencenelec.eu/go/stair
Germany’s strategy for linking standardization and innovation

DIN, the German Institute for Standardization, is committed to creating closer links between research and innovation activities and standardization. Thanks to support from the German Federal Government, standardization is widely recognized as an effective means to support the dissemination and transfer of innovation and research findings, which brings positive benefits to science and industry.

For several years, the German research community has increasingly been using standardization within their research and innovation activities. This is further encouraged by the High-Tech Strategy for Germany and the Standardization Policy Concept of the German Federal Government, which highlights the role of standardization for supporting the dissemination and exploitation of research findings and innovative ideas.

As a consequence of these policies, standardization is nowadays more often addressed in calls for project proposals. Additionally, in 2006 the national research programmes ‘Innovation with Norms and Standards (INS)’ and ‘Transfer of R&D Results through Standardization (TNS)’ of the Federal Ministry for Economics and Technology (BMWi) were implemented at DIN, the German Institute for Standardization, to support the transfer of innovative research results into relevant standardization activities.

Some 20 years ago, DIN decided to establish a special committee and platform called ‘R&D Phase Standardization’ in order to support innovative projects to develop standards. This platform has enabled DIN to acquire a comprehensive knowledge and know-how of participation in research projects, and to build an extensive network of relationships with the research and innovation community in Germany.

In the framework of the BRIDGIT project (see article on page 8), several CEN and CENELEC members organized workshops aimed at researchers to offer them an insight into the world of standardization. DIN organized a workshop on 26 May 2014 in Berlin, where around 70 participants received information on how standardization supports the dissemination and exploitation of research results and innovative ideas.

At the workshop in Berlin, experts from the spheres of science, industry, academia and politics all highlighted the role of standardization in enabling the transfer of research results to the market. Participants also learned about specific examples of good practice in the fields of logistics, smart grids, risk management and energy shift (‘Energiewende’) – regarding the successful integration of standardization in research activities.

Besides the ‘R&D Phase Standardization’ platform, also DIN established internal structures and took measures to increase the early engagement of standardization in innovative fields. Within these structures DIN currently addresses the following topics: smart cities, electromobility, logistics, biotechnology, industry 4.0 and ‘Energiewende’ – all with the aim of initiating early standardization activities and networking with relevant actors.

DIN website: www.din.de
SPECIAL REPORT: Standards & Innovation

Italy: UNI meets market needs with 'Reference Best Practices'

In order to meet the needs of fast-changing markets and support the transfer of innovative solutions, the Italian standardization body UNI decided in 2011 to introduce a new type of standardization deliverable called Prassi di Riferimento (Reference Best Practice).

The ‘Reference Best Practice’ or Prassi di Riferimento (UNI/PdR) is a new type of document that is intended to meet market needs in sectors or fields where it is not yet possible to develop a full standard due to the lack of a consolidated ‘state of the art’. A PdR can include technical specifications, guidelines or best practices developed on the basis of specific requests from stakeholders on new subjects, technologies or sectors.

The idea for the PdR was inspired by similar types of ‘fast track’ documents developed by other CEN members, such as AFNOR with BP (référentiel de bonnes pratiques) and BSI with PAS (Publicly Available Specification). In some ways, the PdR is also similar to the ‘Workshop Agreement’ (CWA) of CEN and CENELEC at European level.

The development process of a UNI/PdR is quite fast, taking a maximum of 9 months from the kick-off meeting of the working group responsible for drafting the document. The process is also transparent: from the announcement of work being started to the final approval phase, when the document is opened for public consultation on the UNI website.

The PdR is valuable as a way to address new and innovative issues, and also to reach new stakeholders who in many cases have not been previously involved in standardization. Moreover, because they are intended as an instrument to foster innovation and promote the transfer of new technologies, PdRs are freely available and may be downloaded from the UNI website.

Similar to a CWA at European level, a UNI/PdR can also be the first step in the development of a full standard. Five years after publication, a PdR should either be turned into a standard (or technical specification) or it must be withdrawn.

For further information, please contact: elena.mocchio@uni.com
UNI website: www.uni.com

Greece: ELOT reaches out to researchers and innovators

In Greece, the Hellenic Organization for Standardization (ELOT) has organized special events in Athens and Thessaloniki to raise awareness about the added value of standards and standardization for research and innovation projects.

The first event on 'Research-Innovation and Standards' was held in Athens on 21 February 2014, with more than 150 participants from universities, research centers and other organizations. This event focused on the role and added value of standards in research and innovation, and how to use the tools of standardization in research and development (R&D) projects. Participants also learned about funding opportunities for projects.

A similar event took place in Thessaloniki on 31 March, in collaboration with the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki and the local Chamber of Industry and Commerce. On the previous day, 25 people attended an introductory seminar on how to get involved in standardization and how to include a standardization deliverable in R&D projects.

Following these two events, ELOT participated in the development of two project proposals, including one submitted to the Horizon 2020 programme. Furthermore, the establishment of a Scientific Council on Research and Standardization in being considered by ELOT and NQIS (the National Quality Infrastructure System of Greece).

For further information, please contact: gkm@elot.gr
ELOT website: www.elot.gr
CEN adopts new European Standards for lifts

CEN has adopted two new European Standards that set out revised and updated safety rules for the construction and installation of lifts designed to carry passengers (EN 81-20:2014), as well as design rules, calculations, examinations and tests of lift components (EN 81-50:2014).

The European Standards EN 81-1 and EN 81-2 set out safety rules for the construction and installation of (respectively) electric and hydraulic lifts. Since they were first published, in 1977 and 1987, these standards have been amended and revised several times. In 1998, both standards were revised in line with the requirements of the European Directive 95/16/EC.

Following the publication of the latest amendments (in 2009), the CEN Technical Committee ‘Lifts, escalators and moving walks’ (CEN/TC 10) decided to initiate an overall review and revision of EN 81-1 and EN 81-2. To this purpose, CEN/TC 10 set up a Task Force to carry out a comprehensive study, identifying all aspects of the standards to be revised or new elements to be added.

Due to the global importance of these standards, which are used widely around the world, CEN/TC 10 decided to work in close cooperation with its counterpart at international level, the ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC 178. Several ISO experts were appointed to join the project as observers, and CEN/TC 10 also held several technical exchange meetings with non-European stakeholders.

As a result of the preparatory work carried out by the Task Force, more than 700 changes were identified. Moreover, it was decided to combine technical requirements for electric and hydraulic lifts in one standard, and have a separate standard with test and examination requirements. The new standards, EN 81-20:2014 and EN 81-50:2014, were officially made available by CEN on 6 August 2014.

The two new European Standards are more user-friendly than the old ones (EN 81-1 and EN 81-2), with a clearer structure and format. The expected benefits include considerable improvements in terms of accessibility and safety for both passengers and lift technicians. The new standards also ensure a higher level of international harmonization of technical requirements for lifts.

The implementation of EN 81-20 and EN 81-50 will require changes to some aspects of lift design, as well as modifications to manufacturers’ documents and relevant certificates. The old standards (EN 81-1 and EN 81-2) will be withdrawn in August 2017, after a 3-year transitional period, allowing all stakeholders to align their products, services and documentation to the new standards.

For more information about CEN/TC 10 (‘Lifts, escalators and moving walks’), including published standards and current activities (work programme), please see the CEN website: www.cen.eu (Search Standards > Technical Bodies).

Marie Poidevin
Programme Manager
Industry, Technology & Infrastructure
Regulated substances of high concern in articles

CEN Strategic Advisory Body on Environment (SABE) organized a workshop on ‘Regulated substances of high concern in articles: metrology and communication, and implications for standardization’. This event took place in Brussels on 2 July.

The main objective of this workshop was to evaluate standardization needs in relation to regulated substances of high concern in articles, and also to identify needs for future initiatives and projects. The event was attended by representatives from a wide range of stakeholders including: the European Commission, European and national industry federations, consumer and environmental associations, research institutes and standardization bodies.

There are a range of existing regulatory frameworks at European and international level with requirements regarding the notification of certain substances in ‘articles’. These include the REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) Regulation, the Waste Directives, the POP (Persistent Organic Pollutants) Regulation, and the RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment) Directive.

The application of these regulatory frameworks can vary from country to country. Sometimes the threshold values applied to specific substances can be different (for example, between Europe and China), which makes it difficult to measure, compare and monitor the use and disposal of these substances along the supply chain. The need to apply several different regulatory instruments, notably during the recycling process, can also pose problems for stakeholders.

The substances concerned are numerous. For instance, there are some 155 candidate chemicals considered ‘substances of very high concern’ (SVHC) within the REACH framework, and this list is set to grow to more than 400 by 2020.

The workshop participants agreed that it is necessary to ensure consistency in the implementation of the legislation concerned and the reliability of the results reported. Standards, specifications, methodologies and labelling all need to be considered in order to ensure the safe control of substances – especially during the recycling process.

Following the discussion, it was agreed that a roadmap for standardization will be elaborated by a task group before the end of the year, and a second workshop could be organised in Spring 2015, in order to keep the discussion moving forward.

The presentations from the workshop on 2 July are available on the CEN website (under News > Events > Past events).

Andrea Nam
Programme Manager
Sustainability & Services

Seminar on European Railway Standardization

CEN and CENELEC co-organized a seminar on European Railway Standardization at the European Railway Agency (ERA) in Valenciennes (France) on 8 October 2014.

The seminar included presentations from: Rüdiger Wendt, Secretary of CEN/TC 256 ‘Railway applications’; Bernard Lerouge, Secretary CLC/TC 9X ‘Electrical and electronic applications for railways’; and Thierry Legrand from the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre.

Representing ERA, Andreas Schirmer, Head of Coordination Sector, explained ERA’s organization and working method, and Gergana Simeonova-Arida presented the process for requesting standards. More than 20 members of ERA staff took part in the Seminar, including Anna Gigantino, Head of the Interoperability Unit.

The participants learned about the European Standardization System and the development process of European Standards. The seminar focused in particular on the collaboration between CEN-CENELEC and ERA, and how this could be strengthened.

For information about European standardization activities in relation to rail transport, please see the CEN-CENELEC website (under European Standardization > CEN-CENELEC sectors > Transport > Rail).

Thierry Legrand
Programme Manager
Industry, Technology & Infrastructure
CEN to develop standards on seats for children

CEN has accepted a request from the European Commission to develop standards in relation to various types of seats destined for small children.

The CEN Technical Board has accepted a request from the European Commission (C(2014)5058, issued on 22 June 2014) to develop standards in relation to four different types of children’s seats, namely chair-mounted seats, children’s chairs, children’s high chairs and table-mounted chairs. The standards will address such issues as hazards of falling or entanglement, stability, chair attachment, user manuals and markings.

The standards are due to be adopted as harmonized European Standards in support of the European legislation on general product safety (EU Directive 2001/95/EC). This means that products which comply with the standards may benefit from a ‘presumption of conformity’ with the essential requirements in the Directive.

The existing European Standards in relation to children’s high chairs, setting out requirements (EN 14988-1:2006) and test methods (EN 14988–2:2006), are currently under revision. There is also an existing European Standard for table-mounted chairs (EN 1272:1998), but it has not yet been referenced under the EU legislation on general product safety. However, there are not existing European Standards for children’s chairs or for chair-mounted seats.

The standards will be developed by three different CEN Technical Committees: CEN/TC 207 ‘Furniture’, CEN/TC 252 ‘Child use and care articles’ and CEN/TC 364 ‘Project Committee – High Chairs’. The standard for children’s chairs will cover stools, chairs and armchairs for indoor or outdoor use, as well as rocking chairs, foldable chairs and chairs fitted with wheels.

For more information about European Standardization in relation to consumer products, please see the CEN website (under ‘What we do ’ > ‘Fields of work’).

Joanna Frankowska
Programme Manager
Sustainability & Services

CEN to develop standard for tattooing services

The CEN Technical Board has decided to creation a new Project Committee, CEN/TC 435, tasked with developing a new European Standard on tattooing services.

Tattooing may entail a risk of infection since the needles used may have contact with blood and a superficial skin wound of a greater or lesser extent can occur depending on the size of the tattoo. In order to avoid as much as possible any risks for the health of consumers, tattooing services need to operate properly and to comply with hygienic requirements.

The new CEN Project Committee CEN/TC 435 will develop a European Standard establishing requirements related to the hygienic performance of tattooing services including aspects related to the job specification, training, facilities, personal hygiene and aftercare, as well as instructions for the cleaning and disinfection of equipment.

DIN (German Standardization Institute) has agreed to provide the Secretariat of CEN/TC 435.

For more information about European standardization activities in relation to services, please see the CEN website (under ‘What we do ’ > ‘Fields of work’).

Maitane Olabarria Uzquiano
Programme Manager
Sustainability & Services
The project partners are working closely together to implement the third phase of the SESEC project, which builds on the experience that was acquired during the previous phases, SESEC I (2006-2009) and SESEC II (2009-2012). The new SESEC Expert, Betty Xu, is being trained in Europe from September to November, and will then return to China in order to open the SESEC office in Beijing in December 2014.

Betty Xu holds a PhD in Electrical Engineering from the University of Queensland (Australia), and has extensive industry experience gained while working for Chinese and multinational companies. She has been involved in national and international standardization activities since 2006, and chaired the Standardization and Conformity Assessment Working Group of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China (EUCCC) for more than three years. Mrs Xu has also worked for the Australian National Standardization Body and National Electrotechnical Committee (Standards Australia).

From September to November 2014, Mrs Xu is being trained by the SESEC project partners in Europe. During these three months, she will have the opportunity to meet various members and partners of CEN and CENELEC. She will also learn about standardization activities in several priority sectors that have been identified, including: the built environment, electrical and electronic products, energy management and smart grids, environmental protection, ICT, cloud computing and wireless connectivity (‘Internet of Things’), medical devices and healthcare equipment, services and transport.

The training programme provided by the project partners will enable Mrs Xu to thoroughly understand the specificities, ambitions and challenges of the European Standardization System (ESS). Once in place in Beijing (from December 2014 onwards), she will become the interface between the ESS and China, and will operate under the guidance of a Steering Committee with representatives of the project partners.

The SESEC project supports the strategic objectives of the European Union, EFTA and the European Standardization Organizations (ESOs). Its ultimate goal is the enhancement of EU-China dialogue and cooperation in the field of standardization. In particular, it is expected to support the Framework Cooperation Agreement between the ESOs and SAC, the National Standardization Body (NSB) of China.

A dedicated SESEC III website is also being developed. This website will provide access to information on the project’s objectives, activities and results.

For more information on the project and its priority sectors, you can contact International Cooperation Unit at the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre.

Hervé Gauthier
Programme Manager
International Cooperation
CEN participates in 37th ISO General Assembly in Rio

CEN was represented at the 37th ISO General Assembly (GA) in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) from 8 to 12 September by Elena Santiago Cid, the Director General of CEN and CENELEC, who also contributed to the panel discussion on 'ideas for the future', which focused on the role of regional standardization organizations.

The panel discussion on the role of regional standardization organizations was facilitated by Dr Elisabeth Stampfl-Blaha, ISO Vice-President (technical management) and Managing Director of Austrian Standards. The panel members included representatives of several regional standardization bodies including the African Regional Standardization Organization (ARSO), the Pan-American Standards Commission (COPANT), the Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification (EASC) and the Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC).

The discussion focused on relations between the regional standards organizations and ISO, and how the regional organizations can support their members' participation in standardization activities at international level. Mrs Santiago Cid outlined the strengths of CEN as a regional standardization organization, and the European commitment to give primacy to international standards and standardization work in ISO, relying on the successful framework of the Vienna Agreement.

The ISO General Assembly also provided a good opportunity for the CEN-CENELEC Director General to meet with representatives of different national standardization bodies with whom CEN and CENELEC have formal partnerships. The meeting with the Standardization Administration of China (SAC) focussed on the launch of the 3rd Seconded European Standardization Expert in China (SESEC) project in September 2014, as well as on the forthcoming visit of a CEN-CENELEC delegation to China in 2015.

Additionally, bilateral meetings were held with delegates from the Russian Federal Agency on Technical Regulating and Metrology (Rosstandart), the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology (MASM) and with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

ESOs represented at EASC General Meeting in Sochi

The External Relations Officer of the European Standardization Organisations (ESOs), Dr Bernhard Thies, attended the 45th General Meeting of EASC, the Euroasian Interstate Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification (EASC) in Sochi.

In May 2012, the European Standardization Organisations (CEN, CENELEC, and ETSI) signed a joint Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with EASC, the Euroasian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology, which brings together the national standards bodies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

The MoU with EASC provides the basis for closer collaboration on various aspects of standardization, which should facilitate trade in goods and services between Europe and the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

In accordance with the MoU, the ESOs were invited to send a representative to the 45th General Meeting of EASC, which was held in Sochi (Russia) on 24-25 June 2014. The CEN-CENELEC-ETSI External Relations Officer, Dr Bernhard Thies, addressed the delegates and confirmed that the ESOs are committed to strengthening their cooperation with EASC and its members. He welcomed the ongoing reform of EASC, which should help the partners to advance in the implementation of the roadmap agreed two years ago.

Dr Thies stated: “We have managed to partly implement this roadmap, and we look forward to seeing how the ongoing reform of EASC will be finalized. This will enable us to significantly progress further in the implementation of this roadmap, for the benefit of our respective members and other stakeholders”.

EASC website: www.easc.org.by

Eric Marchand
Programme Manager
International Cooperation

Back to contents
CEN and CENELEC are committed to supporting the regional standardization system in Africa and cooperating with their African counterparts: the African Regional Standardization Organization (ARSO) and African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission (AFSEC).

CENELEC contributed to the Africa Smart Grid Forum in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, from 14 to 16 May 2014, which was organized by AFSEC in partnership with the International Electrotechnical Committee (IEC). This event brought together key African and international stakeholders to discuss the challenge of Smart Grids in the African context.

Mr Uwe Kampet, CENELEC Vice President Technical, made a presentation during the opening plenary, providing an overview of the European approach to standardization in the field of Smart Grids. Additionally, Mr Laurent Schmitt, from the Steering Group of the CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Smart Grid Coordination Group (SG-CG) contributed to various sessions of the Forum, sharing insights on European standardization solutions covering the architecture and deployment of Smart Grids, as well as cybersecurity aspects.

CENELEC also participated in the 4th General Assembly of AFSEC, which was hosted by the National Electrotechnical Committee of D. R. Congo in Kinshasa in September 2014. Dr Bernhard Thies, CENELEC President-Elect and Chair of the CEN-CENELEC-ETSI External Relations Committee, took this opportunity to underline CENELEC’s commitment to maintaining a strong bilateral partnership with its African counterpart.

Addressing representatives of AFSEC Members, regional and national authorities, Dr Thies stressed the importance of learning from each other and exchanging views to support the growth of inter-regional and international trade. He said that the cooperation between CENELEC and AFSEC also supports international standardization activities at the level of IEC, in which African and European experts participate actively.

Similarly, CEN also attaches high importance to cooperation with its African counterpart. A CEN representative participated in the 20th ARSO General Assembly, which was held in Kigali (Rwanda) from 23 to 27 June 2014, and also contributed to the African Standardization Day, for which the chosen theme was: "Standardization as a driver for improving Africa's competitiveness".

The CEN representative delivered a positive message from the CEN community, calling for an intensification of cooperation in line with the Memorandum of Understanding between ARSO and CEN. He also gave a presentation that focused on the strengths of the European Standardization System and the role played by standardization in support of regional competitiveness and international trade.

In parallel to the ARSO General Assembly, the CEN and ARSO secretariats took the opportunity to discuss the content of a roadmap that will complement the existing agreement between the two regional standardization bodies with concrete cooperation activities.

This mission represented another opportunity for CEN to meet representatives from the National Standards Bodies of several African countries, as the level of interest in adopting national standards that are identical to European Standards is growing among African nations.

ARSO website: www.arso-oran.org
AFSEC website: www.afsec-africa.org

Hervé Gauthier
Programme Manager
International Cooperation
New CEO of the Swiss Association for Standardization (SNV)

Markus Weber is the new CEO of the Swiss Association for Standardization (SNV) since 1 October 2014. He succeeds Daniel Straub, who headed the SNV in a temporary capacity since mid-April 2014.

Markus Weber previously worked as a project manager at Thermission (Suisse) SA in Thun. Prior to this he held a number of posts, including that of CEO of Emerson Network Power in Fällanden, where he also served as Managing Director. In addition to his many years of management experience, the SNV also stands to gain from his knowledge of the use of standards and association work.

The SNV Board is convinced that, drawing on his extensive experience and career to date, Markus Weber will continue the successful implementation of the SNV’s strategy as a future-oriented information services provider.

SNV website: [www.snv.ch](http://www.snv.ch)