




Towards a standardized European CV?

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European Standards Organizations ("ESOs")



→ **CEN** 
(Comité Européen de Normalisation/
European Committee for Standardization)

→ **CENELEC** 
(Comité Européen de Normalisation
Electrotechnique/ European Committee
for Electrotechnical Standardization)

→ **ETSI** 
(European Telecommunications
Standards Institute)



CEN's world



- **30 National Members**
- **8 Associates (trade bodies, etc)**
- **2 Counsellors (Commission, EFTA)**
- **3 Affiliates (candidate members)**
- **Partner Standardization Bodies (countries outside Europe)**
- **CEN Management Centre (CMC)**



The geography of CEN



- Member ■
- Affiliate ■



CEN's product range: “deliverables”



→ Produced in Technical Committees with national delegations:

- European Standards – EN
- Technical Specifications - CEN/TS
- Technical Reports - CEN/TR
- CEN Guides

→ Produced in Workshops with interested parties:

- CEN Workshop Agreements - CWAs



First, the Workshop



The CEN Workshop is a *flexible* working platform *open* to the participation of any company or organisation, inside or outside Europe, for *rapid* elaboration of consensus documents



A flexible platform

- No formal procedure to set up a CEN Workshop**
- Structure decided set up by the Members of the Workshop to help maximum efficiency**
- Bottom-up approach**
- Can be set up within two months after description of the project (Business Plan)**



An open platform

- **Open to any interested party – companies, associations, Governments, academia, etc etc**
- **No geographical restrictions – work generally based in Europe, but participants from any part of the globe**
- **A public process – draft Business Plans on web for comment; option for public comment on draft results**



A fast procedure

- Reduced rules - no waste of time**
- Electronic working privileged - ftp platform, livelink, etc...**
- Fewer physical meetings - less costs**
- No vote - consensus during a meeting or by electronic means**
- Overall duration - from 5 to 18 months**
- Record is five months (now twice!)**

The setting-up process



- **People come with ideas (industry, administrations, CEN Members, EU Commission)**
- **We discuss the concept and draft a Business Plan together with the “proposers”**
- **We need to be satisfied:**
 - **There is sufficient support, including financial resource**
 - **the project does not conflict with a European Standard**
- **When it is ready, we place the draft Business Plan on the web for comments (60 days minimum)**
- **We organise an open “kick-off meeting”**

Prior to and at the kick-off meeting



- We consider public comments on draft Business Plan with proposers (revised version if need be)
- The proposed activities are presented
- The draft Business Plan is discussed and if need be amended, then agreed
- The Chairperson is appointed (and Vice-Chairs, Working Group Chairs, etc)
- The Secretariat (by default a CEN Member) is appointed

Finance



- **All Workshops need to be paid for**
- **This means (at minimum) paying for the CEN Member Secretariat**
- **In addition, sometimes funding includes paid expert time or cost of promotional meetings etc.**
- **Funding can also “compensate” for free availability of CEN Workshop Agreements**
- **Funds provided by:**
 - **Interested groups (eg associations, a band of proposers)**
 - **Fees from participating companies and organizations**
 - **Research, etc projects**
 - **European Commission/EFTA (DG Enterprise or others)**
 - **A combination of any of the above!**



Second, the “traditional route”

- CEN’s European Standards are made generally in Technical Committees (TCs)**
- TCs are made up mainly of delegations sent by interested CEN national members**
- Participants are interested stakeholders (industry etc), but they represent the national view**
- National “mirror committees” open to interested parties make this national view, provide formal comments etc (may be a fee)**
- TC funds provided by CEN member running Secretariat and/or EU-EFTA**



The TC process (1)

- A TC is a “long-term institution”: setting one up can take a time
- The TC may have Working Groups for the detail
- Where a TC exists, a work item is adopted, by correspondence or at a meeting
- For a European Standard, we need a “national enquiry” – our members publish the draft for comment
- The TC must consider all the comments and then amends the draft



The TC process (2)

- The draft is submitted to a national vote of CEN members – 71 per cent weighted majority is needed
- Assuming the draft is adopted, CEN members must:
 - Implement the European Standard as a national standard
 - Withdraw any conflicting national standards
- TCs are now quite fast also! European Standards (ENs) must be completed within three years of work item adoption



CEN and this subject area?

- **CEN/ISSS: our “marketing name” for CEN ICT**
- **Most CEN/ISSS activities are in Workshops – 60+ since 1998:**
 - **ICT is in any case fast-moving**
 - **Less need for regulatory-related standards**
 - **Less need for original specifications (done in ISO or consortia), more need in Europe for applications**
- **CEN/ISSS Workshops on Learning Technologies and ICT Skills (pan-European ICT competencies)**
- **Now a new TC (first in many years) – TC353 Learning Technologies:**
 - **vocabularies and frameworks, quality and competencies**

Other current + future activities

- We mainly do “applications”, ie not infrastructure or core technologies
- eBusiness and related areas
- eHealth
- eLearning and ICT Skills
- Intelligent transport
- Smart cards
- RFID, bar codes, etc.
- Coming soon, CyberIdentity (not identity of individuals, but of entities)

Comparing the results



<u>Characteristic</u>	<u>EN</u>	<u>CWA</u>
1 “Standstill”	Yes	No
2 Language	English, French, German	1 CEN + any others
3 Public consultation on draft	Mandatory	Optional
4 Approval	CEN NSBs	Participants
5 Withdrawal of conflicting national standards	Mandatory	Not obligatory
6 Availability	National standard	Voluntary publication
7 Supporting legislation	When required	Occasionally



The choices

- A Workshop is very quick to set up, it's very open
- It can be more visible at European level
- An EN in a TC ensures implementation as a national standard and more local publicity/participation
- NB If numbers of countries are not willing to implement, then ENs can be a problem (current example of EU "E111" health card – in a CEN/ISSS WS as a result)
- The Workshop requires dedicated funding, the TC activity probably does not
- **Maybe an idea is to combine the two – ie CWA (or TS) followed by a formal standard – current examples (mainly non-ICT) of this approach (formal standards sometimes international in ISO)**



So why CEN?

- We are neutral, open, inclusive – we do not represent particular interests
- Whilst “standards” in the technical sense should be global, their application needs to be regional (legal, cultural, etc. issues)
- We have an unrivalled pan-European network
- Society may not need technical standards (there are already too many, but then again, they need to be interoperable...)
- But business and Government do (badly) need guidance material and tools
- The potential for ICTs in support of the economy and society is enormous - we are only “scratching the surface”
- We need to build consensus communities – this is our speciality, and we know what to avoid....



Next steps?

- We discuss further with “you”, or “your representatives” how to progress this
- We try to define a project, EITHER for a TC activity OR for a Workshop activity depending on your views/preferences
- In either case, the next meetings are co-located in Athens, w/c 22 October
- We can place on the relevant agenda, or – if the project involves both – investigate with Chairs and Secretariats about a combined meeting
- Over to you!

Thanks!



Whichever is the approach, we're ready to help....

Comments, questions?

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