



EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

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EFTA Workshop on Certification and marking for Europe

Wednesday 11 June 2008

IV. Company/Organisation information

NOTE: This information only regards the speakers organisations/ companies, from those who sent it by e-mail.

(in alphabetical order)

AFNOR:

www.afnor.fr

- AFNOR Certification is a subsidiary of AFNOR group, the french standardisation organisation, member of CEN and ISO.
- AFNOR Certification is the leader in France in management systems, products and services certification and a big competitor in the world
- AFNOR Certification grants famous certification marks such as NF and AFAQ "

ANEC

www.anec.eu

- ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, representing and defending consumer interests in the process of standardisation and certification, also in policy and legislation related to standardisation. Our aim is a high level of consumer protection.
- ANEC was set up in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law. We represent consumer organisations from the European Union Member States and the EFTA countries. Our General Assembly is composed of one national member per country, nominated jointly by the national consumer organisations in their country. The European Commission and EFTA fund ANEC, while national consumer organisations contribute in kind.
- The Brussels based Secretariat of ANEC co-ordinates a network of more than 200 consumer representatives across Europe. Our experts contribute directly to the work of over 80 Technical Committees, Working Groups and political bodies of the European and international standards organisations.

BUSINESSEUROPE

www.businessseurope.eu

- BUSINESSEUROPE is the Confederation of European Business and is the voice of more than 20 million SMEs & large companies. It places its members first: 39 central industrial and employers' federations from 33 countries. It is widely recognized as social partner.
- Its mission is to work together to achieve growth & competitiveness in Europe . Its purpose is to influence EU policies to create a business-friendly environment.
- BUSINESSEUROPE has 7 Policy Committees under which 60 Working Groups are active with participation of 1200 experts:
 - Economic & Financial Affairs
 - International Relations
 - Industrial Affairs
 - Social Affairs
 - Legal Affairs
 - Internal Market

- Entrepreneurship & SME
- BUSINESSEUROPE policy priorities are:
 - Implement the reforms for growth and jobs
 - Integrate the European market
 - Govern the EU efficiently
 - Shape globalisation and fight all kinds of protectionism
 - Promote a secure, competitive and climate-friendly energy system
 - Reform European social systems to respond to global challenges

CEN - the European Committee for Standardization

<http://www.cen.eu>

- CEN, the European Committee for Standardization, was founded in 1961 by the national standards bodies in the European Economic Community and EFTA countries
- Now CEN is contributing to the objectives of the European Union and European Economic Area with voluntary technical standards which promote free trade, the safety of workers and consumers, interoperability of networks, environmental protection, exploitation of research and development programmes, and public procurement.
- CEN is a system of formal processes to produce standards. The responsibilities are shared principally between:
 - 30 National Members and the representative expertise they assemble from each country. These members vote for and implement European Standards (ENs);
 - 7 Associate Members and two Counsellors;
 - The CEN Management Centre, Brussels.
- CEN works closely with the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC), the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).
- Standardization diminishes trade barriers, promotes safety, allows interoperability of products, systems and services, and promotes common technical understanding

- **All** standards help build the 'soft infrastructure' of modern, innovative economies. They provide certainty, references, and benchmarks for designers, engineers and service providers. They give 'an optimum degree of order'.
- In addition, **regional** or **European Standards** are necessary for the Single Market and support the Union's policies for technical integration, protection of the consumer, and promotion of sustainable development
- CEN coordinates efforts of its members to develop standards to be used by its members and associates. The terms and guidelines are as follows:
 - **Openness and Transparency:** all interested stakeholders may take part in the work; representation is secured primarily through the national standards bodies which send balanced delegations to the policy-making bodies and technical committees. (Depending on specific terms of reference, the committees are also open to Associate Members, Counsellors, European trade federations and international organizations.)
 - **Consensus:** standards are developed on the basis of voluntary agreement between all parties. National Commitment and Technical Coherence: formal adoption of European Standards is decided by a weighted majority vote of the CEN National Members and is binding on all of them. They must implement the standards at national level and withdraw conflicting standards.
 - **Integration with other international work:** standardization is expensive and time-consuming. Wherever possible CEN works with other European bodies and international bodies in order to minimize overlaps and inefficiencies.
- The standards programme is coordinated by the Technical Board of CEN.
- Most standards are drawn up in technical committees and their working groups.

Consumer Research Associates:

www.consumerexpertise.com

The Principals of CRA have worked in this field for more than 25 years and are currently working on product policy and strategy issues with the European Commission, the UK Government and a number of EU NGOs.

EA - European Accreditation:

<http://www.european-accreditation.org>

- The EA is the European network of National Accreditation Bodies. Its purpose is to ensure the harmonised performance of national accreditation bodies throughout the European Economic Area via the development and promotion of accreditation criteria and guidelines.
- Confidence in the marketplace
As consumers and organisations are faced with a more complex and dynamic marketplace, the need for independent assurance grows. Consumers demand confidence in the quality of the products they use, the environment they live in, construction materials, the reliability of health care services etc. It is also important for businesses and regulators to have confidence in the integrity and quality of the services provided by laboratories, inspection or certification bodies. It is the independence and impartiality of accreditation that guarantee this confidence.
- What is accreditation? - Ensuring Confidence in the Marketplace
Accreditation determines the technical competence of a body to perform specific tasks. Accreditation has to be a non-competitive activity because of its role in ensuring that standards are not compromised by competition between bodies providing services and products.
- The Benefits of Accreditation
For Government:
Accreditation is the preferred mechanism for ensuring public confidence in the reliability of activities that impact on health, welfare, security and the environment. Accreditation is used, therefore, to identify Competent Bodies for the implementation of government policies and regulations.

For industry:
Accreditation is an essential tool for decision-making and risk management. Organisations can save time and money by selecting an accredited and therefore competent supplier. Accreditation can provide a competitive advantage and facilitates access to export markets within Europe and beyond with the aim of tested or certified once, accepted

everywhere. Accurate measurements and tests carried out in compliance with best practices limit product failure, control manufacturing costs and foster innovation.

- What is EA?

The EA, which operates as a competition free network, has the following objectives:

- To contribute towards the elimination of technical barriers to trade by achieving a uniform approach to accreditation and conformity assessment services
- To act as a technical support to the European Commission and the EFTA facilitating the implementation of Directives and the development of mutual recognition agreements
- To promote the international recognition of accreditation and accredited services by maintaining sound and reliable multilateral agreements.

- For accredited organisations:

Accreditation is objective proof that organisations comply with best practices. It is the internationally recognised system that is used to develop and sustain high standards of performance. It is a winning formula for eligibility to tender for international projects.

- For consumers:

Accreditation gives consumers confidence through ensuring consistently high standards in the quality of products or services purchased.

- The EA operates in close co-operation with its stakeholders. The stakeholders of the EA include: conformity assessment bodies (laboratories, certification and inspection bodies), the European Commission and EFTA, regulators, industry and consumers. Their interests are represented through membership of the EA Advisory Board (EAAB) and EA committees.

- The difference between accreditation and certification for laboratories and inspection bodies

Unlike ISO 9001 certification, accreditation uses criteria and procedures specifically developed to determine technical competence.

Whereas ISO 9001 certification demonstrates conformity to the standard requirements, accreditation demonstrates specific technical competence.

- Worldwide Recognition and International Acceptance
The EA multilateral agreement (MLA) provides a means for goods and services to cross boundaries in Europe and throughout the world. The MLA makes accreditation a "passport" which facilitates access to the EU and international markets through co-operation with ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation) and IAF (International Accreditation Forum). The Accreditation Bodies mark on test reports and certificates is your assurance of the benefits of the MLA.
- How does the Agreement work?
The establishment of the MLA between the EA accreditation body members creates mutual confidence in, and acceptance of, accredited certifications, inspections, calibration certificates and test reports. The MLA eliminates the need for suppliers of products or services to be certified in each country where they sell their products or services. Individual EA members that are signatories to the EA MLA are subject to regular and stringent multi-national peer evaluations. The purpose of these routine on-site evaluations is to verify the signatories continuing conformity with the internationally accepted criteria. These peer evaluations ensure consistent, harmonised accreditation practices and also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences between the signatories.

EEPCA - European Electrical Products Certification Association

www.eepca.org

- Founded in 1998, the European Electrical Products Certification Association (EEPCA) is a Paris based organisation that represents the interests of its 28 members engaged in the certification of electrical products in more than 25 European countries.
- EEPCA also provides the operational management of the European Schemes for the third party voluntary certification of electrical products.

ERRT:

www.errt.org

- The European Retail Round Table (ERRT) was established to express the views of large retailers on a range of issues of common interest focused on EU public policy.
- Their businesses operate worldwide and represent a cross-section of the retail sector. Collectively, ERRT members have a turnover of more than €350 billion and employ 2.1 million people in Europe.
- The members of the ERRT are - Ahold, Asda / Wal-Mart, C&A, Carrefour, Delhaize, DSG international, El Corte Inglés, H&M, IKEA, Inditex, Kingfisher, Marks & Spencer, Mercadona, Metro Group and Tesco.

IECEE - could unfortunately not speak at the Workshop

<http://www.iecee.org>

- IECEE is the flagship of the IEC Conformity Assessment Programmes. IECEE CB Scheme and CB-FCS offer third party services as the best means of providing proof of compliance to the safety requirements to IEC standards. Such Third party services also provide the assurance that tests and certification are made within the necessary independence and impartiality. The IECEE is a system for mutual recognition of certificates of conformity and also a tool to access the worldwide markets directly, where National Authorities and Regulators, retailers, buyers and vendors accept the CB Test Certificate and associated Test Report, which is, as a matter of fact, the reality in the worldwide market place nowadays. For example in South Africa every importing electrical goods must show compliance to the safety requirements against IEC standards and through the CB Test Certificate and associated Test Report. Openness is an important aspect of the IECEE systems. For users, the systems are open to any manufacturer anywhere in the world.

Manufacturers can be located anywhere in the world and still benefit from using the IECEE CB Scheme, even in non-IEC member countries.

- In recognition of the need to facilitate international trade in electrical equipment, primarily intended for use in homes, offices, workshops, healthcare facilities and similar locations, for benefit of consumers, industries, authorities etc, and to provide convenience for manufacturers and other users of the services provided by various **National Certification Bodies (NCBs)**, an international Scheme is operated by the IECEE (IEC System for Conformity testing and Certification of Electrotechnical Equipment and Components), known as the **CB Scheme**.
- The Scheme is based on the principle of mutual recognition (reciprocal acceptance) by its members of test results for obtaining certification or approval at national level.
- The Scheme is intended to reduce obstacles to international trade which arise from having to meet different national certification or approval criteria. Participation of the various NCBs within the Scheme is intended to facilitate certification or approval according to IEC standards.
- Where national standards are not yet completely based on IEC standards, declared national differences will be taken into account; however, successful operation of the Scheme presupposes that national standards are reasonably harmonized with the corresponding IEC standards.
- Use of the Scheme to its fullest extent will promote the exchange of information necessary in assisting manufacturers around the world to obtain certification or approval at national level.
- The operating units of the Scheme are the NCBs accepted according to these Rules. Those NCBs employ testing laboratories also accepted according to the Rules, known as **CB Testing Laboratories (CBTLs)**. A list of NCBs is published in the CB Bulletin.
- The CB Scheme is based on the use of **CB Test Certificates** which provide evidence that representative specimens of the product have successfully passed tests to show compliance with the requirements of the relevant IEC standard.
- A supplementary report providing evidence of compliance with declared national differences in order to obtain national certification or approval may also be attached to the **CB Test Report**.

- The first step for an NCB, intending to operate in the CB Scheme, is to be accepted as a **Recognizing NCB**. Such an NCB is prepared to recognize CB Test Certificates as a basis for certification or approval at national level for one or more categories of products.
- The second step for an NCB, which can be taken at the same time as the first step, is to be accepted as an **Issuing and Recognizing NCB**. Such an NCB is entitled to issue CB Test Certificates for the categories of equipment for which it recognizes CB Test Certificates. It should, however, be noted that an NCB may recognize CB Test Certificates for more categories of equipment than for which it is entitled to issue CB Test Certificates.

LGA QualiTest GmbH:

www.lga.de

- The LGA QualiTest GmbH is a 100 percent subsidiary of the internationally engaged TÜV Rheinland and is directly subordinate to the scope of business “products”.
- The TÜV Rheinland Group is an internationally leading service group. The enterprise was founded in 1872. At 360 locations in 62 countries approximately 12,500 people as an active network are available to our customers and business partners.
- The group places emphasis on the sustainable development of safety and quality within the area of conflict of the human being, technology and the environment. All this comprises the business areas industrial technology, education and consulting, products, living and healthiness, systems and mobility.
- Together we are available as a neutral third party for testing and certification and this means: Precisely right.

NORMAPME

www.normapme.com

- 10 YEARS NORMAPME
 - Created 1996
 - Conclusion of long Process
 - Berlin SME conference
 - Cost to UEAPME ~ 350 K €
 - EC contribution ~ 2 M € till 2005
 - Long work by UEAPME and NORMAPME staff

- ACTIVITIES
 - Participate in the work of 18 TCs
 - Co-ordinate SME positions
 - Inform SME organisations
 - Present positions on legislation affecting standardisation
 - Train SME experts
 - New projects

- RESULTS
 - Dentistry
 - Windows
 - Qualification of construction enterprises
 - Building anchors
 - ISO 22000
 - Recognition of work
 - Creation of active participation attitude by SMEs

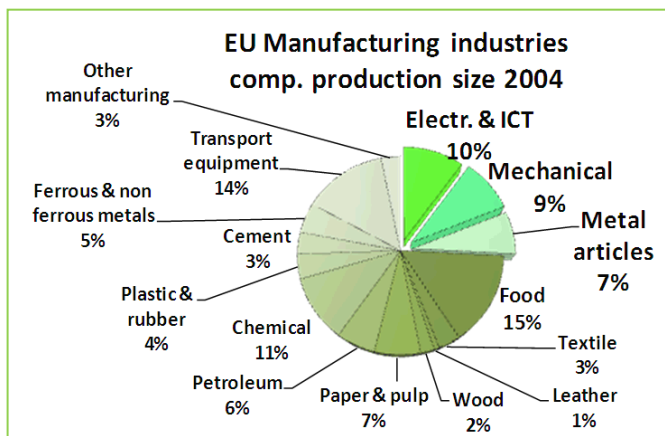
- PRESENT/FUTURE ISSUES
 - Services
 - New Approach Review
 - Accreditation of simple certification systems
 - Simplification of standards
 - Balanced representation in committees

•Voting System at CEN

ORGALIME

www.orgalime.org

- ORGALIME markets a quarter of EU products in the harmonised area and is one of the main sectors concerned by the New Legislative Framework
- Orgalime, the European Engineering Industries Association, speaks for 35 trade federations representing some 130,000 companies in the mechanical, electrical, electronic and metalworking industries of 23 European countries. The industry employs some **10.6 million people** in the EU and in 2006 accounted for an estimated **€1,779 billion of annual output**. The industry not only represents more than one quarter of the output of manufactured products but also a third of the manufactured exports of the European Union. It is an industry which, with an estimated growth of 6.6% in output in 2006, has been able to provide some 0.5% more jobs in 2006.
- The engineering industries are the enabling industries: they provide the technology, equipment and services for all industry and service sectors. Our clients include: our suppliers - the energy and primary transformation industries; the transport industry - the automotive, aeronautics and rail equipment producers; all the process industries - agro-industry and food industry in general, the chemical, petrochemical and plastics industries; consumers in the form of ICT products and household appliances; our own industry, our principal client.



The engineering industries are also the suppliers of the equipment and technology for the health, social and leisure sectors and for the area of the environment:

water, wastewater, air treatment etc. equipment which are essential to the creation and maintenance of a safer environment.

And if capital goods are the main engineering products, a

large part of what our industry manufactures is destined to the consumer

market: household appliances, telephony equipment, electrical and consumer electronics products.

- In brief the engineering industries are at the core of Europe's industrial fabric: all other production and service sectors depend on the equipment, technology, systems and innovations of our industry to flourish and to develop.
- The engineering industries are also the main industry regulated under the New Approach: out of 28 New Approach directives or based on New Approach principles, 20 regulate engineering products (Cf Annex II, p.64 of the Impact Assessment SEC(2007)173/2 accompanying the proposal). The terms of the proposed Regulation and Decision are therefore of vital importance to the continued competitiveness of our industry both on the internal and on our export markets.

TransElectro:

www.transelectro.com

- TransElectro A/S is a Danish company with a long history of constructing, producing and selling inductive components.
- These components are build into all kinds of electronic equipment.
- We are supplying to a wide range of manufacturers mainly in the following sectors:

Energy :

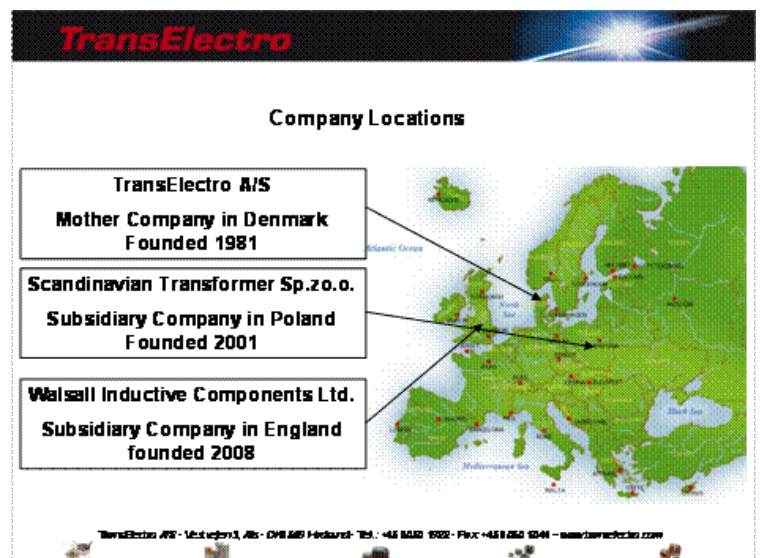
Wind, Solar and Fuel-cell energy, Automotive, and Off-shore.

Medical equipment:

Defibrillators, Monitors and Scanners.

Communication equipment:

Broadcast and Telecom.



Measurement and automation:
Robotics and Sensors.