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Joint Letter to

CEN and CENELEC

**on placing industry at the core of
European standardisation
governance**

18 February 2014

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The undersigning industry organisations are stakeholders of European standardisation. Most of them have signed co-operation agreements with CEN and/or CENELEC.

Last year, CEN and CENELEC changed their internal regulations without consulting any of their “*recognised stakeholders*” from the industry. We observe this with regret as in our view such internal regulations could significantly impact the future governance of both CEN and CENELEC.

Therefore, we call on CEN and CENELEC to confirm that they are fully available to contribute to an in-depth discussion on ways that could make their governance structure more responsive to industry needs.

We believe that it would be highly desirable to make the whole standardisation process and structure more effective and relevant to our markets and society at large. Our reasons are explained in detail hereafter:

Industry is European standardisation’s key stakeholder and main user of standards

Our industries contribute in several ways to the functioning of the European standardisation system. Industry experts are providing the technical content for European standards and chairing or convening the technical bodies within CEN and CENELEC. By the implementation of market relevant standards industry is generating the benefits of standards for business and society. Moreover the same industry provides the majority of revenue from standards sales that sustain the European standardisation system. In this way our industries cover about 95% of European standardisation’s total running costs¹.

Industry experts participate voluntarily in thousands of technical meetings every year at the expense of their companies, mainly because they expect that CEN and CENELEC will facilitate their work in developing standards that meet their professional needs for the manufacturing and supply of products and services.

In particular they expect European standardisation organisations to:

- provide a swift and cost-efficient service to support the development of quality standards that closely respond to companies’ market needs, including as a tool for innovation or in the field of services ;
- align European standards with international ISO and IEC standards, namely under the Vienna and Dresden agreements, with as little ‘E.U.’ deviations as possible;
- remove technical barriers to trade within the Internal Market, by fostering the removal of conflicting national standards and national deviations that are not fully justified and documented;

¹ Commission staff working paper “*Impact Assessment accompanying document to the Proposal for a Regulation on European Standardisation*” sec/2011/0671 final - cod 2011/0150

- facilitate the EU regulator's smooth acceptance of European standards that could simplify compliance with EU legislative requirements, thanks to the presumption of conformity principle.

Industry's contribution would be most effective if it were considered adequately at a political and technical level in the European Standardisation Organisations

The undersigned industries are interested in making European standardisation organisations more effective at meeting the above-mentioned objectives. Our motivation is to provide added-value knowledge and to actively contribute to CEN's and CENELEC's governing and technical bodies.

Such support would be even more effective, should industry's expectations be adequately reflected in CEN and CENELEC's decision-making process, both at a political and at a technical level.

Call for an in-depth discussion with all stakeholders, especially industry

The signatories of this joint letter deem it necessary to call CEN and CENELEC to consider having an in-depth discussion about their corporate and technical governance model with recognised stakeholders, especially industry. Even more so, if the partnership between CEN and CENELEC were to evolve towards a situation where stakeholders have no direct influence.

The purpose of this discussion would be to make sure that our industries' main expectations are duly taken into consideration with a view to helping to ensure that:

- the whole standardisation process and structure is as efficient, effective and relevant as possible so that each sector can meet markets' and society's needs;
- the European economy is becoming more competitive, by making market relevant standards and offering global market access.

With our best regards,

Electronically signed by the representatives of the following organisations

ORGALIME	The European Engineering Industries Association representing the interests of the Mechanical, Electrical, Electronic, Metalworking & Metal Articles Industries Adrian Harris, Director General <i>Coordinator:</i> Philippe Portalier: philippe.portalier@orgalime.org
AFECOR	The European Control Manufacturers Association Norbert Burger, General Secretary <i>Contact:</i> Norbert Burger: drburger@figawa.de
CECAPI	CECAPI is the European coordinating committee representing the Associations of Manufacturers of Electrical Installation Equipment within member states of the European Union Terry Rowbury, Secretary General <i>Contact:</i> Terry Rowbury: terry.rowbury@beama.org.uk

CECE	The Committee for European Construction Equipment Ralf Wezel, Secretary General <i>Contact:</i> Ralf Wezel: ralf.wezel@cece.eu
CECED	The European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers, representing the household appliance industry in Europe Paolo Falcioni, Director General <i>Contact:</i> Michał Zakrzewski: michal.zakrzewski@ceced.eu
CECIMO	The European Association of the Machine Tool Industries Filip Geerts, Director General <i>Contact:</i> Filip Geerts: filip.geerts@cecimo.eu
CECIP	The European Association for National Trade Organisations representing the European Manufacturers of Weighing Instruments Bárbara Morales Pascual, Secretary General <i>Contact:</i> Bárbara Morales Pascual barbara.morales.pascual@cecip.eu
CEMA	The voice of the innovators and developers of Agricultural Machinery in Europe Ulrich Adam, Secretary General <i>Contact:</i> Ulrich Adam: sg@cema-argi.org
COCIR	The European Coordination Committee of the Radiological, Electromedical and Healthcare IT Industry Nicole Denjoy, Secretary General <i>Contact:</i> Nicole Denjoy: denjoy@cocir.org
EFCEM	EFCEM represents European national associations whose members are manufacturers of commercial kitchen equipment Antonio Guerrini, Secretary General <i>Contact:</i> Keith Warren: keith.warren@cesa.org
EGMF	EGMF is the European Garden Machinery Federation representing equipment manufacturers in the garden, forestry and outdoor power equipment sector Guy Van Doorslaer, Secretary General <i>Contact:</i> Guy Van Doorslaer: guy.vandoorslaer@orgalime.org
ELVHIS	The European Leading Association of Radiant Gas Heaters Manufacturers Norbert Burger, General Secretary <i>Contact:</i> Norbert Burger: drburger@figawa.de
ESMIG	The European Smart Metering Industry Group providing knowledge and expertise on Smart Metering and related communications Willem Strabbing, Managing Director <i>Contact:</i> Willem Strabbing: wstrabbing@esmig.eu
EURALARM	The association of European manufacturers, installers and service providers of the electronic Fire Safety and Security industry Glen Dale, General Director <i>Contact:</i> Glen Dale: glen.dale@euralarm.org
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- FARECOGAZ** Association of European Manufacturers of Gas Meters, Gas
Pressure Regulators and Associated Safety Devices and Stations
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- FEM** The European Federation of Material Handling
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- LIGHTINGEUROPE** The industry association of European lighting manufacturers,
national associations and companies producing materials
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- PNEUROP** The European Association of Manufacturers of Compressors,
Vacuum Pumps, Pneumatic Tools and Air & Condensate Treatment
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- T&D EUROPE** The European Association of Electricity Transmission & Distribution
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