

## **KAN's mission statement**

### *About KAN*

In KAN, representatives of employers, employees, Germany's federal and state governments and the German Social Accident Insurance Institutions pool their interests and discuss them with DIN. KAN analyses standards and other outcomes of the work of the standards bodies, and in some cases other organizations engaged in standardization, where these outcomes impact directly or indirectly upon safety and health, at work and in the related sphere of educational establishments. (For the purpose of this document, these outcomes are termed here as "standardization"). Particular attention is paid in this context to coherent interplay between these documents on the one hand, and on the other, statutory regulations and the subordinate body of state technical rules and those of the German Social Accident Insurance applicable to safety and health at work and in educational establishments. Examples of KAN's activity are product safety and technical and organizational aspects of occupational safety and health. KAN submits its joint position on occupational safety and health to all responsible committees and bodies, and informs the wider public.

### *How we work*

KAN has a secretariat in which the social partners are represented directly. KAN also maintains an office in Brussels. The Secretariat's work is oriented towards KAN's basic documents, resolutions and position papers. The Secretariat possesses broad expertise, has close links to the experts, maintains its network at national, European and international level and leverages synergies between the stakeholders represented in KAN.

Through the Secretariat, KAN is involved in standardization activity: not only at national level, but also, where considered advantageous, directly at European and international level, and in other regulatory bodies. Where a lack of coherence exists between standardization and state statutory rules or regulations and those of the German Social Accident Insurance, KAN draws the relevant bodies' attention to the fact. To support all these concerns, KAN offers OSH experts and further affected stakeholder formats, such as discussions and workshops, for the provision of information, exchanging of views and formulation of a position.

KAN uses studies and expert reports to provide the stakeholders represented within it and the wider public with an overview of standardization topics relevant to occupational safety and health, and formulates measures based upon the studies and reports.

### *The value we add*

The occupational safety and health stakeholders use KAN as their recognized common voice. They further benefit from KAN's coordinated position being more effective than those of the individual stakeholders. KAN assists the stakeholders in bringing their resources to bear most effectively. It does so by monitoring standardization activity with a bearing on occupational safety and health, the associated legislative processes in Europe, and the body of secondary legislation in Germany, drawing attention to needs for action, communicating knowledge and serving as a central point of contact. As a moderator, it provides short communication channels between representatives of employers, employees, the German federal and state governments, the German Social Accident Insurance and further stakeholders.

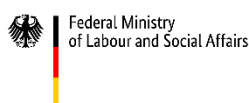
KAN provides all its stakeholders with better access to standardization activity and enables them to be integrated into the standards development process at an early stage and to greater effect. KAN also supports the social partners in organization and with content to enable them to participate effectively in standardization activity and to influence it. KAN is thus responding to the European Commission's corresponding call to the Member States since introduction of the New Approach, particularly in the sphere of harmonized standards.

KAN possesses a strong network among the stakeholders and is an acknowledged point of contact in Germany and Europe. It provides its knowledge free of charge in the form of publications, tools and events.

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