



30 YEARS OF KAN

Content



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Lead topic

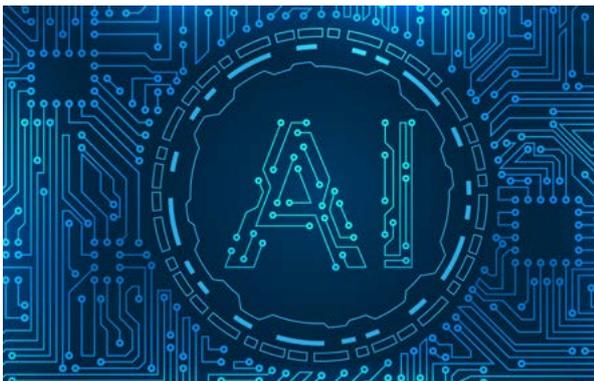
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KAN_Arbeitsschutz_Normung



Kommission Arbeitsschutz und Normung (KAN)



KAN – Kommission Arbeitsschutz und Normung



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Peer-Oliver Villwock

Chair of KAN

Federal Ministry of Labour
and Social Affairs (BMAS)

Together we stand: 30 years of KAN

In 1989, the European Union called on its Member States “to enable the social partners to have an influence at national level on the process of preparing and monitoring the harmonised standards.” At that time, standards were beginning to acquire greater importance for product safety in many areas. At the same time, the German government and the statutory accident insurance institutions in Germany had a common interest in retaining the prerogative to regulate occupational safety and health matters that they enjoyed under the OSH legislation. These two aspects were key reasons for the German government and the statutory accident insurance institutions to create the Commission for Occupational Health and Safety and Standardization in 1994.

Then, as now, employers, employees, the German federal and state governments and the statutory accident insurance institutions meet in KAN on equal terms and speak with one voice to influence standardization activity. One channel for this voice is DIN, itself a member of KAN. KAN has long involved manufacturers, employers’ and employees’ associations, government bodies and other stakeholders on a regular basis in its opinion-forming process, and is a well-known and respected entity not only in Germany, but also in other countries in Europe and internationally. Initially, KAN primarily addressed traditional product safety standards. Today, its focus lies on a wide range of new topics and developments in standardization policy: from artificial intelligence, climate change and the circular economy to the revision of the EU Standardisation Regulation. In view of these challenges, KAN will continue to be indispensable for the German stakeholders in OSH as an observer, moderator and their collective voice. «

30th anniversary of KAN

To mark its 30th anniversary, KAN, the Commission for Occupational Health and Safety and Standardization, hosted a symposium entitled “Occupational safety and health and standardization: between global harmonization and national interests” on 13 November in Berlin. Two keynote speeches and the panel discussions that followed focused in particular on the geopolitical challenges facing occupational safety and health and standardization.

Dr Stefan Hussy, Director of the German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV), welcomed around 120 guests to the DGUV’s Berlin site. He emphasized that KAN holds particular value for the DGUV: firstly, because it keeps track of all standards concerning occupational safety and health; secondly, because it represents the interests of occupational safety and health in standardization policy and activity.

Standardization has attracted growing attention in recent years, particularly on the international political stage. Some countries view it as a strategic political and economic instrument, and intervene accordingly in standardization activity in order to achieve their own national and economic objectives. In his keynote speech opening the first part of the event, Christoph Winterhalter, Chairman of the Executive Board of DIN (the German Institute for Standardization), explained the challenges facing standardization, in particular as a result of geopolitical developments.

This was followed by a panel discussion between Mr Winterhalter, Gisela Eickhoff (Harting Stiftung & Co. KG), Thomas Fischer (German Trade Union Confederation, DGB), Oliver Schollmeyer (Confederation of German Employers’ Associations, BDA) and Dr Thomas Zielke (German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, BMWK). The panel members were in broad agreement regarding the key role still played by Germany in standardization at ISO level. Germany holds a strong position in international standardization activity, said Zielke. “We account for 15 to 18 percent of the experts on these committees.” However, Mr Fischer, trade union representative, qualified this by saying that in view of the lack of transparency and poor access to the standardization process, societal interest groups and trade unions in particular lacked the resources needed for them to participate comprehensively, particularly given that the stage is now set to become increasingly international.

The second part of the event focused on the effects of the increasing internationalization of standardization and the associated potential risks for occupational safety and health. In his keynote speech, Peer-Oliver Villwock (German Federal



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Christoph Winterhalter (DIN), Gisela Eickhoff (Harting Stiftung & Co. KG), Thomas Fischer (German Trade Union Confederation – DGB), Oliver Schollmeyer (Federation of German Employers’ Associations – BDA), Dr. Thomas Zielke (Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection – BMWK) and Britta Ibold (German Social Accident Insurance – DGUV)



Welcome address by Dr Stefan Hussy, German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV)

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, BMAS; Chair of KAN), made the case for KAN's European and international networking activity. In the subsequent panel discussion with Séverine Brunet (Institut national de recherche et de sécurité, INRS, France), Marcus Hussing (DGUV), Dr Sebastian Schneider (German Trade Union Federation, DGB; alternating KAN Chair) and Kai Schweppe (Baden-Württemberg Industry and Employers' Association, UBW; alternating KAN Chair), Mr Villwock affirmed that "many countries envy Germany for all relevant stakeholders being represented in KAN". The panel participants agreed that owing to KAN and the principles governing standardization in occupational safety and health, the future bodes well for the status of occupational safety and health interests in standardization in Germany. However, activities must be developed further and strategically in order to assure the sustained and effective representation of occupational safety and health interests in national and international standardization activity in the future.

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Peer-Oliver Villwock (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs), Séverine Brunet (Institut national de recherche et de sécurité – INRS, France), Kai Schweppe (Baden-Württemberg Industry and Employers' Association, UBW), Dr Sebastian Schneider (German Trade Union Federation, DGB) and Marcus Hussing (German Social Accident Insurance – DGUV)

KAN legal opinion on standardization in workplace and building regulations law

Overlap and conflicts may arise between standardization in the area of German building regulations law on the one hand and the body of subordinate regulations under German workplace law, including the relevant standards, on the other. KAN has published a legal opinion that sheds light on this area of potential conflict.

In Germany, requirements pertaining to the building structures of workplaces are defined primarily in workplace law and building regulations law. These two areas of law pursue different objectives. Whereas workplace law serves to ensure workers' safety and health during the erection and operation of workplace premises, building regulations law has the general objective of preventing hazards in building structures. Contradictions may arise where these two areas of law overlap. From the perspective of workplace law, points of contact with building regulations law exist in particular in the following areas: fire safety, escape routes, circulation routes and areas, artificial lighting/daylight, accessibility, noise/sound insulation and ventilation.

A body of subordinate regulations, such as the ASR technical rules for workplaces and technical building regulations, exists in the areas of both workplace law and building regulations law. Specifications of this kind are indispensable guidelines for parties planning and erecting buildings. Owing to their specificity, technical rules and standards have a key function in practice.

Increasing numbers of technical standards (for example addressing planning, erection and commissioning) concern structures serving as workplaces and therefore falling within the scope of both building regulations law and workplace law. Examples include schools, laboratories, sewage treatment plants, fire stations and ambulance stations, and the accessibility of buildings and sports facilities. However, standards addressing building structures frequently fail to give consideration to national rules and regulations governing occupational safety and health, since experts from the two legal spheres are often not present on the committees concerned. This may lead to the requirements in standards deviating from or even contradicting national occupational safety and health regulations.

KAN legal opinion

To examine this area of conflict more closely, KAN commissioned a legal opinion¹. This systematically examined points of overlap or conflict between the two areas of law, and how these are to be evaluated in legal terms. In particular, it discusses the consequences for users of standards (e.g. employers, building owners, archi-



itects/planners) in cases where standards in the area of building regulations law conflict with German occupational safety and health regulations (e.g. ASRs, DGUV regulations) or standards setting out requirements for workplace premises.

The legal opinion shows that the problem of inconsistent requirements exists primarily at the subordinate regulatory levels. In practice, such conflicts are seen to be the exception rather than the rule. On the rare occasions where they do occur, however, they may have far-reaching legal consequences, particularly for the user of the body of standards and regulations.

Statutory rules governing conflicts between provisions – such as Section 3a (4) of the German Workplaces Ordinance (ArbStättV), which accords priority to other legislation and, in particular, to the building regulations law of the German regional administrations where this legislation extends beyond the requirements of the ArbStättV – may be of some benefit in these cases. However, a user-friendly and, above all, comprehensively legally watertight solution for conflicts between technical standards in building regulations law and technical rules in workplace law often does not exist. Whether such a solution exists depends primarily on the following factors:

- Differences between the document types with respect to their legal effect and binding legal status
- Which document type has the more far-reaching requirement
- Whether the conflicting requirements are incompatible with each other
- Practical and legal relevance of technical rules and standards (e.g. legislation governing contracts for work and labour, or tests of negligence)

Even involvement of the authorities does not always yield a clear solution to potential conflicts. The reason for this is that, on the one hand, responsibility is distributed over a number of authorities, and on the other, involvement of the occupational safety and health authorities in the planning approval process prior to erection of the workplace is not generally mandatory. The possible need for refurbishment owing to changes in requirements also gives rise to legal uncertainties comparable to those preceding erection of a building.

Relevance in practice and legal consequences

In German construction practice, DIN technical standards (irrespective of whether they are developed entirely at national level or adopted from the standards of international or European standards organizations), in particular, are understood and applied in a similar way to directly applicable law. They are also relevant under civil and criminal law. Their conflict with the body of technical occupational safety and health regulations therefore presents users with considerable problems. This is the case even when the technical standards have not been explicitly referenced by an act. Only when no conflict arises can those responsible in the field, such as owners of buildings, architects and employers, apply the technical rules and standards without restriction without exposing themselves to legal risk.

One of KAN's mandates is to support a practical, coherent and user-friendly body of occupational safety and health regulations. The results of the legal opinion are therefore intended to support positions, particularly during committee work, and to assure even greater coherence in the body of standards and regulations.

Full text of the legal report (in German, summary in English): www.kan.de/fileadmin/Redaktion/Dokumente/KAN-Studien/en/2024-12_KAN-Gutachten_Bauordnungs-und-Arbeitsstaettenrecht-en-fr.pdf



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1 Redeker Sellner Dahs (law office): Legal opinion on the coherence of the subordinate body of regulations under German building and workplace legislation and its significance for standardization (see box for link)

KAN adopts a position on the instrument of common specifications

For the event that European standards organizations fail to submit harmonized standards in response to existing standardization mandates, or submit standards that are inadequate, the European Commission has created a fallback solution in the form of “common specifications”. KAN has published a position paper on this instrument.

Common specifications are EU implementing acts¹. Their purpose is to ensure that where harmonized standards are inadequate or do not exist at all, the public interest, such as protection of safety and health, is nevertheless satisfied. Common specifications are technical specifications with the function of harmonizing product requirements, in the same way as standards.

Owing to the role played by harmonized standards in the Single Market, however, common specifications should serve only as a fallback solution. The Commission would have recourse to them where it had already mandated the European standards organizations with developing a specific harmonized standard but either the mandate had not been accepted, the requested standard had not been developed by a set deadline, or the standard delivered had failed to satisfy the mandate. Furthermore, common specifications must not be used where a harmonized standard satisfying the requirements of the standardization mandate already exists.

As yet, the essential criteria for the adoption of common specifications and the provisions for their development are to be found only in individual legal acts specific to certain sectors; examples of these are the Machinery Regulation² and the Artificial Intelligence Act³. A horizontal legal framework governing this instrument is not in place. The individual legal acts also contain no indication of how exactly the European Commission should develop the – technically challenging – common specifications, and how it should ensure availability of the expertise required for this purpose.

KAN's position

As the representative of German occupational safety and health interests in standardization, KAN therefore takes the following position:

- One cornerstone of standardization activity are rules governing the composition of the committees responsible for it, means for the stakeholders to participate in it, and procedures by which the working documents are approved for publication. In KAN's view, clear and legally binding criteria should also be applied and a transparent procedure followed for the development and adoption of common specifications.
- To prevent fragmentation and incoherence of the body of standards and regulations, the requirements and procedure for development, adoption and publication of common specifications must be governed in a single horizontal legal framework that is binding for all Single Market regulations.
- The instrument of common specifications should be used only in exceptional cases.
- Standards are developed on the basis of consensus, and ideally by

the parties who will actually use them. This engenders confidence in the final product. In addition, all societal stakeholders, including those representing occupational safety and health interests, are at liberty in principle to participate in drafting of the standards. The procedure for implementing acts also provides for a certain degree of stakeholder involvement; however, since common specifications govern technically demanding subject-matter, suitable experts and all stakeholders, including societal interest groups, should be involved at an early stage and their expertise taken into account.

The Commission stated in the 2022 EU Strategy on Standardisation⁴ that it was working towards a horizontal approach. This approach is to define criteria and procedures for when, and under what conditions, the Commission may be authorized to issue common specifications. It remains to be seen when and how the European Commission will assume this task.

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KAN position paper on the European Commission's instrument of common specifications: www.kan.de/fileadmin/Redaktion/Dokumente/Basisdokumente/en/EU/KAN_position_paper_Common_Specifications.pdf



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1 More detailed information: www.kan.de/en/publications/kanbrief/2/23/the-implementing-act-an-instrument-for-harmonized-implementation-of-eu-legislation.

2 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1230>

3 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202401689

4 EU Strategy on Standardisation, p. 5, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52022DC0031>

ISO 1999: not all quiet on the acoustics front

ISO 1999, Acoustics – Estimation of noise-induced hearing loss, last amended in 2013, is currently undergoing revision. Since some of the proposed amendments are not scientifically correct, KAN has commented on the revised draft.

ISO 1999 describes a mathematical model that can be used to calculate the anticipated hearing loss in persons who are exposed to noise and those who are not. The model requires knowledge of age-related hearing loss in groups of persons not exposed to noise, and of hearing loss in comparable groups of persons who have been exposed to noise and have never used hearing protection. These values were determined statistically for the model from a number of studies. Up to and including the current version of ISO 1999, published in 2013, the model drew upon hearing loss data for groups of persons not exposed to noise from ISO 7029:1984, Acoustics – Threshold of hearing by air conduction as a function of age and sex for otologically normal persons. This standard is based on data in a number of published studies, which was thoroughly reviewed. By use of this study data, ISO 1999 was able, almost 35 years ago, to describe the effect solely due to noise in the model, thereby enabling it also to be predicted for groups exposed to noise.

During the current revision of ISO 1999, reference was made to data from only two studies for the age-related hearing loss. In KAN's view, however, this data is unsuitable: the new model is based on a natural hearing loss for groups of persons not exposed to noise that is lower than that assumed in the past. The calculation described in the new ISO 1999 draft standard thus results in the estimated effect of noise upon human hearing in groups of persons exposed to noise being higher than that estimated by the current model. According to the new estimation, groups exposed over many years to noise at 80 dB would undergo additional hearing loss. Other studies, however, have shown that noise at or below 80 dB(A) does not lead to any perceptible shift in the hearing threshold, even after many years' exposure.

Consequences for occupational safety and health

Above certain exposure limits and action values, employers are required to take protective measures. When determining these values for European Directive 2003/10/EC regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical



agents (noise), the European Commission drew upon the 1990 version of ISO 1999. If the current draft were to be published as a standard and subsequently considered during a revision of the directive, this could result in the exposure limit values and action values being lowered significantly. At present, a mean daily noise exposure level of 85 dB triggers a requirement for protective measures for employees. The new draft standard would require protective measures to be taken at values as low as 77 dB, even though no validated scientific evidence exists for this requirement. Under certain circumstances, this value may be exceeded even during use of a vacuum cleaner, or in an aircraft cabin. Should no other measures be possible, employees would then have to wear hearing protectors.

Lowering of the values could therefore lead to protective measures being taken that from a scientific perspective are unnecessary. This has repercussions for several parties involved:

- Manufacturers would have to redesign their products to generate less noise.
- Employers would have to take technical, organizational or personal protective measures sooner.
- Employees may have to wear hearing protectors more often.

Employers must assess the hazards to workers at work and determine suitable measures. Measures must be reasonable, necessary and proportionate. The changes to the standard would result in the measures no longer satisfying this principle.

Comment by KAN

In summer 2024, KAN submitted a comment to DIN opposing the current draft of ISO 1999. In September 2024, the national mirror committee opposed the current draft of the standard, and DIN voted at ISO accordingly. The result of the ISO vote was that the present draft was rejected. However, discussions at international level are still in progress and it remains to be seen whether, and if so in what form, a revised draft will be published.

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Three questions for: Ilka Wölfle, Director of the German Social Insurance European Representation

In this interview, Ilka Wölfle talks about the functions of the German Social Insurance European Representation (DSV) and the topics it is currently addressing. The DSV represents the interests of the German pensions, health, long-term care and statutory accident insurance systems at European level.



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What shapes your daily work at the DSV, and what topics do you deal with?

Our office is located close to the EU institutions – right where our most important contacts are also to be found. One of our core tasks is to ascertain what legislative projects are in the pipeline and what the European Commission is planning for the future. We must then assess whether, and if so on what scale, these projects may impact on social insurance. We draw on a comprehensive network of personal contacts to exert influence on political decisions. To this end, we talk to politicians on a regular basis and offer our specialist expertise to support them in reaching decisions.

A good example is workplace exposure to asbestos. In December 2025, the proposed directive adopted last

year will lower the limit for asbestos fibres from the current value of 0.1 to 0.01 per cm³. To explain what is actually feasible in practice, we spoke with the European Commission in the run-up to the legislative process and with MEPs as it progressed. Above all, we attached importance to measurement of the new limit value actually being possible by means of the methods available. This required us to explain the finer technical points and details as simply and plausibly as possible, and in English, German and French. The Member States have until December 2029 to adapt their measurement methods; after this transitional period, electron microscopy will be the sole method to be used for detecting asbestos fibres.

It goes without saying that we also regularly discuss all relevant initiatives with the institutions we represent, and agree a common position on numerous topics. Within a single week, I may be discussing occupational safety and health issues one day and pharmaceuticals, medical devices, chemicals or social security for platform workers on the days that follow. Added to that are the numerous initiatives and discussions resulting from demographic change and the digital and green transitions. These include, for example, the question of how, in an ageing society, older people can be assured of an appropriate income.

What interests do you share with the occupational safety and health community and KAN?

Our interest in providing employees with safe and healthy workplaces is what links us to KAN. Standardization has an important function in assuring product safety, for example. However, we frequently have contact with standardization in other areas relating to occupational safety and health. For

example, like KAN, we're observing developments in the field of artificial intelligence, and we've discussed the amendment of the EU Machinery Regulation at length with KAN in recent years. KAN's expertise is valued highly in all European Commission initiatives relating to occupational safety and health, and we appreciate being able to just pick up the phone and call the Secretariat. I remember having many conversations some years ago regarding initiatives at European level to develop standards for healthcare services. There too, we developed joint activities by which we could steer the issue in the right direction. Our regular dialogue will continue to be important in this legislative period, since evaluation of the Standardisation Regulation is a matter of interest to the DSV as well as to KAN.

You're on the board of governors of ESIP, the European Social Insurance Platform. What role does ESIP play for Germany's social insurance?

ESIP unites 45 social insurance institutions in 17 European countries under one roof. This enables us to pool ideas and to find common solutions to challenges such as digitalization and climate change, despite differences in the structures of our social security systems. In addition, the EU institutions in Brussels, particularly the European Commission, are primarily interested in European opinions. For that reason, we present German interests to ESIP and then seek to join our partners in forming these interests into a European voice. ESIP therefore serves as the mouthpiece of social insurance in Europe.



Listen to the detailed interview on the German Social Insurance European Representation with Ilka Wölfle in Episode 19 of the KAN Podcast (in German). www.kan.de/podcast

Prevention of occupational accidents and diseases in Italy

INAIL is a key player in occupational safety and health in Italy. Through measures for awareness-raising, technical support, economic incentives and risk monitoring, it has created a prevention system that actively includes all stakeholders, from institutions and companies to employees.

When founded, INAIL¹, Italy's National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work, was solely an insurer. Over the decades, however, this not-for-profit organization has significantly expanded its remit, and makes a major contribution to the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases. It offers information, training, and support and advice on occupational safety and health, particularly for medium-sized, small and microenterprises. These tasks are carried out by a range of specialists in areas including engineering, chemistry, biology and geology. With their expertise and skills, they substantially shape the institute's prevention activity.

Financing and incentives for companies

INAIL's most effective instrument for supporting companies is arguably the ISI² funding project, through which several hundred million euros are made available each year for projects to improve occupational safety and health. Through ISI, INAIL awards grants, for example for the purchase of safer machinery, the reduction of risks during particularly hazardous work, the disposal of materials containing asbestos, and the introduction of occupational safety and health management systems and organizational and management models (MOGs). INAIL reimburses 65% of the companies' outlay. In 2023, a record sum of 508 million euros was paid out. A number of funding schemes for training and information programmes are also in place.

A further instrument is the waiving of a part of the insurance premium for companies that are particularly safe. The waiver ranges from 28% for the smallest companies to 5% percent for the largest. Through a bonus/penalty system, companies can receive further substantial premium reductions totalling up to 49%, depending on the incidence and severity of accidents in their operations.



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Promoting a culture of prevention

One pillar of INAIL's prevention work is the promotion of workplace safety through information campaigns, training courses and specialist publications. The training courses designed by INAIL are aimed at groups including managers, consultants and employee representatives, and are based on the concept of lifelong learning. The institute also works with schools, universities and other educational establishments to communicate knowledge on specific occupational risks and measures to reduce them.

Support and advice

In cooperation with employers' associations and trade unions, INAIL offers technical and specialist support, consulting on operational processes, and suggestions for technical innovations in the field of occupational safety and health, particularly for medium-sized, small and microenterprises. The institute also supports companies by promoting and validating best practices and guidelines, and develops sector-specific guidelines for the introduction of occupational safety and health management systems and the associated organizational and management models.

Particular mention should be made of specialist tools and apps for assessing and reducing risks, such as VPS, an instrument by which companies can assess the quality of their own occupational safety and health measures, and CO&SI, a program available free of charge on the INAIL website for calculating the cost of "unsafety"³.

Research, standardization and other activities

Numerous other INAIL activities contribute to the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases. Through scientific research, INAIL promotes the introduction of innovative safety technologies in companies: studies and research examine new risks in the world of work, for example in connection with new technologies, hazardous chemicals, emerging occupational diseases or changes to working environments.

Also worth mentioning is its supervision and IT management of SINP, the Italian national information system for prevention⁴. SINP unites numerous institutions and individuals involved in preventive and monitoring activity, and has the function of providing useful data for planning and implementing prevention measures and evaluating their efficacy.

INAIL is also active internationally: it serves as the Italian Focal Point for the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) and maintains links to the International Social Security Association (ISSA). Over 130 INAIL experts are active on over 250 national and international standards committees, making the institute one of the most important members of UNI, the Italian national standards organization. INAIL is also a supporting member of the Italian accreditation body Accredia.

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Central coordinator for technical
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1 www.inail.it/portale/it/multilingua/english.html

2 www.inail.it/portale/prevenzione-e-sicurezza/it/prevenzione-e-sicurezza/finanziamenti-per-la-sicurezza/incentivi-alle-imprese/bando-isi-2023.html

3 www.inail.it/portale/prevenzione-e-sicurezza/it/come-fare-per/migliorare-la-salute-e-la-sicurezza/software/co-si--costi-e-sicurezza.html

4 www.inail.it/portale/prevenzione-e-sicurezza/it/prevenzione-e-sicurezza/prevenzione-per-la-salute-e-la-sicurezza-sul-lavoro/sinp.html

CEN and CENELEC continue to receive advice on occupational safety and health issues

CEN (European Committee for Standardization) and CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization) have set up a number of bodies to advise them on specific areas of standardization or cross-disciplinary issues. The Sector Forum OHS (SECT/SF OHS) is an advisory body focusing on occupational safety and health. It provides an excellent opportunity for representatives of occupational safety and health interests to coordinate with experts from a number of European countries and to further the work of the European standards institutes. SECT/SF OHS is currently chaired by the Director of KAN; DIN holds responsibility for the secretariat.

In the course of a review of their structures and processes, CEN and CENELEC have also reviewed all their advisory bodies. One result is that CEN SECT/SF OHS will be transformed into a CEN/CENELEC strategic advisory group with a two-year term. The positive news for occupational safety and health: CEN and CENELEC regard OSH as a strategic issue, and wish to continue to seek advice on it.

DIN forms a Technical Coordination Board

The new Technical Coordination Board (TCB) is intended to have a pivotal function at DIN between the strategy groups and the standards committees, and to support efficient coordination of standardization activity in line with DIN's strategic objectives.

This will not be limited to setting out future key topics in standardization: the TCB is also to have the task of translating the targets defined by the DIN strategy groups into corresponding standardization work, for example by issuing recommendations and instructions for the standards committees. Finally, the work of the TCB is intended to support representation of German interests in European and international standardization activity.

The TCB's first meeting was held on 28 November 2024. Corrado Mattiuzzo, Head of the KAN Secretariat's Technical and Scientific Department, has been appointed to the TCB. The Technical Coordination Board is to have a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 21 members, who are appointed by the chairs of DIN's standards committees.

A new format at ISO: the Open Consultation

The International Standards Organization (ISO) is testing a new approach in the form of the Open Consultation Pro-

gramme. The Open Consultation, a committee format, differs from the traditional ISO committees in that persons outside the ISO system or standardization are also involved.

ISO Open Consultations take the form of one or more workshops. Their purpose is to determine the need for standardization in new, innovative subject areas. Open Consultations are also to define the expectations placed on standardization by the groups with an interest in the topic concerned. The documents developed in this process are not normative, but public information documents to be submitted to the ISO Council and containing recommended measures for standardization activity.

The starting point for an Open Consultation is a proposal by a member organization, which must be accepted by the ISO Council. This is followed by a public call for participation by which experts are recruited for the work.

www.iso.org/open-consultation.html

EU news flash

Implementation of the AI Act

The European Parliament has set up a cross-committee working group to monitor implementation of the AI Act (Regulation (EU) 2024/1689). The European AI Office set up recently by the European Commission will also play a key role in implementing the Act. A scientific body, yet to be established by the Commission, is to advise and support the European AI Office and the national market surveillance authorities in implementing and enforcing the AI Act.

Council adopts Cyber Resilience Act

On 10 October 2024, the Council of the European Union formally adopted the trilogue's compromise text on the Regulation on horizontal cybersecurity requirements for products with digital elements (Cyber Resilience Act). The new legislation introduces EU-wide cybersecurity requirements for the design, development, production, and making available of hardware and software products on the market

Press release of the Council: <https://t1p.de/q4dml>

Construction Products Regulation

The Council of the European Union adopted the compromise text of the Construction Products Regulation on 5 November 2024 following its approval by the European Parliament. The Regulation is expected to be published in the Official Journal of the EU and to enter into force 20 days later, before the end of the year.

Press release of the Council: <https://t1p.de/uzk7f>

Events



08.-09.01.25 » Mannheim

Seminar

CE-Kennzeichnung im Maschinen- und Anlagenbau

VDI Wissensforum

www.vdi-wissensforum.de/weiterbildung-maschinenbau/ce-kennzeichnung

16.01.25 » Online

Webinar

Introduction to CEN-CLC/JTC 23 - Horizontal Topics for PPE CEN-CENELEC

www.cencenelec.eu/news-and-events/events/2024/2025-01-16-webinar-jtc23

29.-30.01.25 » Essen/Online

Fachkonferenz

Arbeitsschutztagung 2025

Haus der Technik

www.hdt.de/arbeitsschutztagung-h020011286

20.02.25 » Online

Webinar

Digitale Ergonomie

AUVA

<https://auvkurs.at> Digitale Ergonomie

06.-07.03.25 » Friedrichshafen

Fachkongress

12. Tage der Ergonomie

ECN – Ergonomie Kompetenz Netzwerk e.V.

www.e-c-n.de/kongresse/tde_ankuendigung_1.htm

10.-13.03.25 » Online

Crashkurs

EU-Maschinenverordnung vs. Maschinenrichtlinie

VDI Wissensforum

www.vdi-wissensforum.de/weiterbildung-maschinenbau/eu-maschinenverordnung-vs-mrl

11.03.25 » Linz (A)

Seminar

Ergonomisch gestalten – Sicher, gesund, wirtschaftlich

AUVA

<https://auvkurs.at> Ergonomisch gestalten

19.03.25 » Wien (A)

Seminar

Industrieroboter

AUVA

<https://auvkurs.at> Industrieroboter

25.-27.03.25 » Aachen

Frühjahrskongress

Arbeit 5.0: Menschzentrierte Innovationen für die Zukunft der Arbeit

Gesellschaft für Arbeitswissenschaft e.V.

<https://gfa2025.de>

02.-03.04.25 » Essen/online

Seminar

Grundlagen der Maschinen- und Anlagensicherheit

Haus der Technik

www.hdt.de Anlagensicherheit

20.-22.05.25 » Wien

Kongress

Forum Prävention International

AUVA

<https://auva.at/veranstaltungen/forum-praevention-international-2025>

16.-19.06.25 » Newcastle (GB)

Konferenz

OH2025: The Workplace Health Protection Conference

BOHS

www.bohs.org/events-networking/events/upcoming-events

15.-17.07.25 » Dresden

Fachveranstaltung

DGVU-Fachgespräch “Lithium-Ionen-Akkus & eMobility”

IFA/BGHM/FB ETEM/FBHL

www.dguv.de/ifa/veranstaltungen/aktuelle-veranstaltungen

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