

# **Newsletter March 2024**

## Discover the essential training courses offered by the BEC

Since 2023, the BEC has been committed to offering a variety of high-quality training courses designed to enrich your skills and knowledge in the world of standardization. ity We are pleased to inform you that a diverse selection of training courses is still available in the coming months. These courses are carefully designed to cover a wide range of relevant topics.



Whether you're a seasoned professional looking to sharpen your skills, or a newcomer to the world of standardization looking to acquire new knowledge, we have training options tailored to your specific needs. Our expert trainers provide interactive and rewarding sessions.

Find out which training courses you can attend by clicking here.

### Interested in Conformity Assessment? Join CBCE-BOCE



Within IEC the Conformity Assessment Board (CAB) is responsible for the management and supervision of IEC conformity assessment activities, including oversight of the four IEC Conformity Assessment (CA) Systems <u>www.iec.ch/conformity-assessment/casystems</u> :

- IECEE is the IEC System of Conformity Assessment Schemes for Electrotechnical Equipment and Components
- IECRE is the IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Renewable Energy Applications
- IECEx is the IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres
- IECQ is the IEC Quality Assessment System

At national level CEB-BEC has established the "Belgian Committee for the conformity assessment of products in the electrotechnical sector" (CBCE-BOCE) as dedicated body for conformity assessment to follow up IEC's activities in this field and to collect feedback on CAB' initiatives and documents. Those interested to join CBCE-BOCE are invited to send a message to <u>centraloffice@ceb-bec.be</u>

# Navigating the Transition: Standards Powering the Journey of Alternative Fuel Infrastructure

In light of recent significant regulatory changes within the European Union impacting the transport sector, such as the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR), ReFuelEU and FuelEU Maritime, the role of European standardization becomes increasingly critical in facilitating the transition towards the deployment of alternative fuels.

On the 18 April 2024, <u>CEN and CENELEC</u> will be organizing a workshop to gather key stakeholders and sectorial experts from the road, maritime, aviation, and railways industries to delve into the challenges, opportunities, and solutions surrounding this transition.

Check out the programme When: Thurday 18-04-2024 - 09:30 until 16:30 Where: Stanhope Hotel, Brussels Contact: Marc-Antoine Carreira Da Cruz



## Conformity assessment on the radar



Conformity assessment refers to any activity that determines whether a product, system, service and sometimes people fulfil the requirements and characteristics described in a standard or specification. The topic 'Conformity assessment' is clearly of interest to many organisations as demonstrated by the number of participants (32) to our IEC conformity assessment seminar organized in February 2024.

In the first part of the seminar Dan Sullivan (IEC) introduced IEC's activities on conformity assessment (CA) and highlighted how the four IEC CA systems (i.e. IECEE, IECRE, IECEx, IECQ - more info at <u>https://www.iec.ch/conformity-</u>

assessment/ca-systems) facilitate access to markets by the mutual recognition of conformity

assessment results. In the second part of the seminar Christian Maes (SGS Belgium) presented practices and shared experiences of IECEE. In IECEE, the scheme for Electrotechnical Equipment and components, SGS CEBEC is a major player as it is in the top 10 worldwide to issue certificates. Many interesting questions were raised on which discussions continued during the informal networking moment.



In case you were unable to attend the seminar and are interested to receive a copy of the presentations, please send an e-mail to <u>laurence.duchateau@ceb-bec.be</u>

#### European Copper Institute to host TC 64 and TC 82 JWG32

European Copper Institute Copper Alliance In February, the European Copper Institute (ECI) hosted a three-day JWG32 work meeting at their facility in Brussels. JWG32 is a joint working group between TC 64 and TC 82. JWG32 is answering the solar photovoltaic industry and the electrical

contractors need to have only one document gathering all requirements on electrical installation within the IEC 60364 frame. JWG32 currently develops Edition 3 of IEC 60364-7-712 for Low voltage electrical installations. Part 7-712 regards the requirements for special installations or locations – Solar photovoltaic (PV) power supply systems. The current CDV received 401 comments requiring the team to meet frequently at hosted locations to resolve the comments. The FDIS is expected in Q3, and the final release to be issued in Q1 of 2025.

Twelve experts attended the Brussels' meeting. Their delegation ranges from PV module and invertors manufacturers, manufacturers of safety devices and installers providing a holistic and comprehensive community of experts to develop this IEC 60364-7-712. ECI provided the meeting facilities, and they offered an evening dinner at which IEC President Jo Cops attended and expressed appreciations for the work done during a speech. The experts could also enjoy a Belgian beer tasting facilitated by a Zythologist.

The BEC would like to show gratitude to ECI for the hospitality, providing the use of their facilities and making the stay for experts special.

About ECI: Based in Brussels, the European Copper Institute (ECI) is the leading advocate for the copper industry in Europe. https://copperalliance.org/regional-hubs/europe/ ECI are member of TC8, TC20, TC64, TC82, TC111 and CEN/CLC JTC10

# The ECJ does not question the copyright protection of Harmonized Standards – however, there is an overriding public interest in their disclosure

5 March 2024, the European Court of Justice (ECJ) delivered its judgment in Case C-588/21 P concerning public access to four Harmonized Standards under Regulation 1049/2001.

The judgment does not call into question that Harmonized Standards are subject to copyright protection.

The ECJ finds that there is an overriding public interest in the disclosure of Harmonized Standards

under Regulation 1049/2001, and therefore annuls the European Commission's decision to refuse access to the four standards requested.

CEN and CENELEC, as two of the official European Standardization Organizations (ESOs), and their members – the National Standardization Bodies and



National Committees in 34 European countries – welcome that the Court does not follow the main argument of the applicants and the Advocate General, who had proposed to exclude copyright protection for Harmonized Standards in general. Nor does the judgment call into question the fact that access to documents under Regulation 1049/2001 is without prejudice to any existing copyright rules which may limit the right of third parties to reproduce or use released documents.

The success of European Standardization has been made possible by the expertise and voluntary contributions from engaged stakeholders from different backgrounds, such as business, government, consumers, trade associations, academia, and research.

This inclusive system ensures that standards are easy to implement, constantly adapted to the state of the art, and largely identical to international standards. As such, they provide European businesses with a timely and accurate solution to access the Single and global market, ensure conformity with European legislation, and increase their competitiveness.

Based on this, the CEN and CENELEC whole community will continue to work closely with the European Commission and all relevant stakeholders involved in European standardization to make our system fit for the future, to the benefit of the Single Market and Europe's businesses and citizens.

# SAVE THE DATE - 22 & 23 May 2024 - European harmonized standards: a journey from legal framework to OJEU citation

Please block in your calendars the dates of 22 and 23 May 2024 for 2 seminars in Brussels, dedicated

to the development of European harmonized standards, from the legal framework to the OJEU citation.

The seminars will provide a complete background on the development of harmonized standards, including highlight on critical elements from



CEN and CENELEC's Internal Regulations Part 3, explain regional (Single Market) and international (ISO/IEC) interwork and challenges, deal with the legal framework, and as well share best practices and invite experts to share their knowledge.

The European Commission, the HAS contractor as well as HAS consultants will contribute to the seminars and share their knowledge and expertise.

The seminars will focus on four sectors having the highest volume of harmonized standards, therefore the highest impact on industry and SMEs:

- 1. Machinery,
- 2. Health,
- 3. Low Voltage,
- 4. Electromagnetic Compatibility.

These seminars will take place in Brussels. The morning will be dedicated to common horizontal topics, while breakout sessions will be held in the afternoon to tackle **sector specific topics**.

22 May 2024 will be dedicated to Machinery and Health.23 May 2024 will be dedicated to Low Voltage and Electromagnetic Compatibility.

On top of the possibility to learn and share experience with peers, it will be a great opportunity for **networking**.

For any question, you can refer to the CCMC Harmonized Standards Compliance Team, at <u>hsc@cencenelec.eu</u>

## **Overview of coming open CENELEC and IEC Governance positions**

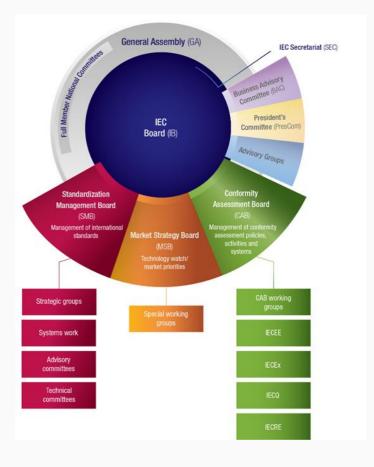
In order to allow a timely preparation of your eventual candidacy, please find below a timeline of future open CENELEC and IEC Governance positions FOR Belgian candidates.

#### **CENELEC**

2025 election CENELEC VP
Finance and VP Policy
2025 election of one board
member (if Belgium proposes a
VP Finance or VP Policy, this
seat will be taken by this
person)

#### **IEC**

2024 election of president and VP Market Strategy Board chair
2024 election of 2 board members
2026 election of 3 board members
2026 election of 1 Business
Advisory Committee member
2026 election of 3
Standardisation Management
Board members
2026 election of 2 Conformity
Assessment Bord members



# BEC takes the lead: Belgian experts acting as secretaries on the

## international standardization scene.

The main standardization activities happen through international organizations: On one hand the "International Electrotechnical Committee", IEC, on the other hand the "European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization", CENELEC (or even shorter: CLC).

For both organizations, BEC is the one and only member for Belgium.

One of the longest-standing experts in BEC is Professor Peter Van den Bossche from the VUB (Free University of Brussels), who is in charge of the secretariat of both IEC 69 and CENELEC 69X, dealing with standardization in the field of "Electrical power/energy transfer systems for electrically propelled road vehicles and industrial trucks". In the case of IEC 69, Professor Maitane Berecibar, also from the VUB, is acting as the assistant secretary.

Another group dealing with electrical vehicles is the IEC 125 on e-Transporters. Bram Rotthier, technical director at LEVA-EU (one of the European Federations representing small electric vehicles) assumes the secretariat of IEC 125 on behalf of BEC. François Rummens, technical officer at BEC, is

the assistant secretary. For the corresponding group at CENELEC, SR 125, François is also the secretary.

The secretariat of CENELEC 36A on "Insulated bushings" is done on behalf of BEC by Rob Cardigan from Sicame.

In the field of "audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment and related sub-systems", the CENELEC TC 100X is supported by BEC with Jean-Luc Detrez (Decalogics) as the secretary. In the IEC, TC 23 on "electrical accessories", two long-standing BEC experts are assuming the secretariat: Wim de Kesel (Legrand) as the secretary and Rony Haentjens (Niko) as the assistant secretary. Wim de Kesel is also assuming the secretariat of the corresponding CENELEC SR 23 on behalf of BEC.

#### **Our Young Professionals 2023**

During the last general assembly of the IEC in late October 2023, the CEB was represented by two experts in the Young Professionals Programme. They were Bram Rotthier, Head of Department Energy Technology at Odisee University of Applied Sciences, and Thomas Wauters, Validation Engineer at Niko. Here's what they thought of the programme:



**Bram Rotthier:** "Summarizing the 2023 IEC YP workshop in four words would be "international, inspiring, online and interactive".

Each country was allowed to select two young professionals to participate in this YP workshop. I was very happy to be selected as one of the Belgian participants. This approach resulted in a very international mix of young people. During the workshop, we were therefore immersed in a very diverse context. In discussions, it was very inspiring to interact with people with these diverse backgrounds. Not only language

and culture were different, but also standardization experience. It soon became clear that work in standardization is not as standardized as you might expect different TCs have different ways of organizing work, discussing, or making decisions.

This workshop was originally planned in Egypt during the IEC general meeting but was last minute convert to on online meeting due to the conflict in the region. This is a pity because it would have been great to meet these YPs from all over the globe in person. But it was impressive how IEC succeeded to quickly organise an interactive online alternative (thank you, Aristea!). In the recurrent break-out sessions, we worked in small groups around various themes. I was divided into the group to work on a strategy to ensure that 'standards are developed to protect all genders'. The presentation of our ideas to the ISO/IEC Joint Strategic Advisory Group working on this topic was a nice ending to this YP workshop. I certainly gained experience here that will contribute to my further work in standardization."



**Thomas Wauters:** "Working in standardization comes with a lot of challenges and new aspects, both technical and non-technical. Each year the IEC organizes the Young Professionals program, a week-long event held alongside the General Assembly meeting, to bring together young professionals and IEC experts to learn from each other and cooperate of various standardization topics. I had the privilege of representing Belgium during this event, to work on and learn about various standardization topics along with young professionals from 48 countries. It was a true honour to work with so many talented and interesting young people.

During this event we had the opportunity to gain first-hand

experience in the workings of the IEC and engage with technical experts from around the world. The program allowed us to directly interact with IEC leaders, who were willing to answer all our questions and share their extensive knowledge and advise. We got the chance to work in small groups on a project which was close to us, specifically "When and How best to introduce students to Standardization". We even got to present our projects to the General assembly meeting, allowing us to actively contribute to the working of the IEC. Experts from the technical committees gave sessions about their expertise which gave us a better understanding on the how and why of the standards we use.

I would like to express my gratitude to the BEC and IEC for making this possible. Special thanks to the organizer who managed to create such an engaging and interesting event despite the last-minute change to a virtual format. I am eager to use the things I learned and contribute the field of standardization."

#### Save the date BEC GA 2024



The BEC General Assembly 2024 is planned on Friday 31 May 2024 from 15:30 till 17:30 in the BEC meeting room, Bd. Auguste Reyerslaan 80, 1030 Brussels.

#### **BEC's upcoming meetings**

CEB-BEC 21 - Secondary cells and batteries - March 8, 2024
CEB-BEC INCERT WG1 - Editing - March 13, 2024
CEB-BEC 64 - Electrical installations and protection against electric shock - March 19, 2024

CEB-BEC 111 - Environment - March 22, 2024 CEB-BEC INCERT - Building Committee - March 26, 2024 CEB-BEC INCERT - Mark Committee - March 26, 2024 CEB-BEC 121 - Switchgear and controlgear and their assemblies for low voltage - March 26, 2024 CEB-BEC 47 - Semiconductor devices - March 27, 2024 CEB-BEC 78 - Live working - March 28, 2024 CEB-BEC 88 - Wind turbine systems - April 15, 2024 CEB-BEC 120 - Electrical Energy Storage (EES) Systems - April 16, 2024 CEB-BEC INCERT WG2 - Strategy - April 16, 2024 CEB-BEC 34 - Lamps and related equipment - April 17, 2024 CEB-BEC 20 - Electric cables (high-voltage and low-voltage) - April 19, 2024 CEB-BEC 62 - Electrical equipment in medical practice - April 19, 2024 CEB-BEC INCERT TC WG3 - T 030 Video Installer Certification - April 25, 2024 CEB-BEC 61 - Safety of household and similar electrical appliances - April 30, 2024 CEB-BEC 106 - Methods for the assessment of electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields associated with human exposure - May 6, 2024 CEB-BEC 9 - Electrical equipment and systems for railways - May 6, 2024 CEB-BEC 44 - Safety of machinery - Electrotechnical aspects - May 17, 2024 CEB-BEC CEN-CLC-JTC 10 - Energy-related products - Material Efficiency Aspects for Ecodesign -May 17, 2024 CEB-BEC SMB-BE - Technical standardization management committee - May 22, 2024 CEB-BEC 205 - Home and building electronic systems (HBES) - May 27, 2024 CEB-BEC 59 - Performance of household electrical appliances - May 28, 2024 CEB-BEC 65 - Industrial-process measurement and control - May 29, 2024 CEB-BEC 9 - Electrical equipment and systems for railways - May 31, 2024

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