

BUSINESS PLAN

CEN/TC 48 DOMESTIC GAS-FIRED WATER HEATERS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Scope of CEN/TC 48 "Domestic gas-fired water heaters": Preparation of European standards for domestic gas-fired water heaters, i.e. instantaneous water heaters and storage water heaters, excluding central heating boilers derived from these appliances and also excluding appliances combining these two preceding types.

Business Environment:

The European market of gas-fired water heaters is divided into two parts depending on the kind of production of hot water:

- instantaneous water heaters (around 15 European manufacturers),
- storage water heaters (around 10 European manufacturers).

Interested parties in the standardisation process include manufacturers, test houses, certification bodies, public authorities, European Trade Associations, users or consumers Associations. Participation of industries is well established with manufacturers and gas distributors, both through inclusion in national delegations and through membership of industrial organisations.

Benefits:

To create the necessary standards including the desired level of safety and rational use of energy as recommended by European regulation.

- 2 major standards were adopted and upgraded according to the technical and safety requirements evolutions
- Free trade of water heaters within and outside of European territory
- The improvements of the quality and safety of the products
- Industry's image enhancement

Priorities:

- Safety and environmental issues
- Development of the market
- Sharing expertise and experience for the growing international activities

1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

Political, economical, social, technical, legal and international factors that either directly require some or all of the standardization activities proposed by the CEN/TC, or significantly influence the way these activities are carried out are the following:

Political factors:

Energy efficiency is one of the major subject within European Union who puts in place all necessary measures in order to increase the efficiency at all stages of the energy chain: generation, transformation, distribution and final consumption. These measures must be considered in production of gas-fired water heaters.

Legal factors:

The sector of all gas appliances is subjected to the European Directive 2009/142/EC "Gas Appliances" in which standards provide presumption of conformity. This directive defines the essential requirements to ensure the safety and health, and to promote energy conservation in utilisation.

In addition, the products are subjects to Eco-design requirements which are defined in the ENER Lot Regulations 811/2013 and 812/2013 and its corresponding standardisation requests (Mandate M/535 & M/534).

Economical factors

From economical point of view, one of the aims of the CEN/TC 48 work is to help ensure the safe operation and use of gas-fired water heaters under realistic economical conditions.

Technical factors

The market of gas-fired water heaters comprises developments of products, especially concerning comfort aspects. So, the specifications need to be capable of accommodating these technical developments.

International trade and standardization aspects

For the realisation of a common European market, it is essential that existing obstacles to free trade are dismantled for water heaters which are suitable for cross-border commerce. The European standardization process is considered as an important means of dismantling existing trade barriers.

Differences between world and European situations concerning water heaters would make it difficult to achieve common standards in a short time, but harmonization of ISO and CEN standards remains a long-term goal.

1.2 Quantitative Indicators of the Business Environment

Data not available.

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC

Participation of industries is well established with manufacturers and gas distributors, both through inclusion in national delegations and through membership of industrial organizations.

The interested parties see the main benefits of the standardization as follows :

- the abolition of technical obstacles to trade; exportation of water heaters in and out the European territory,
- the improvements of the quality of products,
- the further enhancement of the industry's image.

This interest could be seen by the fact than since more than 30 years, many delegations and experts participate actively to the work of the TC.

The economic value of the standards developed by CEN/TC 48 cannot be directly related to the economic value of the production and trade of gas-fired water heaters, but rather more related to the risks and related costs of the failure of these water heaters.

Most of the draft standards are mandated and directly address the essential safety requirements of the EU Directive 2009/142/CE relating to appliances burning gaseous fuels.

3 PARTICIPATION IN THE CEN/TC

All the CEN national members are entitled to nominate delegates to CEN Technical Committees and experts to Working Groups, ensuring a balance of all interested parties. Participation as observers of recognized European or international organizations is also possible under certain conditions. To participate in the activities of this CEN/TC, please contact the national standards organization in your country.

4 OBJECTIVES OF THE CEN/TC AND STRATEGIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT

4.1 Defined objectives of the CEN/TC

The main objectives of the TC are:

- to elaborate and maintain European Standards for gas-fired water heaters (Instantaneous and storage production) that are relevant to the essential requirements of EU Directives.
- to adjust the work program to meet market needs.

4.2 Identified strategies to achieve the CEN/TC's defined objectives.

The Technical Committee is responsible for ensuring that the national standpoints communicated by delegations from different countries are taken into consideration. It endeavours to reach consensus where viewpoints differ.

As basis of European standardization for gas-fired water heaters CEN/TC 48 has published 2 major documents:

- one for instantaneous production of hot water (EN 26: 2015)
- the other for storage production of hot water (EN 89:2015).

Recently launched amendments to EN 26 and EN 89 are for objectives to respond to eco-design requirements and GAD inconsistencies pointed ou by the Euroepan Commission.

CEN/TC48 has one active working group:

- **CEN/TC 48/WG 1 Revision of EN 26 and EN 89**

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CEN/TC 48 plenary meetings are organized if necessary. Further voting and exchange of information within the TC takes place by correspondence. The technical committee periodically reviews priorities and its work programme to meet market needs.

The WG is responsible for producing the draft standards for their defined product areas and presenting results to the TC for approval. The WG organizes their work and the necessary meeting themselves.

In addition, CEN/TC 48 maintains some liaisons with others CEN and ISO Technical Committees:

- **CLC/TC 216** **Gas detectors**
- **AEGPL** European Association of LPG
- **AFECOR** European Control Manufacturers Association
- **ANEC** European consumer voice in standardisation
- **ECOS** European Environmental Citizens Organisation for Standardisation
- **MARCOGAZ** Technical Association of the European Natural Gas Industry

The coordination of the CEN/TC activities is handled by:

- **The chairman** Mr François Vuillaume
- **The secretary** Ms Joanna LAURENT from AFNOR (joanna.laurent@afnor.org)

4.3 Environmental aspects

The major trends are towards increased efficiency and reduced emissions:

- Standardization of test methods for the determination of emission to the air
- Standardization of efficiency requirements

5 FACTORS AFFECTING COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CEN/TC WORK PROGRAMME

Much of detailed drafting is carried out by a small number of individual experts. Progress is therefore dependent on the limited time available to these experts.

To make standardization more efficient, and to reduce the outlay of time and money for the experts, these must ensure that their national committees agree with decisions made within working groups to ensure a positive outcome at formal vote.

In addition, the efficiency in standardization could be improved by greater use of the Internet in the draft, review and acceptance stages.