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BUSINESS PLAN CEN/TC 62 INDEPENDENT GAS-FIRED SPACE HEATERS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Scope of CEN/TC 62 is the "Preparation of harmonized standards for independent gas-fired space heaters and decorative fuel effect appliances, excluding dedicated LPG appliances".

Harmonized standards are one way of showing compliance with essential requirements of European Directives and Regulations. All of the current work items are mandated by the EC in support of the essential requirements of the Gas Appliance Directive (GAD), 2009/142/EC, and for some of the standards under our remit, the basic requirements of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), (EU) 305/2011. In addition, the standards will take into account the Ecodesign Directive (2009/125/EC) and the Directive 2010/30/EU on energy labels when the Regulations have been finalized for local space heaters.

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1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics describe the business environment of the industry sector, products, materials, disciplines or practices related to the scope of this CEN/TC, and they may significantly influence how the relevant standards development processes are conducted and the content of the resulting standards:

As for the political and legal environment, the purpose of the EU Directive 2009/142/EC relating appliances burning gaseous fuels is to eliminate barriers to trade and to maintain or improve the level of protection of manufacturers and users. The Directive requests that appliances burning gaseous fuels meet the Essential Safety Requirements as specified in Annex 1 of the Directive. The importance of this work has been recognised by the Commission by its decision to mandate the work of this committee.

Risks and problems related to the safety of space heaters are relevant across Europe and the aim of CEN/TC 62 is to have optimal alignment across Europe. The feasibility of European alignment is dependent on aspects of legislation and political factors that differ across Europe (e.g. responsibilities of governmental bodies versus manufacturers).

The standards created by CEN/TC 62, contribute to safe and efficient use of space heaters through the exchange of information between all those involved.

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

1.2 Quantitative Indicators of the Business Environment

The following list of quantitative indicators describes the business environment in order to provide adequate information to support actions of the CEN /TC:

The market for the appliances covered by CEN/TC 62 is varied, depending on appliance type. For instance, the market for gas-fired convection heaters is quite large, whereas for decorative fuel effect appliances, independent gas-fired flueless space heaters and gas-fired insets for heating more than one room is varied within Europe. The focus of CEN/TC 62 is the development of standards for the safety and rational use of energy.

The economic value of the standards developed by CEN/TC 62 cannot be directly related to the economic value of the production and trade of gas-fired independent space heaters, but rather more related to the risks and related costs of the failure of these heaters.

The over-riding 'safety' nature of the committee's work items is reflected in that the draft standards are mandated and directly address the essential safety requirements of the EU Directive 2009/142/EC relating to appliances burning gaseous fuels.

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2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC

Interested parties in the standardization process include manufacturers, test houses, public authorities and European Trade Associations. They see the main benefits of the standardization as follows:

- the abolition of technical obstacles to trade which arise from mutually contradictory national guidelines;
- providing a common approach of claiming compliance with the essential requirements of appropriate Directives and Regulations, i.e. Gas Appliance Directive (GAD), and Ecodesign Directive and the Energy Labels Directive.
- the improvements of the quality and compatibility of products;
- the further enhancement of the industry's image.

Export and import space heaters in, out and across the European territory.

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

To revise European Standards for gas-fired independent space heaters and decorative fuel effect appliances, particularly for:

- Safety and rational use of energy for independent gas-fired convection heaters
- Safety of decorative fuel effect gas appliances
- Safety and rational use of energy for independent gas-fired convection heaters incorporating a fan to assist transportation of combustion air and/or flue gases
- Safety and rational use of energy for open fronted gas-fired independent space heaters
- Safety and rational use of energy for independent gas-fired flueless space heaters for nominal heat input not exceeding 6 kW
- Gas-fired insets for heating more than one room

To draft suitable standards that are relevant to the essential and basic requirements of EU Directives and Regulations.

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

CEN/TC 62 has approved a work programme for the standardization of independent gas-fired space heaters and decorative fuel effect appliances.

In accordance with the work programme of CEN/TC 62, Working Groups 1 and 2 have been disbanded as their tasks have been completed. A Chairman's Advisory Group, WG 3, has been created to address the broader issues within CEN/TC 62; including:

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 the Commission's concerns regarding issues and inconsistencies between the Essential Requirements in the GAD and the suite of standards under the remit of CEN/TC 62;

 the implications of the Ecodesign Directive and Ecodesign Directive and the Energy Labels Directive on the suite of standards under the remit of CEN/TC 62.

A new working group will be created for the revision of the standards when the Gas Appliance Regulation is in place. The working group will also take into account the Ecodesign Directive and Energy Labels Directive as part of the revisions.

CEN/TC 62's active participants are delegates and experts from Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland and United Kingdom. CEN/TC 62 plenary meetings are normally held twice a year. The meetings are conducted in English. 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 conditions. The committee uses Livelink to circulate all of its documents, at both TC and Working Group levels.

CEN/TC 62 has agreed that it will initially revise those standards that are not in the scope of the Ecodesign Directive, i.e. EN 509 and EN 14829. Once the Ecodesign Regulation is published and the appropriate mandate is available, CEN/TC 62 will revise its standards EN 613, EN 1266 and EN 14438.

CEN/TC 62 has a Decisions Committee which sits during the plenary sessions.

Liaisons

At present CEN/TC 62 maintains liaisons with CEN/TC 109, CEN/TC 166, CEN/TC 238, AEGPL, AFECOR and MARCOGAZ.

4.3 Environmental aspects

CEN/TC 62 have identified the environmental aspects to be addressed in its standards are 'use of energy', 'use of materials' and 'appropriate initial and continual measurement of gas'. These are identified in the appropriate field when creating a new work item using the electronic platform (i.e. field 6). The environmental aspects will be addressed by prescribed test methods within the standards.

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

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

In some areas there is currently a lack of experts willing to participate in the work of CEN/TC 62; this will make the drafting of certain revisions slow. Efforts will be made to recruit the relevant experts within the industry when the revisions are required.

The letter of the European Commission's regarding issues and inconsistencies between the Essential Requirements in the GAD and the suite of standards under the remit of CEN/TC 62 will delay the creation of new work items for the revision of the TC's suite of standards.