



The European model of standardisation: from national to regional

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Standardisation is a form of self regulation

→ *Interested parties come together and agree voluntarily on technical matters*

↓
Compete more efficiently by ensuring the interoperability of their products



Who is paying for standardisation?

European standardisation is
financed primarily by
industry

→ **93-95%**

followed by:

National Governments → 3-5%

European Commission/EFTA → 2%



Who makes European standards?

CEN



(European Committee for Standardization)

CENELEC



*(European Committee for Electrotechnical
Standardization)*

ETSI



*(European Telecommunications Standards
Institute)*



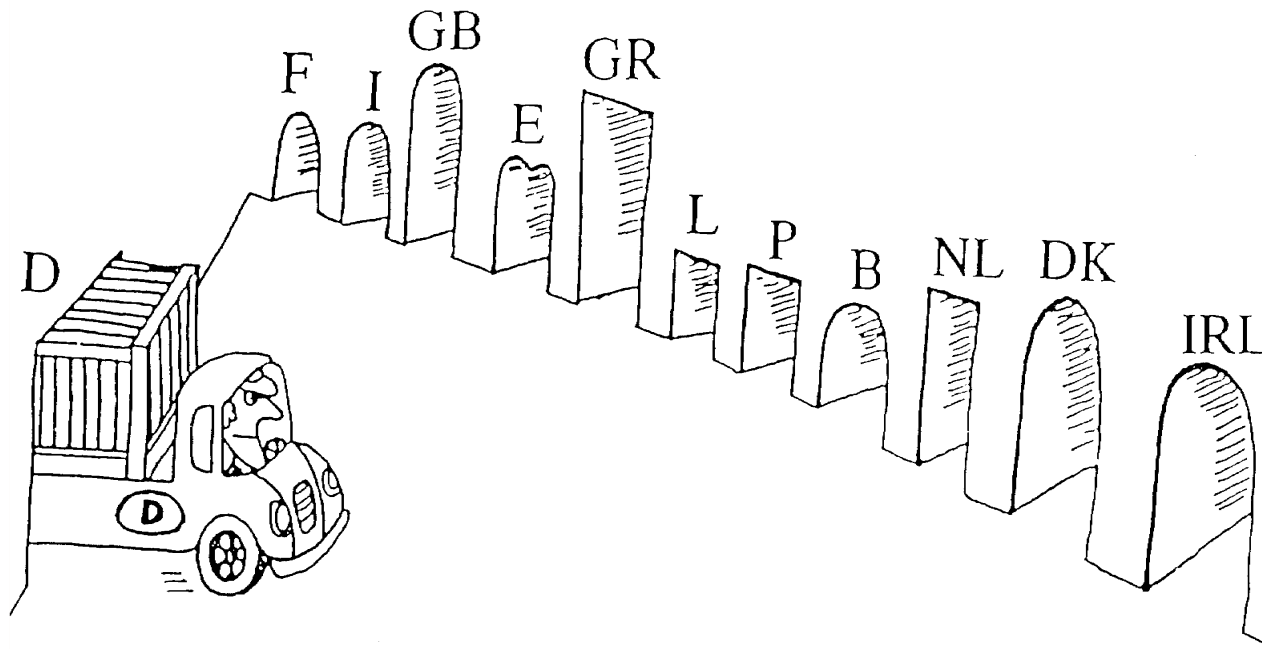
Why European standards are special?

European standards (ENs) support the functioning of the internal market

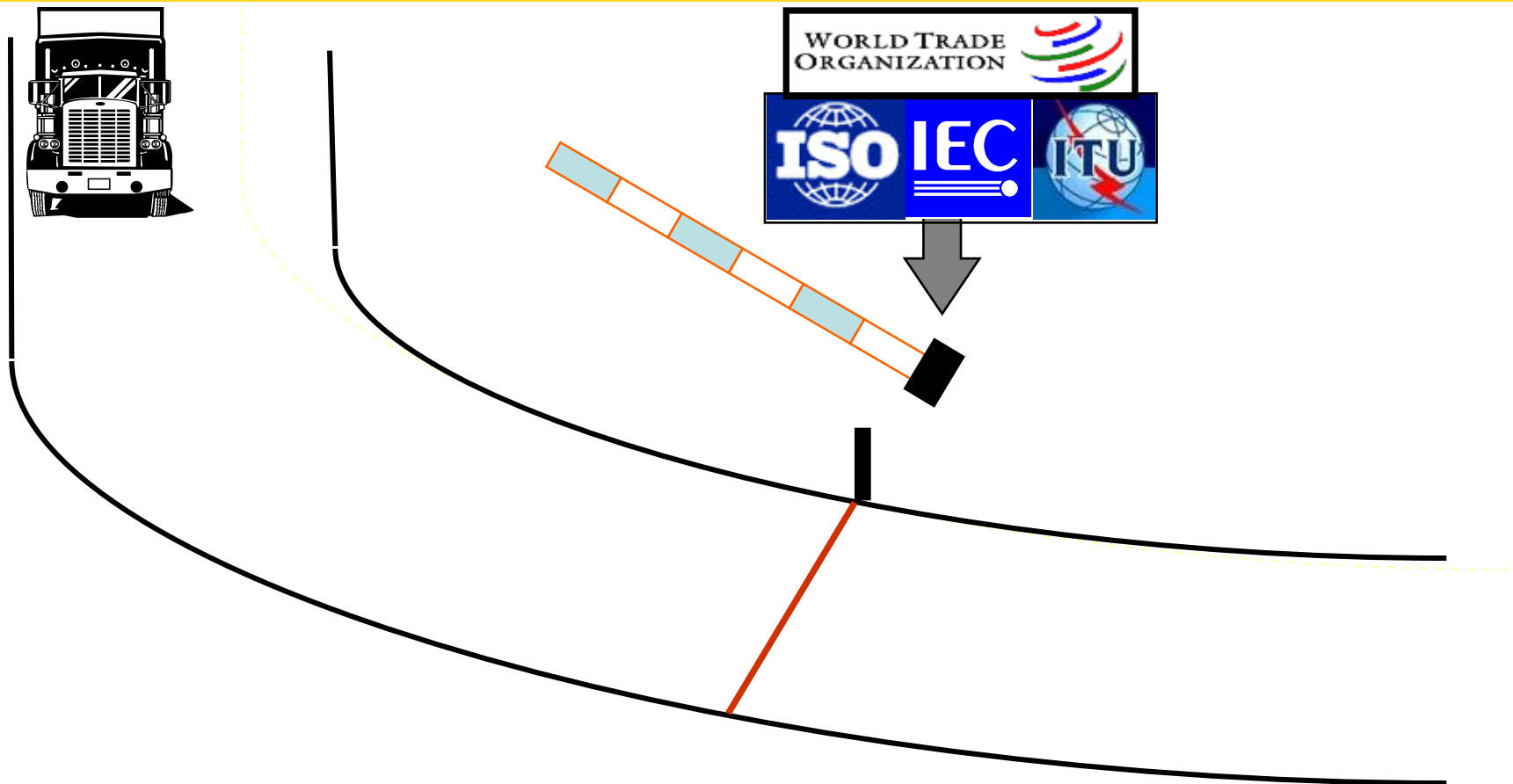
- **One EN replaces 33 different national standards:** one product-one standard, priority to international ones
- National Standards Bodies are obliged to **adopt ENs as national standard** and **withdraw any conflicting one**
- **The system is transparent, stable and predictable**



Where we come from: Trade barriers hindered the European economy



Where we are going: European/international Standards – a tool for free trade



and how: by integrating the national standardisation with the regional and ultimately with the international one



“Vienna Agreement” with



“Dresden Agreement” with



MoU for telecommunications sector (ITU-T)
Agreement on radio-communication sector (ITU-R)



Standards vs Legislation

Standards :

1. *Voluntary*
2. *Consensual*
3. *Developed by independent organisations*
4. *Revised every 5 years*
5. *Provide specifications and test methods (interoperability, safety, quality, etc.)*



Legislation :

1. *Mandatory*
2. *Imposed by Law*
3. *Established by public authorities*
4. *Revised when legislators decide*
5. *Gives requirements to protect public interests*

What the European Commission has to do with standardisation?

- ***Coordinates the standardisation policy in the EU and cooperate with the different stakeholders***
- ***Promotes the use of European standards to support EU legislation and policies to enhance the competitiveness of European industry***
- ***Formulates the standardisation requests to CEN/CENELEC/ETSI***
- ***Funds CEN/CENELEC/ETSI (operating and action grants)***

The European context

European standards are voluntary

Standards support European policy and legislation

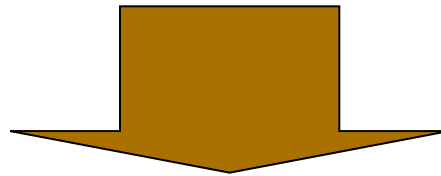
European Standardisation is a success story

The revolutionary idea: the New Approach (1985)

*Facilitate free movement of goods
in the Internal Market whilst ensuring a
high level of protection for consumers*



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***Elimination
of barriers to trade through
technical harmonisation***

Legislative and normative processes

NA Legislation



Request for standards



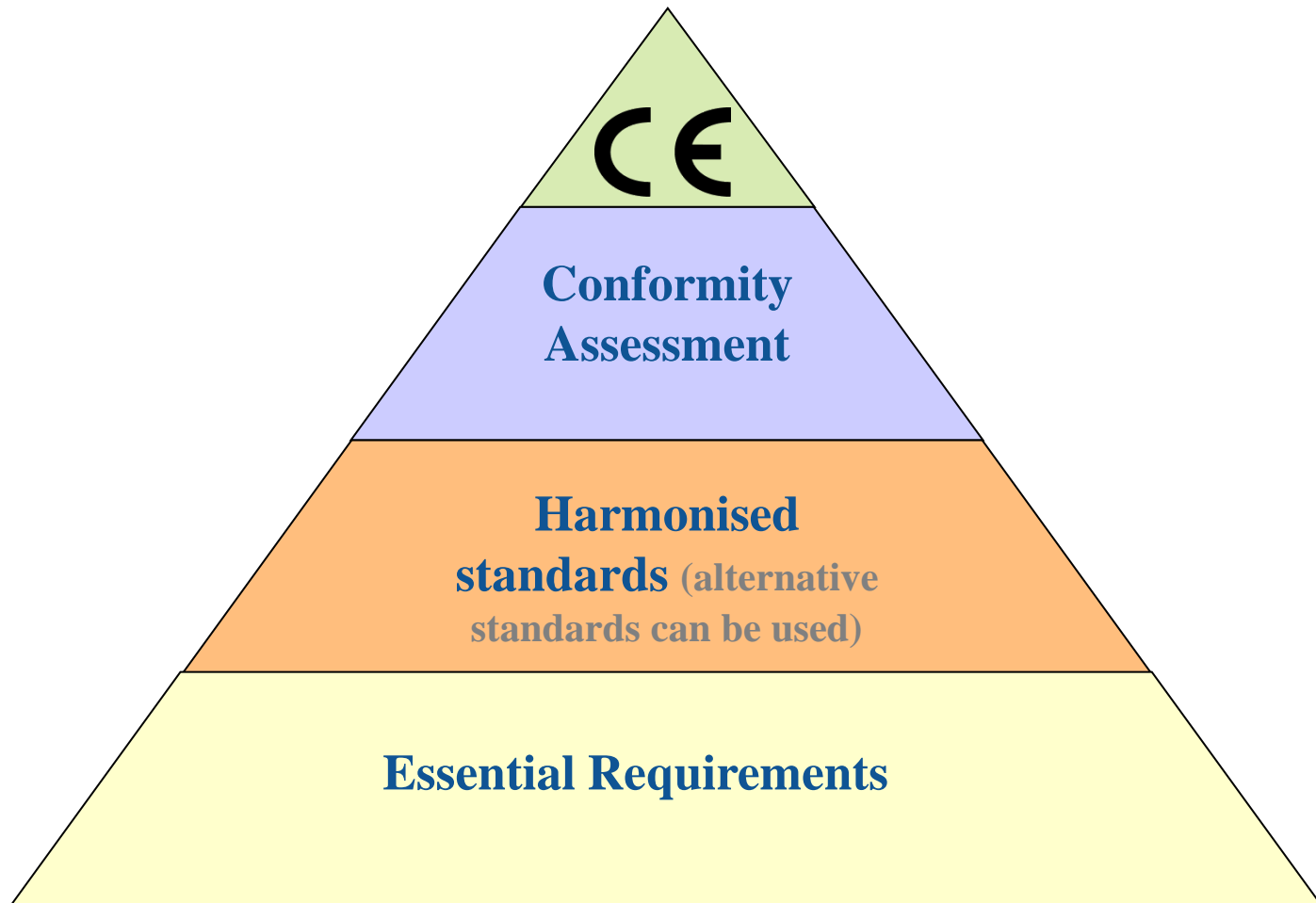
Standards



Title publication in
the Official Journal



New Approach concept



What are the European goals for standardisation at the global level?

1. Enhance the **competitiveness of European businesses**
2. Improve the **general convergence to international standards in order to reduce TBTs**
3. Boost the **use of voluntary standards in regulations** as well as the **use of alternative conformity assessment procedures**

Why reforming European standardisation now

In the next decade, European standardisation will play a crucial role in a wide variety of areas (from supporting European competitiveness, protecting the consumer, improving accessibility of disabled and elderly people to tackling climate change)

→ *the **European standardisation** system needs to be **flexible, comprehensive, inclusive, efficient and up-to-date.***

What is in the Standardisation Package?

*Adopted by the Commission on **1st June 2011***



***Political communication
with a strategic vision on
standardisation*** [COM(2011) 311 final]

Regulation (EU) N. 1025/2012

Impact assessment

Most important steps (1)

Enhancement of **cooperation with the European standardisation organisations (CEN-CENELEC-ETSI)**

Increased participation of consumers, small businesses (SMEs), environmental and social organisations, **in the European standardisation process**

Most important steps (2)

The **recognition of existing global ICT technical specifications** to ensure **interoperability** in support of at least public procurement in the EU

The **possibility of requesting European standards for services** if there is a demand from stakeholders

***Standardisation is a core
interest of the Europe
2020 Flagships***

It is quoted in the:

- **Industrial Policy** [COM(2010)614] & [COM(2012)582]
- **Innovation Union** [COM(2010)546]
- **Digital Agenda for Europe** [COM(2010)245]
- **Trade, Growth and World Affairs** [COM(2010)612]



Standardisation is one of the twelve key actions of the Single Market Act [COM(2011)206]

European standardisation supports European policies in many areas including:

- **Competitiveness**
- **ICT**
- **Innovation**
- **Interoperability**
- **Accessibility**
- **Environment**
- **Transport**
- **Energy**
- **consumer protection**
- **SMEs**



**DO NOT FORGET TO VISIT OUR
WEBSITES...**

- http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/standards_policy/index_en.htm
- http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newapproach/standardization/harmstds/index_en.html
- <http://www.newapproach.org/>

**...and thank you for your
attention!**