



BUSINESS PLAN

CEN/TC 93 Ladders

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Business Environment

- Different regulations in Europe are causing trade barriers;
- No legally binding European Directive for ladders is existing;
- Mandate M 285 in the framework of General Product Safety Directive has been given to CEN/TC 93 by the European Commission;
- Listing of standards for Ladders (EN 131) in the Official Journal of the European Commission in the framework of the General Product Safety Directive would foster the implementation in all member countries.
- Parties involved:
 - Ladder manufacturer;
 - Safety authorities;
 - European Commission
 - Consumers.

Benefits

To define the necessary standards for a free trade of ladders in Europe.

- Provide safety for the user of the ladder;
- Standard test methods and marking applicable in Europe;
- Removal of trade barriers.

Priorities

- Present EN 131-1 for terminology, types and dimensions, EN 131-2 for test methods and requirements and EN 131-3 for user information revised in accordance with Mandate M 285 to the European Commission for listing in the Official Journal.
- Revision of EN 131-4 for hinge-joint ladders and EN 131-6 for telescopic ladders;
- Preparation EN 131-8 for combination ladders with separate platform;
- Revision of EN 14183 for step stools;
- Standard for ladder-accessories (prEN 131-5);

CEN/TC93 Business Plan

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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:

There are still different regulations for ladders in Europe which are causing trade barriers.

Mandate M 285 for ladders given by the European Commission in the framework of the General Products Safety Directive (GPSD) provides particular requirements for ladders with regard to stability, durability, marking and classification.

Taking into account Mandate M 285 on ladders given by the European Commission CEN/TC 93 has revised EN 131-1 for terminology, types and dimensions, EN 131-2 for test methods and requirements and EN 131-3 for user information of ladders.

Since the requirements of the Mandate M 285 have been now fulfilled the European Commission is asked to list these standards in the Official Journal in the framework of the General Product Safety Directive. This would foster the implementation in all member countries.

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:

There is a significant amount of cross-border trade of ladders in Europe but exact figures are not available. No statistical data is available on market shares, turnover of the market or percentage of EU or EEA Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC

- Provide a high level of safety of ladders for the user;
- Removal of technical barriers to trade and open markets throughout Europe;
- Harmonisation of national standards.

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

CEN/TC 93 has revised EN 131-1 for terminology, types and dimensions, EN 131-2 for test methods and requirements and EN 131-3 for user information of ladders in accordance with Mandate M 285.

Since the requirements of the Mandate M 285 have been now fulfilled the European Commission is asked to list these standards in the Official Journal in the framework of the General Product Safety Directive. This would foster the implementation in all member countries. Thus the application of safe products and the removal of trade barriers.

In a next step EN 131-4 for hinge-joint ladders, EN 131-6 for telescopic ladders and EN 14183 for step stools are being revised accordingly and EN 131-8 for combination ladders with separate platform is being prepared with the objective to get them also listed in the OJEU.

Furthermore experience with the test methods and requirements now introduced in particular with regard to stability, durability and classification should be discussed in order to develop and further improve the standards.

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

CEN/TC 93 leadership will keep close contact to CCMC and European Commission with regard to the listing of EN 131 standards in the OJEU. The CEN/TC 93 leadership is ready to give further explanations and presentations at relevant meetings of the European Commission if necessary.

WG 1 is revising EN 14183 on step stools, WG 2 is revising EN 131-4 for hinge-joint ladders and WG 12 has revised EN 131-6 for telescopic ladders. WG 13 is preparing EN 131-8 on combination ladders with separate platform.

WG 10 has the task to develop and further improve EN 131-1 and EN 131-2. A full revision will be started soon.

4.3 Environmental aspects

There are no particular environmental aspects to consider.

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

For a further successful work a continuous participation of experts of all interested parties and representing the most important member countries is essential.

In order to ensure a national implementation of the standards in all member countries support from the European Commission and from the national authorities is essential.