



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
ENTERPRISE DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Single Market, regulatory environment, Industries under vertical legislation
Conformity and standardisation, new approach, industries under new approach

Brussels, 7 August 2001

M 313 EN

**STANDARDISATION MANDATE
ADDRESSED TO CEN, CENELEC AND ETSI
CONCERNING ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY (EMC)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS**

1 Title

EMC harmonised standards for telecommunication networks.

2 Content

This mandate concerns the preparation of harmonised standards covering EMC aspects of wire-line telecommunication networks including their in-house extensions. These standards should cover the types of networks, which are currently operational or which are under development, including, but not limited to those using power lines, coaxial cables and classical telephone wires. This mandate does not concern the preparation of harmonised standards relating to the electromagnetic compatibility of equipment to be connected to the networks.

3 Legal basis

This is a standardisation mandate within the framework of Directive 89/336/EEC on the approximation of the laws relating to EMC¹.

¹ Where (sub-)networks are terminal equipment in the sense of Directive 1999/5/EC, the standards will also be recognised as harmonised standards under that Directive.

4 Previous mandates

The following mandates have been issued to CEN, CENELEC and ETSI requesting the production of harmonised standards under Directive 89/336/EEC:

BC-T-353	Development of harmonised standards for telecommunication terminal equipment, satellite earth station equipment and radiocommunication equipment
BC/CLC-03/88	Development of EMC product standards
BC/CLC-02/92	Supplementing BC/CLC-03/88
BC/CLC/03/0000/98-3	Supplementing BC/CLC-02/92
BC-IT-82	EMC aspects of IT and Telecommunications equipment
M/038	Supplementing BC-IT-82 by introducing the concept of harmonised standard in the context of the New Approach
M/282	Aircraft and aeronautical equipment

5 Description of the mandate

Since the entry into force of the EMC Directive, a number of harmonised standards have been produced covering the electromagnetic compatibility of electrical and electronic appliances. No harmonised standards, however, have been developed covering the electromagnetic compatibility of fixed installations, such as, for instance, telecommunication networks. While this situation so far may have been satisfactory, such installations increasingly cause interference to radio services, and are in some case experiencing interference. Several workshops, organised by the European Commission during the years 2000 and 2001, with wide participation of users of the radio spectrum, industry and regulators, have highlighted this situation.

Harmonised standards for telecommunication networks would simplify the application of the EMC Directive to all parties involved and provide a level playing field, as far as EMC is concerned, for the development of new telecommunication technologies. In this context the already achieved electromagnetic compatibility of wired broadband networks is to be maintained.

Therefore, the European Commission requests CEN, CENELEC and ETSI:

- to prepare and adopt harmonised standards covering the electromagnetic compatibility requirements (emission and immunity) for telecommunication networks using:
 - power lines
 - coaxial cables
 - telephone wires (e.g. using xDSL technology)
- to consider the feasibility of harmonised standards covering the electromagnetic compatibility requirements (emission and immunity) for other types of telecommunication and data networks, and, when pertinent, to prepare and adopt such harmonised standards.

These harmonised standards shall lay down the limits and the test methods needed to allow presumption of conformity with the essential requirements of Directive 89/336/EEC. They should take into account, whenever possible, existing European and international technical specifications already developed in this area (for instance, the values defined in EN 50083-8, Germany's NB 30 or the United Kingdom's enforcement standard MPT 1570). They shall especially take into account the need to protect frequencies used by safety and emergency services.

These standards should, be coherent with generic standards. They should take into account any other harmonised standards (produced under either Directive 89/336/EEC or Directive 99/5/EC) relating to the electromagnetic compatibility of equipment to be connected to the networks.

The standards produced under this mandate should form a comprehensive, technology-neutral set. A coherent approach, in particular in terms of electromagnetic emission, must be sought. In this respect, it should be considered to initiate the work by identifying generic limits applicable to all wire-line telecommunication networks.

6 Execution of the mandate

The Commission hereby entrusts CEN, CENELEC and ETSI this mandate.

CEN, CENELEC and ETSI will provide by [*date of sending of mandate to the ESOs + 6 months*] a programme with the standards that will cover the mandate and the target date for their availability.

CEN, CENELEC and ETSI are, at regular intervals, to inform the European Commission, which in turn will inform the Committee established under Directive 98/34/EC, of any new draft standard covered by this mandate.

Within six months of their adoption, the European standards produced under this mandate are to be transposed into national standards, and the conflicting national standards are to be withdrawn from the catalogues of the EU national standards organisations. CEN, CENELEC and ETSI will provide the Commission with the titles of the standards in the Community languages.

CEN, CENELEC and ETSI are advised to co-ordinate their activities with the relevant European or international bodies.

The standstill period referred to in Article 7 of Directive 98/34/EC of 22 June 1998 shall start when the relevant European standards body accepts this standardisation mandate.