



BUSINESS PLAN * **CEN/TC 53** **TEMPORARY WORKS EQUIPMENT**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Scope

CEN/TC 53 covers the standardization of temporary works equipment (TWE) used for maintenance, building, construction work and for temporary structures made of the same equipment.

The products and systems are generally intended for repeated use.

Standardization of machinery is excluded.

Business Environment

Temporary works equipment like e.g. scaffolding, falsework, trench lining systems, safety nets, formwork, mobile access towers, edge protection systems, etc, is used in all sectors of industry including all types of construction and civil engineering works and building maintenance. Thus the development, calculation, testing and production of this equipment is essential.

Benefits

Improvements in all aspects of temporary works equipment

Economical aspects

Standardization within the scope of CEN/TC 53 leads to an economic design of TWE.

Environmental aspects

The design of these products considers environmental aspects with respect to saving of raw materials and as well as minimizing the need of waste deposits.

Priorities

- To provide European standards for TWE;
- To facilitate the circulation of TWE;
- To define an economic and safe framework for TWE;
- To promote the continuous development of TWE including the adoption of new technologies and materials.

1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC 53

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and international factors describe the business environment of the industry sectors, products, materials, disciplines and practices related to the scope of CEN/TC 53, and how they may significantly influence the relevant standards development processes and the content of the resulting standards:

Today, TWE is used in all sectors of industry including all types of construction and civil engineering works and building maintenance. Due to continuous technical development and its adaptable mechanical and physical properties, it is applied for structural and non-structural purposes, from simple housing works to sophisticated long span bridge systems. Thus, the development, calculation, testing and production of this equipment is a essential issue for all industry sectors and in particular, the construction sector.

TWE, have a long-term tradition in various countries. However, CEN/TC 53 considers the continuous enhancement of TWE with respect to the technology, advanced production methods and the use of modern materials in standardization.

1.2 Quantitative Indicators of the Business Environment

TWE make up approximately 10 to 15 % of the annual turnover in the complete construction sector.

TWE also improve occupational safety in the construction sector significantly.

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC

Improvement in the quality of TWE.

In addition to providing the facility for consistent quality and performance, and a better appreciation of these issues by the customer, standardization implemented by CEN/TC 53 results in improvements in the durability, stability, safety and other essential characteristics of TWE.

Occupational safety aspects

Better work safety characteristics of the products contribute to improve occupational health and safety.

Economical aspects

Standardization within the scope of CEN/TC 53 leads to an economic design of TWE by using:

- limit state design;
- test-aided assessment methods;
- statistical analysis of test results;
- definition of quality management systems;
- etc.

The free availability and tradability of TWE on the European market decreases costs by increasing the competitiveness of producers and suppliers.

Political aspects

Due to their temporary use, the products within the scope of the CEN/TC 53 are not covered by the European Construction Products Regulation (CPR). However, TWE design and calculation are linked to the structural EN standards (EUROCODES).

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. 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.

Cooperation and joint work/liaisons with other committees/associations

CEN/TC 53 officially cooperates with other Technical Committees, such as:

- CEN/TC 248 "Textile and textile products"
- CEN/TC 135 "Execution of steel structures and aluminium structures"
- CEN/TC 250 "Structural Eurocodes" (is planned)

CEN/TC 53 liaises with SBS (Small Business Standards).

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

4.1 Defined objectives of the CEN/TC

The general aim of CEN/TC 53 is to develop European Standards for TWE.

The TC started its work in 1970 and already elaborated a set of European Standards for:

- scaffolding;
- mobile access towers;
- falsework;
- trench lining systems;
- safety nets;
- formwork;
- edge protection systems;
- execution of TWE.

The first objective is to create a valuable set of coherent structured European Standards covering the main issues of TWE in order to reach the following goals:

- The facilitation of the cross-border trade of TWE by setting up common standards.
- The improvement of level of safety of TWE and their requirements on use including the compulsory provision of detailed information for the user.
- The facilitation of rationalisation of the production leading consequently to a reduction in the costs by elaborating standards;
- The harmonisation of the design of TWE by adapting the relevant regulations of the EUROCODES.

A further task will be the periodical revision of already existing standards under the scope of CEN/TC 53, taking into account new and advanced developments in these systems.

4.2 Identified strategies to achieve the CEN/TCs defined objectives.

- CEN/TC 53 pays attention that all stakeholders concerned participate in the standardisation work. CEN/TC 53 establishes common requirements, for example for materials, to avoid unnecessary differences on similar subjects.
- CEN/TC 53 ensures that the standards produced are in-line with the relevant EUROCODES. Where necessary, advice from CEN/TC 250 "Structural Eurocodes" is sought.

4.3 Environmental Aspects

The work of CEN/TC 53 focuses on the development of standards connected to the European construction sector and other sectors of industry. CEN/TC 53 deals with materials without harmful characteristics. The use of these products includes environmental aspects with respect to the conservation of raw materials, energy, thus minimizing the need for waste disposal sites and improving the possibilities for effective recycling. The products covered by CEN/TC 53 do not form part of buildings and structures, they are designed for repeated use over a long lifetime.

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

Due to the temporary character of equipment within the scope of CEN/TC 53, the standards produced by the committee are not covered by the Construction Products Regulation (CPR). Different attempts to create a European Directive on temporary works equipment have so far been unsuccessful. It is not clear whether there will be a Directive in the future.

TC delegates were involved in the consultations for the elaboration of a Directive.

If there is no European Directive, the main concern is that national requirements will prevail over approved European Standards.