

Dear Committee Member

I am writing following the Referendum last Thursday to confirm BSI's position, in its role as the UK's National Standards Body, in relation to your valued work with BSI in developing British, European and international standards. I am planning a webinar to discuss these points with you in person, but I thought it was important to contact you as soon as possible to explain the situation as we see it today.

As you will be well aware from the media coverage, the UK government is currently planning its next steps in the discussions with the EU over a UK exit.

The result of the Referendum has triggered a process for the UK government, but for the foreseeable future we see no change to BSI's status and obligations as a full member of CEN and CENELEC. We are confident that a UK exit from the EU will not affect BSI's membership of ISO and IEC. It is business as usual for BSI, including all aspects of our standards making, policy and strategy work.

UK participation in the development and maintenance of voluntary industry standards by CEN and CENELEC for use across the European single market is an essential element of the UK's relationship with our European partners. The CEN and CENELEC single standard model, with identical adoption of European standards across 33 countries and the withdrawal of conflicting national standards, facilitates market access and simplifies the market structure across Europe.

BSI's ambition is that the UK should continue to participate in the European Standardization System as a full member of CEN, CENELEC and ETSI. We consider that this is a likely outcome of the forthcoming negotiations between the UK and the EU.

I will certainly do my best in the coming months to deliver this ambition, in the interests of UK industry, government and society.

For those of you involved in work with CEN and CENELEC, I would encourage you to continue as before; your commitment will help BSI in its role as the national standards body to demonstrate UK commitment to a close future trading relationship with our European partners.

We are already working with UK government to ensure that standards and their role in the single market are included in the negotiations. Nothing is going to happen in the short term that will affect UK experts' work in CEN and CENELEC committees. We will discuss BSI's relationship with CEN and CENELEC at

the next scheduled meeting of the CEN/CENELEC Presidents' Committee, in October.

Please do keep us informed of any issues that may arise over the coming months. For example, if you hear any negative comments against UK chairmen or UK committee members in respect of their European committee work, we will take firm action to address these directly.

Barring surprises, I intend to continue in my commitment as CEN Vice-President Policy to the completion of my term in December 2017, working with the CEN and CENELEC members on our continued cooperation.

I have asked Richard Collin in the BSI Standards Policy team, our leading expert on the European system, to coordinate enquiries until UK government has concluded terms with the EU institutions and we are clear how (if at all) our membership of CEN and CENELEC is affected. Please feel free to contact him (europeanpolicy@bsigroup.com) or me if you have any questions at any time on the steps we are taking to safeguard UK involvement in European standards.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Steedman', written in a cursive style.

Scott Steedman CBE
Director of Standards
