



Raising standards for consumers



Press Release

World Standards Day 2018 How will standards meet the Future?

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The theme of this year's World Standards Day is 'Standards meet the Future', as the rapid change, brought by a new generation of smart technologies, will need standards to help address the challenges ahead. But ANEC stresses that standards will meet the future only if they reflect the needs of civil society.

Standards impact on society and contribute to making our everyday lives safer. With regulators using standards to support implementation of laws and policies, including in areas of public interest, it is crucial for civil society to engage and participate in standardisation. ANEC voices the collective consumer interest in standardisation and, with peer societal stakeholder associations ECOS and ETUC – which represent the environmental interest and workers respectively, plays an essential role in conveying the needs of civil society in the drafting of standards.

ANEC, ECOS and ETUC have joined with CEN-CENELEC to develop a free interactive eLearning course being released publicly today during the World Standards Day conference, '[Standards meet the Future](#)', hosted by CEN, CENELEC, ETSI, in cooperation with the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association

(EFTA). The course provides clear and useful information about standards and the standardisation process in Europe, and also at national and international level.

The online training contains several modules to help those interested learn about standards, their development and the role they play in protecting consumers, workers and the environment. It further demonstrates the importance for civil society to engage in standardisation in order to improve, strengthen and add legitimacy to the European Standardisation System.

The course can be found at the link: www.standards4all.eu and also from the ANEC website: <http://www.anec.eu/elearning>

ANEC is also marking World Standards Day by launching a video to publicise new labels for fuel identifiers, as an example of how standards make consumers' lives easier. With more and more alternative fuels available on the market, it is not always easy for consumers to know which fuel to use in their car.

We [contributed](#) to a new European standard* that defines graphical symbols showing the compatibility between a vehicle and fuels on sale across Europe. These new sets of labels for fuel identifiers will be applicable for new vehicles placed on the market or registered as of today. More information on these new labels is available in our [video](#) and [infographic](#).

* *EN 16942 Fuels – identification of vehicle compatibility – graphical expression for consumer information*

ENDS.

About ANEC

ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, defending consumer interests in the processes of technical standardisation and conformity assessment, as well as related legislation and public policies.

ANEC was established in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law and is open to the representation of national consumer organisations in 34 countries.

ANEC is funded by the European Union and EFTA, with national consumer organisations contributing in kind. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.



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