



## Press Release

### Standards for those who need them!

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#### **CEIR has joined INGRESS: the INdustry GRoup on European Standardisation Strategy**

European manufacturers find themselves in a bizarre position with respect to European standards. Although industry is the main user of European standards and the stakeholder who is most affected by them, it is hardly consulted!

For some time now, industry has been requesting inclusion as an observer on the regulatory Committee on Standards (CoS). This is the body that takes implementing decisions on European Commission standardisation requests. These decisions invariably have an impact - be it positive or negative - on the European companies using harmonised standards to show compliance with EU product legislation. Moreover, standards work is undertaken mainly by industry experts who contribute free of charge their expertise to develop European standards - equating to some 95% of standards development costs.

So why not involve industry as one of the accepted 'observers' that Regulation EU 1025/2012 on European Standardisation grants to the 4 categories of stakeholders? The recent Competitiveness Council conclusions stressed *"the need for the European Standardisation system to remain inclusive, transparent, market-driven and efficient, and to be fit for the future"*.

The INGRESS platform has therefore been created from the common wish to jointly inform European policy makers about industry's interests and priorities for using harmonised standards in the framework of Regulation EU 1025/2012. Therefore, CEIR decided to join INGRESS and team up with the 17 European industry associations which are members of this platform.

*"Harmonised standards are one of the main pillars making Europe's internal market successful. In addition, standards are the best way to solve the weaknesses of harmonised legislation in some areas for taps and valves. It is vital for manufacturing companies that standards, whether linked to European legislation or not, are primarily market-relevant. INGRESS will ensure that market relevance remains the driver and that industry is involved in discussions on the future of European standardisation", said Klaus Schneider, CEIR President.*

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