



SMEs AT THE HEART OF EUROPEAN STANDARDISATION

MANIFESTO 2024 - 2029 EU term





SBS represents 22,5 million SMEs across Europe through 22 SME member organisations.

Our goal is to raise the awareness of SMEs and SME associations about the benefits of standards, facilitate the uptake of standards and to encourage SME participation in their development.

#MakingStandardsWorkforSMEs



SBS produces studies and guides to assist SMEs in implementing standards.



SBS interacts with policymakers and Standards Development Organisations.



SBS supports and finances the activity of around 70 technical experts. Each year, they participate in the drafting of European and international standards on behalf of European SMEs.



SMEs represent **99.8%** of all EU companies, providing over **65%** of European jobs and more than **50%** of all European added value.

WHY STANDARDS MATTER

Standards are everywhere in our daily lives. They influence everything from product safety to technological progress, the quality of construction, services and energy efficiency, while ensuring the competitiveness and growth of European SMEs.

Standards are an indispensable tool in translating EU legislation into practical guidelines. They provide SMEs with clear specifications to meet regulatory requirements and foster innovation in areas like sustainability, digital technology, and industrial policy, ensuring SMEs comply with regulations and remain competitive.

THE FUTURE OF STANDARDS IS NOW

Standards are crucial for developing measurement methods and infrastructure and ensuring data integrity in areas like eco-design, energy efficiency, cybersecurity, and the upcoming Digital Product Passport.



The ongoing evaluation of Regulation 1025/2012 on European standardisation, coupled with a renewed focus on standards and international cooperation, will significantly shape the future of the European standardisation system.

A balanced standardisation system, with SBS at the forefront of these efforts, is essential for SMEs to contribute to standards development and reap the benefits of growth, job creation, and prosperity within the EU.

SBS CALLS FOR ACTION:

1

Ensure a more inclusive standardisation system that makes the Single Market work better for everyone.

2

Secure robust funding for standardisation and SME participation and support European global leadership in standards.

3

Promote SME-friendly digital and sustainability standards, letting SMEs fully harness the opportunities of the twin transition.

4

Ensure the timely development and citation of harmonised standards, which are key for SME growth.

5

Invest in the uptake and implementation of standards by SMEs to help them thrive.

6

Fully implement Regulation 1025/2012 on European standardisation, rather than its revision.

Consult the complete Manifesto online:



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