

Standards and the EU Referendum

What you need to know

- BSI is the route for UK experts to contribute to the development of British, European and international standards, through the work of its 1200 national committees.
- 95% of British standards are also European or international standards (and frequently both).
- BSI's standards are voluntary and developed by consensus. They may be codes, guides or specifications.
- The model for European standards is that of a *single* standard for any given topic or application, which is adopted identically as a national standard in 33 countries (already a broader membership than just the EU). Any national standards for the same topic are withdrawn.
- This model supports companies' access to the entire European market, and makes for a simpler market structure across Europe. It also means that UK experts have significant influence on the development of those standards that are used throughout Europe.
- For BSI, the current position is **business as usual**: BSI remains a full member of the European standards bodies CEN and CENELEC.
- While the UK's departure from the EU will require a new relationship between the UK and the European single market, BSI's ambition post-"Brexit" is to continue as a full member of CEN and CENELEC, maintaining the single standard model in the UK, as in the other 32 CEN and CENELEC member countries.
- BSI staff members are available to help with any queries about "Brexit" and standards. We have already written to all the UK chairs and convenors of European standards committees and working groups and to all our committee members.
- We will be holding a webinar on Friday 8 July at 12.00 noon, which is open to all: see <https://youtu.be/c9ea9eNlf7s>. Please send any questions for the webinar to live@bsigroup.com before Thursday 7 July lunchtime and we will try to answer as many as we can during the session.
- Any other questions can be sent to europeanpolicy@bsigroup.com.
- If you are interested in getting involved in BSI's committee work, please write to standardsmakers@bsigroup.com.