

Standardization for Impact: The Journey to a CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA)



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STANDARDIZATION: TURNING RESEARCH INTO MARKET VALUE

The use of standardization in research and innovation projects aims to **increase the impact** and **significance** of the **results obtained** by including them **in new standards**. This helps to make them more accessible to industry, regulators and society at large, transferring knowledge generated in research to the market.

ETERNAL integrates **standardization as a strategic activity to maximize the impact and uptake of its scientific results**, contributing to more sustainable pharmaceutical manufacturing, use, and disposal, within the framework of the **European Committee for Standardization (CEN)**.

CEN: European Committee for Standardization

Provides **platform for stakeholders** in a specific area to come together and reach **consensus** at European level;

CEN Deliverables

European Standards –EN

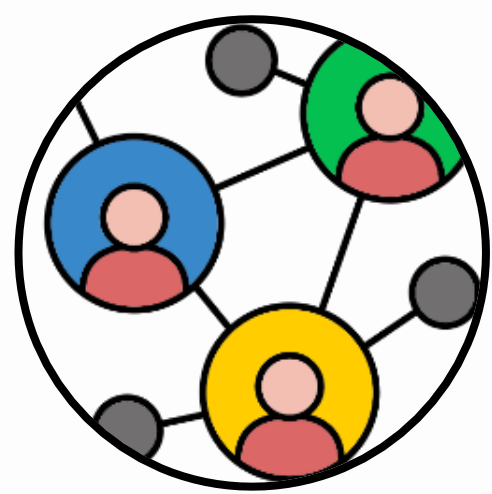
Technical Specifications -CEN/TS

Technical Reports -CEN/TR

CEN Workshop Agreements -CWAs

What is a CWA?

A **CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA)** is a consensus-based document developed through an open and flexible process **within the European standardization system**, bringing together stakeholders to address specific market needs rapidly.



Stakeholder collaboration



Consensus building



Rapid development

WHY COMBINE RESEARCH AND STANDARDIZATION?

- ✓ Research knowledge transformed into **practical guidance**
- ✓ Broad **stakeholder engagement and consensus**
- ✓ Increased **visibility** and exploitation of project results
- ✓ **Faster industrial adoption**
- ✓ Enhanced **interoperability** and **replicability**
- ✓ Sustainable **legacy beyond project completion**
- ✓ Foundation for **future standards**

THE CWA DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Contact a National Standards Body to begin the process!

1. Identify the Need

Research project outcomes reveal a need for common approaches

2. Establishment of a CEN Workshop:

Working group for the development of a document called CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA)

3. Engage Stakeholders

All interested parties participate in an open and transparent process.

4. Draft the CWA

Project results are translated into a structured document through collaborative drafting and consensus building.

5. Public Consultation and Consensus

Comments are collected, discussed, and incorporated to ensure broad acceptance and relevance.

6. Publication

The CWA is published by CEN and becomes publicly available for use by organizations across Europe and beyond.

Typical timeline: 6–12 months.

ETERNAL: Two CWAs PUBLISHED

A MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT OF ETERNAL HAS BEEN THE PUBLICATION OF TWO CWAs

CWA 18361:2026

Methodology for Early-Stage Sustainability Assessment and Efficient Energy by Design



CWA 18386:2026

Determination of nucleic acid encapsulation efficiency in Lipid Nanoparticles using fluorometry



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Further Reading

CEN-CENELEC Guide 29 CEN/CENELEC Workshop Agreements – A rapid way to standardization:
<https://www.cenelec.eu/media/Guides/CEN-CLC/cenclcguid29.pdf>
EU Policy on Knowledge Valorisation (Council Recommendation (EU) 2022/2415)
Code of Practice on Standardisation in the ERA (Commission Recommendation (EU) 2023/498)



"Research creates knowledge. Standardization turns knowledge into impact."

Establishing safe and sustainable pharmaceutical life cycles by design

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON) under grant agreement No 101057668. The work of UK-based Associated Partners has been funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK government's Horizon Europe funding guarantee.



Co-funded by the European Union