



Brussels, 13th July 2009
M/446 EN

STANDARDISATION MANDATE TO CEN, CENELEC AND ETSI FOR SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR HANDHELD MULTIMETERS FOR DOMESTIC USE IN THE FIELD OF THE LOW VOLTAGE DIRECTIVE 2006/95/EC

1. PURPOSE

- To review EN 61010: 2001 “Safety requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control, and laboratory use.
- To include in the European standard measurement and control for handheld multimeters for domestic and similar use.

2. RATIONALE

In recent years, market surveillance authorities have taken action against handheld multimeters that were intended for domestic use by non-professionals. As they were declared to comply with EN 61010, an analysis of that standard demonstrated that it does not seem to adequately take the risks of such devices into account.

EN 61010 Part 1 “General requirements” contains in its chapter "scope of application" the following specification:

“This part of IEC 61010 specifies general safety requirements for electrical equipment intended for professional, industrial processes, and educational use, any of which may incorporate computing devices, as defined in a) to d) below, when used under the environmental conditions of 1.4.

- a) Electrical test and measurement equipment*
- b) Electrical control equipment*
- c) Electrical laboratory equipment*
- d) Accessories intended for the use with the above (for example, sample handling equipment).”*

It is considered that the standard does not adequately differentiate between the various kinds of measuring equipment (a to d) existing on the market. It does not adequately address the risks of equipment intended for domestic use by non-professionals.

Furthermore the classification in categories is related to the product and not to the risks related to the product or to the intended use of it.

Therefore it is necessary to update the standards listed under the LVD to take account of handheld multimeters for domestic use in which the specific risks of such equipment is adequately addressed. This update should include a revision of Part 1 and resolve interpretation questions that have arisen.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK TO BE MANDATED

CEN, CENELEC and ETSI are requested to review EN 61010: 2001 in order to:

- (1) take account of the risks of handheld multimeters for domestic use
- (2) amend EN 61010: 2001 “Safety requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control, and laboratory use” in order to include handheld multimeters and develop requirements for these products .

4. EXECUTION OF THE MANDATE

2 months after acceptance	Time schedule for the execution of the mandate
8 months after acceptance	Presentation of a full work programme of standard(s) to be developed
24 months after acceptance	Adoption of standard(s) for listing in the Official Journal of the European Union

Under this mandate, CEN, CENELEC and ETSI should take due account of the defects that have been found in commercial multimeters by market surveillance authorities.

Where appropriate, alignment with equivalent activities planned and already undertaken in IEC should be ensured.

Due account should be taken of regulations and draft regulations adopted in other economies so as to ensure a global market for equipment.

Acceptance of this mandate by the responsible standardisation organisation starts the standstill period referred to in Article 7 of Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 June 1998

The titles of the standard(s) developed shall be forwarded to the Commission in the official languages of the European Union.

5. ORGANISATIONS TO BE INVOLVED

As appropriate, CEN, CENELEC and ETSI will invite the representative organisations of consumers' interests (ANEC), environmental protection (ECOS), workers (ETUI-REHS), small and medium-size enterprises (NORMAPME) and market surveillance authorities to take part in the standardisation work.