

Business Plan for a CEN Workshop on Personal Protective Equipment for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) hazards – PPE CBRN

Business Plan (version 1.3)

1 Introduction

In 2004 CEN established a Working Group of its Technical Board – CEN BT/WG 161 - on “Protection and Security of the Citizen”.

The aim of this Working Group is to implement voluntary standardization throughout Europe in this field, in order:

- to meet market needs
- to remove technical barriers to mobility and trade
- to provide technical support to European legislation and policy

The Working Group BTWG 161 has established a number of Expert Groups (EGs) to look at the needs for standards in specific areas, and identify issues where additional effort is required, and report to BT/WG161. One of these Expert Groups has considered with the whole issue of CBRN.

The CBRN Expert Group has agreed its objectives as “to identify activities and standards, including standards-like documents, legislation, guidance and research and development activities that should be taken into consideration in order to decrease the probability of CBRN incidents, and mitigate the effects (direct or indirect) and consequences of CBRN events on EU citizens”.

It is therefore necessary to now develop specifications for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for CBRN hazards, to ensure that European citizens are protected in the event of any CBRN incidents. To this end, the EG has prepared a draft Business Plan for a CEN Workshop concerning PPE for CBRN, and submitted it to CEN BT/WG161 for endorsement.

2 Document status

Version 1.3 approved during the kick-off meeting in Delft 2008-06-12

3 Proposers

CEN BT/WG161 Expert Group on CBRN.

The Expert Group contains a range of companies producing relevant equipment. It is expected that the Workshop will interest additional such companies, as well as public administrations and agencies, and companies and associations in critical areas potentially needing to use the equipment.

4 Market overview

The formation by CEN of CEN BT/WG161 “Protection and Security of the Citizen”, clearly demonstrates the current feeling that standards activity may help reduce risks to European citizens from a range of hazards.

These include CBRN, with potential terrorist attacks, but also an increased awareness of natural or man-made accidental disasters and incidents, involving chemical plants, the transportation of chemicals, nuclear products and waste etc.

Europe therefore needs to ensure in the event of CBRN incidents, whether these emerge within Europe or from outside, the safety of its citizens and emergency services*, security personnel, border control personnel, employees in critical industries (including public utilities – gas, electric and water supplies – the transport industry, essential public administration – national and local - and others). The key industries will include those mentioned in the European Union Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP), and are listed in Annex A to the present Business Plan.

(* definition to be inserted after first plenary meeting)

The provision of a specification for PPE for CBRN hazards will help ensure that suitable equipment is provided for these circumstances.

This equipment will be produced and placed on the market by a number of distinct industries:

- chemical protective clothing
- biological protective clothing
- radiological/nuclear protective clothing
- head protection equipment
- respiratory equipment
- hand protection clothing and equipment
- protective footwear
- decontamination
- detection apparatus

The Workshop will also be of interest notified bodies and other test houses who have competence in the field of the EU Directives for PPE (89/686/EEC) and medical devices (93/42/EEC), to the European Employers’ Safety Federation (ESF) and to EU Social Partner User Groups (ETUC).

5 Relationship with Directives 89/686/EEC and 93/42/EEC

Compliance with the CEN Workshop Agreement cannot be assumed to grant presumption of conformity with the PPE Directive or the MDD. However, this may be achieved through compliance of the same equipment with existing harmonized European Standards (EN) from

CEN that have been listed in the Official Journal of the European Union as meeting the essential requirements of the respective Directive.

For the definition of PPE and medical devices, see the definitions given in the respective directives.

6 Workshop objectives

The proposed Workshop will allow CBRN PPE issues to be discussed and debated in a dedicated environment, with a view to reaching consensus on a CEN Workshop Agreement, in order to facilitate the manufacturing and marketing of PPE that protects adequately against CBRN hazards.

On the basis of the SMART concept, the Workshop objectives are to ensure the following:

- Specific – PPE specifically developed and manufactured to the CEN Workshop Agreement, preparing and enabling citizens and emergency services who have to respond to CBRN incidents to be ready and equipped, but more importantly safe in doing the very dangerous tasks that are asked of them;
- Measurable – The objectives and outcomes of the CEN Workshop Agreement will be demonstrably able to be measured and tested for all PPE that is to be procured for the protection for those involved in CBRN incidents;
- Achievable – the CWA will allow the development of CBRN PPE that can be manufactured and tested to the requirements necessary to afford protection to those needing to wear it;
- Results Orientated – CBRN PPE will be able to be developed using accepted criteria for substances involved in the field of all CBRN activities. The test methods will demonstrate the requirements the equipment needs to meet;
- Time bound – The availability of CBRN PPE is critical. At the present time, most of those required to respond to incidents that potentially involve CBRN hazards, do so without adequate protection against them.

7 Workshop work programme and timescales

It is proposed the Workshop reach agreement within a period of 12-15 months, ultimately before the end of 2009.

Whilst this timeframe is ambitious, it is necessary for the security and protection of all European citizens, particularly those that risk their lives in protecting others.

The following work programme is proposed:

- April 2008 – announcement of Workshop, publication of draft Business Plan and placing the proposal on the web for public comment (60-day minimum)

- June 2008 – Workshop Kick-Off meeting in Delft, adoption of Business Plan taking account of comments, appointment of Chair and Secretariat, organizational aspects;
- September 2008- March/May 2009 - Development of draft CWA, with all work in between done either electronically or between Project Group Members. Project Group work will be carried out either electronically or at meetings, to be agreed by the Group(s).
- March/May 2009 – second Workshop Plenary meeting, to consider draft CWA;
- June 2009 - July 2009 60 days' public comment period on the draft CWA – redraft of CWA to take account of comments] –
- Mid-October 2009 – closing Plenary to approve CWA – can be done electronically but probably pretty desirable to have the physical meeting....]

8 Workshop Organization

The Chair will be chosen by the Kick-Off meeting following an open call
The Workshop Secretariat and the Chairman will be confirmed by the Kick-Off meeting.
NEN, the Dutch CEN Member, has expressed a willingness to act as Secretariat.

The scope and Convenorship of any Project Groups will be decided at the Kick-Off meeting.

A Consultant will be appointed to deal with the technical issues, bringing together the final draft. The Consultant will be appointed by a neutral selection panel following an open call and under CEN Project Team rules. Detailed Terms of Reference will be agreed by the Kick-Off meeting. (They will be visible on the CEN WEB site as from mid-May 2008.)

The Consultant's role will include close liaison with the CEN Workshop Secretariat (NEN), Project Group Convenors, manufacturer's and other organisations. He/she will be required to bring together the document/s in a timely fashion, circulating drafts to all concerned.

The Secretariat along with the Consultant will collate technical comments received and when agreed, incorporate into the draft CWA.

9 Resource requirements

The Workshop Secretariat and the Consultant will be financed by the EU (DG JLS) under contract. Participation in the Workshop will be free of charge to registered participants (participants bear their own travel cost to meetings).

10 Related activities and external liaisons

Consideration should be given to:

- BS 8467
- BS 8468
- Relevant EN and ISO standards
- NFPA 1971:2007
- NIOSH September 30, 2003
- Personal Protection Hood Masks Specifications (Israel)

Discussions will also be held with the USA Homeland Securities Inter-Agency Board (IAB) and with appropriate Research Establishments and Manufacturer's Organisations to ensure all relevant information is taken into account.

11 Contact points

Chairman
Otto Nederlof
Director
CIRCLE NED Trade Consult B.V.
Mackaylaan 17
NL – 1272 Ga Huizen
Tel.: +31 355 230 387
E-mail: circledned@telfort.nl

Secretariat:
NEN
Steven van der Minne
Tel (+31) 15 2690 314
Steven.vanderminne@nen.nl

CEN Management Centre :
Ms Gaïd Le Gall
Programme Manager,
New Opportunities and Pre-Standard Department
Tel (+32) 2 550 09 39,
fax (+32) 2 550 08 19
e-mail : gaid.legall@cen.eu

Annex A

Extract from Annex 2 to the European Commission CIP Green Paper

This proposal is intended to meet the requirements as set in the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Framework Green Paper, specifically the following sections of Annex 2:

- I - 1 Energy –
Potential for use in Oil and Gas production, refining, treatment and storage, including pipelines by Operatives
- III – Water – 13 - Provision of drinking water.
Protection for Operatives in the event of a CBRN Event
- V – Health - 18 Medicines, serums, vaccine and pharmaceuticals
Possible contamination of those working in these arenas
- V – Health -19 – Bio-laboratories and bio-agents
Protection of the Operatives, particular as there is a rise in attacks from Animal rights campaigners against such establishments.
- VII - Public & Legal Order and Safety – 22 Maintaining public & legal order, safety and security
- VIII Civil Administration
24 - Government functions
26 – Civil administration services
27 – Emergency services
28 – Postal and courier services
In the event of attacks such as anthrax, CBRN PPE could be provided for staff to allow initial investigations and/or escape
- IX – Transport - 29 Road Transport
Accidents involving C, B, R, & N agents
- IX – Transport - 30 Rail Transport
Accidents involving C, B, R, & N agents. Use by trained Operatives.
- IX – Transport - 31 Air Traffic
Air accidents involving the carriage of C, B, R, & N Agents. Use by Airline personnel to investigate and/or escape.
- IX – Transport - 32 Inland waterways transport
Where large barges etc, are used to transport C, B, R, & N Agents. CBRN PPE could be provided as a first response, particularly in remote country areas where the response by Emergency Services could be delayed.

- IX – Transport - 33 Ocean and short-sea shipping
This is a major area of threat, e.g Ferries between France and the UK. CBRN PPE could be provided to trained Operatives to allow initial response until such time as the Emergency Services arrive.
- X – Chemical and nuclear industry – 34 Production and storage/processing of chemical and nuclear substances
There are many accidents involving these industries, CBRN PPE could be utilised to protect workers and/or local communities.
- X – Chemical and nuclear industry - 35 Pipelines of dangerous goods (chemical substances)
With the increase in pipelines throughout the EU, then such CBRN PPE could be provided at remote locations to allow for escape.