



Brussels, 17 June 1999

M/287 EN

MANDATE TO CEN FOR A UNIFORM SYSTEM FOR FUEL QUALITY MONITORING

I. MOTIVATION

Directive 98/70/EC relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and amending Directive 93/12/EEC, will be applied in the Member States on 1 January 2000. Pursuant to Directive 98/70 Member States shall ensure that petrol and diesel fuels shall not be marketed within their territory unless they comply with the environmental specifications contained in Directive 98/70 within the relevant timeframes.

Article 8.2 states that “the Commission will promote the development of a uniform system for fuel quality monitoring and that it may for the purpose of developing such a system request the assistance of the European Committee for Standardisation” (**CEN**). Pursuant to Article 12 of Directive 98/70, Directives 85/210EEC, 85/536/EEC and 87/441/EEC and the monitoring requirements contained therein shall be repealed from 1 January 2000. Thus the establishment of a standard for a fuel quality monitoring is important for the efficient, effective and comparable enforcement of current and future Community legislation on fuel quality and to assist Member States to demonstrate compliance with Directive 98/70.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE TASKS UNDER THE MANDATE

1. The Commission entrusts CEN with a mandate to establish the European standard(s) for monitoring the quality of fuels within the scope of Directive 98/70.
2. The standard will cover the following:
 - a) a sampling regime (number of samples, frequency, geographic distribution etc.) which will contribute to a statistically robust picture of the environmental specifications for fuels contained in Directive 98/70 in a Member State taking into account, in particular:
 - the marketed volume of the respective fuels;
 - volume apportionment between manufacturers and distributors.

- b) methods for fuel sampling in the marketing networks and in particular at service station pumps;
- c) methods for transport and storage of samples before and after analyses;
- d) an appropriate statistical analysis to interpret the results of the sampling programme which will address inter alia, confidence levels (e.g. 95%), reproducibility, seasonal grade differences, and variations over time and between geographic location;
- f) the recommended minimum level of technical competence which organisations conducting the sampling of fuel quality should possess;
- e) recommended technical criteria for laboratories conducting the fuel quality analyses;
- g) integration of the results of current work in CEN/TC 19 regarding the updating of standards EN 228 and EN 590 if available.

3. The Commission recommends that CEN take into account, as much as possible, standards and practices currently available in this area, at a national or international level.

III. EXECUTION OF THE MANDATE

1. CEN will present the draft standard (prEN) to the Commission before 31 December 2000.
2. The EN Standard will be adopted before 31 December 2001. At this date, the linguistic versions FR, EN, DE will be available, as well as the correct titles in other linguistic versions of the Community.
3. Within six months of its adoption, the standard (EN) will be transposed into a national standard and all the different national standards of the Member States will be withdrawn.
4. CEN will present a report to the Commission, once every six months, on the progress of its work