



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Aerospace, security, defence and equipment
Mechanical and electrical equipment

Brussels, 18th January 2006
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**STANDARDISATION MANDATE GIVEN TO THE EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR
STANDARDISATION (CEN) UNDER EC DIRECTIVE 98/37/EC RELATING TO
MACHINERY WITH A VIEW TO REVISION OF STANDARD EN ISO 14122-4:2004
" Safety of machinery - Permanent means of access to machinery -
Part 4: Fixed ladders "**

1. BACKGROUND

The above mentioned standard was adopted by CEN the 18 March 2003. After a formal objection lodged by France, the issue was discussed at the Machinery Working Group meeting held on the 7th/8th of June 2005. It emerged during the discussion that, due to clause 4.3.2 in conjunction with clauses 6.2 and 6.3, the standard failed to correctly address the essential health and safety requirements 1.5.15, 1.6.2 and 1.1.2(b) of Annex I to the directive.

As a result, a majority of Member States supported the French position and agreed not to publish the references of the standard in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. It was also the wish of the WG that a mandate to CEN should be drawn up in order to ensure that there would be an amended standard within the shortest delay. This procedure was further supported by the 98/34/EC Committee (Technical Standards and Regulations) in its meeting on 24th November 2005.

2. WORK COVERED BY THE MANDATE

CEN must revise the standard EN ISO 14122-4:2004, taking particular account of the essential health and safety requirements 1.5.15, 1.6.2 and 1.1.2(b) of Annex I to directive 98/37/EC.

In order to guarantee a high level of safety for persons working with machinery fitted with fixed ladders, the standard must delete all references to fall arresters, e.g. clauses 4.3.2 (defines the solution), 3.6.2 (definition); 4.2.1.3, 4.2.2.1, 4.4.2.2.b), 4.6, 4.7.4.3 (technical specifications), 6.2 (instructions for use), and 6.3 (marking).

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANDATE

- 3.1. The CEN will ensure that the Technical Committee responsible for this work treats it with the utmost urgency.
- 3.2. The CEN will present a draft revision of the standard to the Commission by 31 December 2006.
- 3.3. The CEN must adopt the amended European standard (EN) by 31 December 2007. The three language versions (DE, EN and FR) must be available by this date, as must the correct titles in the other official Community languages.
- 3.4. The European standard adopted will have to be transposed into national standards and divergent national standards will have to be withdrawn from the catalogues of the Member States' national standardisation bodies within six months of the adoption of the European standards.
- 3.5. The standstill period referred to in Article 7 of Directive 98/34/EC¹ of 22 June 1998 will commence on acceptance of this standardisation mandate by the CEN.

¹ OJ L 204 of 21.07.98, p. 37, as amended by Directive 98/48/EC (OJ L 217 of 5/8/98, p. 18).