



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
New Approach Industries, Tourism and CSR  
Mechanical, Electrical and Telecom Equipment

Brussels, 25th November 2008  
M/437 EN

**Standardisation mandate given to European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) under Directive 98/37/EC on machinery with a view to amendment of standard EN ISO 4254-1 “Agricultural machinery- Safety- Part 1: General requirements”**

**1. BACKGROUND**

The above mentioned standard was adopted by CEN on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2005. After a formal objection lodged by France, the issue was discussed at the Machinery Working Group meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2006. It emerged during the discussion that the standard failed to address the essential health and safety requirement 3.4.7 of Annex I to the Machinery Directive on the transmission of power between self-propelled machinery (or tractor) and recipient machinery since, according to the fourth paragraph of clause 1, the standard does not take account of hazards caused by the PTO drive-shaft between the tractor and the recipient machinery. It was pointed out that these hazards were the cause of numerous serious accidents and that the superseded harmonised standard, EN 1553:1999, had covered these hazards.

It was also noted that clause 4.6 of standard EN ISO 4254-1:2005 did not specify the necessary characteristics of fixed or movable guards used to prevent access to moving transmission parts in accordance with essential health and safety requirements 1.3.8, on the choice of protection against risks related to moving parts, and 1.4, on the required characteristics of guards and protection devices. The characteristics of such guards are specified in an option set out in Annex C of the standard. However, in line with Commission policy on the “Global relevance” of international standards, it was considered that the inclusion in a harmonised standard of options, one of which fails to comply with the relevant essential health and safety requirements of the Machinery Directive, was liable to create confusion as to the presumption of conformity conferred by the application of the standard.

As a result, it was decided not to publish the references of the standard in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. It was also the wish of the Machinery Working Group that a mandate should be given to CEN in order to ensure that the adoption of an amended standard as soon as possible. This procedure was further supported by the 98/34/EC Committee (Technical Standards and Regulations) through a written procedure ending on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

## **2. WORK COVERED BY THE MANDATE**

CEN shall amend the standard EN ISO 4254-1 taking particular account of the essential health and safety requirements 3.4.7, 1.3.8 and 1.4 of Annex I to Directive 98/37/EC.

## **3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANDATE**

- 3.1. CEN shall ensure that the Technical Committee responsible for this work treats it as a matter of urgency.
- 3.2. CEN shall present the necessary draft amended standard(s) to the Commission by 30 June 2009
- 3.3. CEN shall adopt the amended European standard(s) by 31 December 2009. The English, French and German versions of the amended standard(s) shall be available by this date, as shall the correct titles in the other official Community languages.
- 3.4. The European standard(s) adopted shall be transposed into national standards and divergent national standards shall 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/EC<sup>1</sup> of 22 June 1998 will commence on acceptance of this standardisation mandate by CEN.

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<sup>1</sup> 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).