

ACTION PLAN

Expert: Ken Johnson
SBS expert coordinator: Eugenio Quintieri

1. Appointments:

CEN TC 53 WG 4, WG 16, SBS UEG Mirror Committee "European Regulations"

SBS appointments

Number/reference	Title of TC/SC/WG or other meeting designation	Role
CEN WG 4	Mobile Access Towers	Expert
CEN WG 16	New Standard to embrace all current Scaffolding related Standards	Expert and Sub group on Materials
CEN WG 4	Small Mobile Access Towers	Expert
ERWC	European Regulation Working Committee	Deputy Convenor

2. Detailed Action plan and objectives for the Technical Committee(s)

Note: At the last Plenary of CEN TC 53 it was decided that a new WG will be created. This new WG will deal with the restructuring of all relevant scaffolding standards in the coming years and create a new "core standard". It will be a significant body of work, therefore we are very glad and grateful that the wish of the UEG was followed and that we are two experts: Karsten Weise and myself are appointed as experts in the new established WG 16, so that we could complement each other. We represent the same interest and presides the same Mirror Committee, so everything, which is reported about **WG 16 will be co-authored**. The same concerns our Expert Mirror Committee European Regulation (ERWC) and facts concerning the CEN TC 53 in general.

2.1. Provisional calendar of meetings for your SBS appointments*

Meeting	Date	Location	Expert will attend (Yes/No)
Indicate the TC/SC/WG meeting			
SBS expert meeting	02.02.2021		yes
SBS expert meeting	03.02.2021		yes
WG4	17.02.2021		yes
WG 16	23.02.2021		yes
WG4 SMATS	08.03.2021		yes
EWRC	11.06.2021		yes

2.2. SME relevance

The individual character of scaffolding as a craft is depending on special products. The obligation to stick to regulations as technical standards forces the contractors to use exclusively products that fulfil the performance requirements given in these standards. Any significant change in these standards might affect the market in a way, that large investments in new products become necessary.

Although new investments might not be necessary because of practical reasons, they become an obligation in order to stick to the state of the art defined by recent standards.

All standards in the scope of TC 53 are affecting huge amounts of equipment of our member enterprises. There is no difference, which product is taken into consideration: scaffolds, protection fans, encapsulation systems or even mobile access towers. Each modification in a standard changes the conditions for SMEs and might cause serious additional costs for SMEs.

A deviation from current standards by implementing new rules and regulations might lead to new products, and force the SMEs to invest in these products. It is generally known that the products scaffolders use have a long durability. If they are treated with care and not misused they can be used without any problem for a long span of time, in most cases for decades.

The intended modifications of standards are often unjustified and counter-productive, as they do not reflect the needs of the SMEs. Allowing standards to be developed without regarding the practical needs of SMEs should be avoided.

2.3. Main documents and work under development in the next 12 months

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TC/SC/WG	Document Reference	Title/topic	Current stage of development	Expected development over the next 12 months
WG 4	EN 1004	Review and consideration for EN 1298	Final Stage	Complete in 2021 Consideration of light working platforms to 2 m to completion.
WG 16	No Number	Complete Scaffolding Standard	First meeting 23.02.21	The scope and comparisons between existing standards will complete this year to enable the standard to be written in the future

2.4. Main objectives/strategy

WG 4 Mobile Access Towers

The review has been completed over the two years and will come back to the working group for finalisation later in the year. It has no impact on SME's except to say that Mobile Access Towers are used frequently in SME's but can be missused in greater expectation of their capability. This should be resolved in training and is an issue sometimes beyond Standards where safe working practices must be adhered to. Our experience and that of UEG allows for clarity in this regard but not Policing. We also have to consider that while working Groups enjoy the support of manufacturers we still have to consider the impact of trending products working within the standarad to minimise product replace

WG 16

At the Plenary of CEN TC 53 it was decided to create a new Working Group. The WG 16 was created and DIN holds the secretariat. Dr. Christian Fröhlich has taken the responsibilities and duties as the convenor of WG 16 for a period of 6 years.

Inventory of the existing standards. Due to the volume of work, several sub-working groups are necessary.

Developing a synopsis of comparable essential contents of relevant standards in TC 53; critical analysis and comparison.

Reassessing the content and synthesis.

Comparison with Eurocodes.

A meeting where the scope was discussed took place on 23rd February, see above.

The main objectives with my presence in the above-mentioned TC(s)/WG(s) are:

The target is that this new standard, called the core standard, will precede all other standards. All other standards will be based on and refer to the new core standard. The provisions made in the core standard will only have to be mentioned in the specific standard if they had to be deviated from.

What are the 3-5 main issues/topics you will be working on and how do you plan to address them?

The target is that this new standard, called the core standard, will precede all other standards. All other standards will be based on and refer to the new core standard. The provisions made in the core standard will only have to be mentioned in the specific standard if they had to be deviated from.

What is the desired outcome of your actions for the above-mentioned issues?

WG 4

The next meeting is 08.03.21 will discuss design comments from Italian Mirror Committee and this first meeting of the group for me will establish the work timescale that I expect to complete this year as many products are well established. These products with working height up to 2m again prove very usefull for SME's with little training but pose the same questions of limitations in use

and expectations. They also create an old safety factor that falling from 2m has lower impact but this creates an aspect of the product never intended and the standard will ensure safe working practice. Some countries struggle to report on injuries using these products as they are often not reported. They are also often used by other trades people with no scaffolding or work at height knowledge.

WG 16

The idea is a uniform manner and the basic definitions and rules that apply to all specific standards in TC 53.

The benefits for all users of standards as well as SMEs of such a core standard include:

- Before any of the existing technical standards were revised, the "core standard" will have to be developed first. This could simplify future systematic reviews. This simplification helps especially SMEs.
- A clearer structure and hierarchy in the TC 53 standards can be conceived while developing the core standard
- Many regulations in individual standards on selected types of constructions may be omitted as they are already defined in the core standard. This approach helps to simplify and streamline the standards on selected types of construction.
- This concept allows to disregard any out of date or unclear cross references.

3. Other specific actions and collaboration with experts / SBS Committee/ Mirror Committee

The goal to convince the members of the Mirror Committee „European Regulations“ to create a new working group, which develops a “core standard” which is very important for all people working with temporary work equipment has been reached by my predecessor, Christoph Bügler. We will have several Mirror Committee Meetings during the year. Until now only one event is scheduled on 11th June. The focus will be on the new WG 16. Further dates of meetings with the ERWC depends on the outcome of the CEN TC 53 WG meetings, if there are topics to mirror we will schedule ERWC meeting.

3.1. TC state of play

The chairmanship of Marco Einhaus ended on 9th October. The DIN proposed Robert Hertle as new chairman of CEN/TC 53 for a period of 3 years.

Creation of new working group and adoption of preliminary work item for the core standard has been taken at the last Plenary.

For the creation of a WG a preliminary work item with a preliminary scope and the title of the project can still be changed afterwards.

The participants agreed to fix the scope of the new standards as a first goal in the new working group.

Disbandment of CEN/TC 53 Working Group 15 “Execution”

All TCs may give a justification for cases in which an inactive WG should not be disbanded. The results will be presented to BT for a decision on the status of the WG. In Future no WG may be

set to dormant. But a disbanded WG can be reactivated by its TC at any time as soon as a specific task needs to be undertaken by the WG.

WG 15 has completed all its specific tasks: all assigned activities and tasks have been completed and the EN 17293 has been published.

Appointment of the Convenor of a working Group 16

The WG 16 was created and DIN will hold the secretariat. Christian Fröhlich has demonstrated his commitment to take the responsibilities and duties as the convenor of WG 16 for a period of 6 years.

With the foundation of WG 16 with Dr. Christian Fröhlich as Convenor a reconstruction of the whole TC is planned, see above.

3.2. Actions outside of formal meetings

The Mirror Committee (ERWC) plans an information event on 11th June 2021 to inform about the development of the new Working Group 16, which will influence all other existing standards of TC 53.

3.3. SBS Committee/ Mirror Committee

In the Mirror Committee “European Regulations”, which is presided by Karsten Weise and myself are experts from nine different countries

As already pointed out in former reports: The goal to convince the members of the Mirror Committee „European Regulations“ to create a new working group, which develops a “core standard” which is very important for all people working with temporary work equipment has been reached.

We will have several Mirror Committee Meetings during the year. Until now only one event is scheduled on 11th June. The focus will be on the new WG 16. Further dates of meetings with the ERWC depends on the outcome of the CEN TC 53 meetings, if there are topics to mirror we will schedule ERWC meeting.

3.4. Meeting participation plan for meetings other than TC meetings listed above

The Mirror Committee will meet always if there are processes in the TCs, which must be mirrored.

So flexibility is necessary.

3.5. Collaboration with other associations or other stakeholders (outside of any Mirror Committee activities)

In our Mirror Committee „European Regulations“ are as mentioned above nine experts from nine different countries. These nine different experts are also the representatives of all the different national scaffolding associations, which are members of the UEG. The Mirror Committee joins also sometimes the associate members of the UEG, which means further stakeholders concerning the scaffolding sector.

4. Other Comments

We know that there is a change concerning the structure of SBS planned. A dissolution of all the consist Mirror Committees was discussed. The continuation of our very efficient SBS Expert Mirror Committee ERWC is essential for us. In the last eight years we could move very much in the TC 53 through the SBS Mirror Committee. This SBS Mirror Committee UEG / ERWC is a joint force of national scaffolding experts from nine different countries and it is vital to continue pushing SME's interests in European standardization.

Annex A: SBS Mirror Committee

Covenor: Karsten Weise; Deputy Convenor: Ken Johnson

Name of technical committee	Name	Country	Organisation	
ERWC	Cédric Cagnazzo	CH	SGUV (Schweiz. Gerüstbauunternehmerverband)	
ERWC	Ahti Niskanen	FI	Confederation of Finnish Construction Industries	
ERWC	Jyrki Furuholm	FI	Confederation of Finnish Construction Industries	
ERWC	Karsten Weise	GER	UEG	
ERWC	Werner Majer	GER	BI (Bundesinnung für das Gerüst- bauhandwerk)	
ERWC	Udo Roth	GER	GSV (Gütschutzverband Stahlgerüstbau)	
ERWC	Marc Herkes	Lux	FECEL (Fédération des Entreprises de Constructions d'Echafaudages)	
ERWC	André Schröder	Lux	FECEL (Fédération des Entreprises de Constructions d'Echafaudages)	
ERWC	Geir Gule	NO	SEF (Stillasentreprenørenes Forening)	
ERWC	Aage Christiansen	NO	SEF (Stillasentreprenørenes Forening)	
ERWC	Ingvar Martinson	SE	STIB STÄLLNINGSENTREPRENÖRERN A	
ERWC	Gabriel Staniul	FR	SFECE (Syndicat Francaise l'Echafaudage, du Coffrage et de l'Etalement)	

ERWC	Piotr Kmiecik	POL	PIGR (Polska Izba Gospodarcza Rusztowań)	
ERWC	Peter van Oers	NL	VSB (Vereniging van Steiger-, Hoogwerk- en)	
ERWC	Steve Prower	UK	NASC (National Access & Scaffolding Confederation)	