

# General information about National, European and International standards

## National Standards

DIN - Deutsche Industrie Norm  
BS - British Standard etc.

## European Standards

are mandatory for all EU member countries including the associative countries Norway, Iceland and Switzerland. EU member countries are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italia, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

CEN - Comité Européen de Normalisation  
EN XXX - European Norm  
prEN XXX - Preliminary European Norm (Draft, no final Standard)

**In case a European standard is published, national standards with the same content automatically become obsolete within the EC member countries.**

## World Wide Standards

ISO - International Standard Organization  
ISO XXX - International Standard  
ISO/DIS XXX - Draft International Standard (no final version)

ISO members are the national standard organizations of all European countries, USA, Japan and many other countries.

**In 2005 many ISO- and EN standards merged to one identical EN-ISO standard.**

Standards for biological and chemical indicators as well as standards for validation are currently merging.

EN-ISO XXX - International Standard, taken over as European Norm as well