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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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Foreword

This document (CEN/TR 13737-1:2012) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 234 "Gas infrastructure", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This document supersedes CR 13737:2001.

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Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 234 instigated by resolution BT 53/1998 (see Annex A). In its functional standards CEN/TC 234 establishes common safety principles to design, construct, operate and maintain safe and reliable gas infrastructure systems. The detail to comply with these principles is left to recognised national documents in support of national legislation. In the event of conflicts in terms of more restrictive requirements in the national legislation/regulation with the requirements of CEN/TC 234 standards the national legislation/regulation take precedence as illustrated in part 2 of this CEN Technical Report. The listing of legislation/regulations has been extended to cover all CEN/TC 234 standards.

CEN functional standards are a relatively novel concept. The CEN/TC 234 standards are amongst the first to be submitted to public enquiry. At the start of the elaboration of the functional standards a way had to be found to ensure compliance with the CEN internal regulations. For this purpose CEN/TC 234 prepared its "Position Paper - Acceptance of CEN/TC 234 Standards" N 432 which was endorsed by CEN/BT Resolution C14/1997 (see Annex B), now incorporated in this document.

The relation between EN Standards and national standards and/or regulations is defined by CEN Internal regulations. A clarification for implementation of the CEN/TC 234 standards in the CEN member countries is given in this document.

Part 2 of this Technical Report contains, for each country affected, a national page where the relevant national legislation/regulations for the field of gas infrastructure are listed. The national page may further contain the relevant national standards and/or codes of practice and national bodies which can act as further sources of information, if an interested party needs further guidance.

The national page may, if necessary, indicate any requirements in the national legislation/regulations that are more stringent than those in the European Standards prepared by CEN/TC 234. This is done however without giving any details. This does not apply to requirements contained in clauses that are harmonised to any new approach directive.

Although the CEN/TC 234 standards refer to CR 13737:2000 (or later editions) it should be emphasised that the latest available version of CEN/TR 13737 part 1 and 2 is valid.

The listing of the national legislation/regulations is established by each CEN member. The responsibility for the content of the national page is assumed by the individual CEN members.

NOTE Part 2 of this CEN/TR gives the current situation at the date of publication. Considering that national legislation/regulations may have changed in the countries involved since that date it is up to individuals to check whether the information is still accurate.

1 Scope

This part of the Technical Report contains the definition of "Functional Standardisation" in the context of CEN/TC 234 and explains their relationship with relevant European Directives, national legislation and national standards.

It is intended as a guideline for the national implementation of the functional European Standards elaborated by CEN/TC 234 "Gas infrastructure".

2 CEN/TC 234 "functional standards"

2.1 Definition of the term "Functional standardization"

Within the framework of CEN there is a distinction between product related standardisation and function related standardisation.

Functional standards specify function of technically complex systems, function meaning: "*the work or activity something is designed to do*". The functional standards for gas infrastructure therefore cover the many activities related to the creation of gas infrastructure systems, and to their proper operation and maintenance. Therefore, the term functional refers in broad terms to all of the technical and operational activities necessary to ensure that gas infrastructure systems fulfil their purpose, i.e. to provide a safe, continuous and reliable supply of gas to consumers.

2.2 Content

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The CEN/TC 234 functional standards shall specify the common appropriate principles, taking the form of: recommendations, requirements, and the recognised practices concerning design, construction, operation and maintenance, all fon the safety and integrity of gas infrastructure systems. This does not preclude the possibility of introducing detailed technical requirements/specifications providing consensus can be reached between the members of CEN/TC 234.

Such details can include:

- precise physical limitation;
- pressure levels;
- temperature ranges;
- type of gas;
- relationship with codes of practice and/or national detailed standard or specification.

It is the aim of CEN/TC 234 to extend the details contained in the standards as they are revised over the years respecting the objective of CEN to harmonise technical standards on a European and international level.

The functional standards of CEN/TC 234 are established within the framework of the EC Directive 93/38 following the EC standardisation mandate M/017. Directive 93/38 is now superseded by "DIRECTIVE 2004/17/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 31 March 2004 coordinating the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors".

More recently CEN/TC 234 has had to consider the objectives of "DIRECTIVE 2009/73/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 13 July 2009 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas and repealing Directive 2003/55/EC (the revision of 98/30/EC). The primary objective of this Directive is to open the European natural gas market to competition while maintaining safe

and reliable networks. To achieve this it is necessary to ensure interoperability between different networks. Networks designed, built and maintained to CEN/TC 234 functional standards will ensure this interoperability objective is achieved.

3 Relationship between CEN/TC 234 functional standards and national standards

European gas infrastructure standards have been written to cover principles of gas infrastructure systems. These standards may be complemented by more detailed and/or stringent national standards, which have different scopes (e.g. larger scopes). Care shall be taken that these national standards do not cause barriers to trade.

These detailed standards remain essential for compliance with national legal requirements and the safe understanding of many complex operations on gas infrastructure systems. There is an imperative need for the coexistence of CEN/TC 234 functional standards and/or national codes of practice and/or national detailed standards.

All the adopted and ratified European Standards need to be implemented nationally, this comes from the enforcement of the CEN Rules, (see CEN IR Part 2: 2006, 11.2.1.1 and 11.2.6.2). Although they are intended to facilitate the development of the single market and common practices throughout the EU, one major point of concern is the proper application of CEN Rules when dealing with functional standards, i.e. the obligation on all members to withdraw conflicting national standards. Conflicting national standards are defined in the rules as:

"2.13

conflicting national standard iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW

national standard, with the same scope as an EN (and HD for CENELEC) including requirements which conflict with the requirements of the EN (and HD for CENELEC) ten.al)

Therefore it is essential that care is taken when drafting the scope of functional European Standards, in order to allow the coexistence of detailed and complementary standards. For this reason, the title and scope shall be precise and reflect what is covered by the EN as well as what is not covered.

4 A-deviations in the context of functional standards elaborated by CEN/TC 234

An **A-deviation** is a national deviation from an EN due to **regulations**, the alteration of which is for the time being outside of the competence of the CEN member (CEN IR Part 2 - 2.17). Before, making a request for an A-deviation, the CEN member shall examine its national situation critically in accordance with CEN IR Part 2, Annex E. (See Annex A).

The standards elaborated within the CEN system shall be compatible with the European legislation. Outside the context of New Approach Directives, these standards need to be in line with existing national legislation.

In general, when some requirements of European Standards cannot be applied because of existing national conflicting legislation, the CEN member has the duty to submit a request for an A-deviation to the relevant CEN/TC.

If by meeting a requirement of a national law, the corresponding requirement of a European Standard is also met then there is no need for an "A-deviation". Where by meeting a requirement of a national law, the corresponding requirement of the European Standard will not be met, an "A-deviation" is required. The request shall give exact reference to the legal requirements and the reasons for them and shall be made at the latest during the CEN enquiry (see CEN IR Part 2, E.2.3). The procedure to be followed is given in BT Resolution 59/1996 and its supporting document BT N 4632 (see Annex B).

The TC and the Working Groups of CEN/TC 234 shall consider carefully proposals for an "A-deviation" made during the CEN Enquiry. They may amend their drafts so as to avoid the need for A-deviations, or keep their number to the strict minimum. A-deviations shall be exceptional.

When some "A-deviations" are considered necessary, the working groups shall create the relevant annex to the draft. Alternatively the preferred approach is for the relevant member body to include the details of their national legal requirements in part 2 of this CEN/TR. In this way CEN/TR 13737-2 is, in effect, a consolidated list of all A-deviations applicable to CEN/TC 234 standards.

In the event of a member including information about more detailed requirements in CEN/TR 13737-2 it is recommended that the member should draw the attention of the reader to this in a national forward.

5 Conclusions

With a view to achieving the objectives of CEN/TC 234 in line with CEN rules, the following text shall be included in the scope of CEN/TC 234 standards:

"This European Standard specifies common basic principles for gas infrastructure. Users of this standard should be aware that more detailed national standards and/or code of practice may exist in the CEN member countries.

This European Standard is intended to be applied in association with these national standards and/or codes of practice setting out the above-mentioned basic principles.

In the event of conflicts in terms of more restrictive requirements in national legislation/regulation with the requirements of this standard, the national legislation/regulation takes precedence as illustrated in CEN/TR 13737.

CEN/TR 13737 gives: **iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**

- clarification of all legislations/regulations applicable in a member state;
- if appropriate, more restrictive national requirements; 7-1:2013

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- a national contact point for the latest information: "-tr-13737-1-2013

Where the standard is harmonised to a New Approach Directive the following text shall be included after the third paragraph:

"NOTE This does not apply to requirements contained in clauses that are harmonised to Directive XX/XX/EC (see Annex ZA)."