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## One can only go so far with politeness... eu.bac, as founding member, welcomes the launch of INGRESS

Industry standards are mainly developed by industry representatives working in national, European and international standardization committees supported by scientists and other experts. Industry standards are a perfect basis for regulatory action on safety, energy efficiency and other hot topics. Moreover, the industry covers about 95 % of the cost related to the development of standards. Without the cooperation of the industry in the field of standardization, regulators would have a hard time developing standards that are beneficial for European customers, the climate and the environment.

Nevertheless, European manufacturers find themselves in a strange situation with respect to European standards. For some time now, industry has been politely requesting inclusion as an observer to the regulatory Committee on Standards (CoS). This is the body that takes implementing decisions on European Commission standardisation requests. These decisions invariably have an impact (be it positive or negative) on the European markets and companies using harmonised standards to show compliance with EU product legislation.

So why not involve industry as one of the accepted 'observers' that Regulation EU 1025/2012 on European Standardisation denotes to 4 categories of stakeholders? As the recent Competitiveness Council conclusions stressed "the need for the European Standardisation system to remain inclusive, transparent, market-driven and efficient, and to be fit for the future".

The 'INGRESS' (INdustry GRoup on European Standardisation Strategy) platform has therefore been born from the common wish to together inform European policy makers about industry's interests and priorities for using harmonised standards in the framework of Regulation EU 1025/2012. So far, eu.bac and 15 other European industry associations have teamed up within INGRESS, with the numbers anticipated to rise rapidly – not surprising when one considers the enormity of the issue at stake.

"Harmonized standards play a vital role for the European Industry as well as for an open and competitive market. They ensure that norms to help consumers and market players, the climate and the environment are covering the European landscape and are often the basis for worldwide standardization plans. It is also convincing to see countries like China adapting reliable European standards to their needs. To strengthen the processes in Europe therefore does not only help the industry but the planet. It is therefore hard to believe that the European Commission and Member States are able to define the future of European standardization and the link to legislation without involving the industry as the main stakeholder." said Peter Hug, Managing Director of eu.bac



## About eu.bac



eu.bac is the European Building Automation and Controls Association. It represents some 85% of the European manufacturers of products and systems for home and building automation. eu.bac has founded the European Association of Energy Services Companies (eu.esco) for promoting Energy Performance Contracts as the solution for more energy efficiency in existing buildings. For a full and updated overview of our membership, please see [www.eubac.org](http://www.eubac.org)

More importantly, eu.bac members' products, systems and services manage over half of the energy demand in the European Union, reducing waste, ensuring flexibility and moderation of demand and increasing efficiency. By providing distributed intelligence, eu.bac members' products, systems and services ensure that the built environment is ready and able to respond to smart grid signals, demands and supplies.

eu.bac, has developed its own robust certification scheme, eu.bac CERT, and an on-site system audit scheme based on EN 15232. eu.bac CERT assures that technologies (products and systems) in the area of building automation and controls are in conformity with European Directives and with European Standards. The eu.bac CERT mark is the symbol that represents energy efficiency, quality and reliability. eu.bac system audit ensures an efficient and sustainable integrated operation of technical building systems resulting in high indoor environment quality and energy savings over the complete life cycle of the system.

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