

August 2013

Newsletter

***“National Standardization Systems:
experiencing best practices in Europe”***



3rd Mobility of CYS staff to SN—Norway

During the last week of June **Standards Norway (SN)** organized a one week seminar addressed to seven officers/executives of **Cyprus Organization for Standardisation (CYS)**. The seminar makes part of a wider project entitled **“National Standardization Systems: experiencing best practices in Europe”** within Leonardo da Vinci – Mobility programme implemented by CYS (<http://cys-leonardo.standardization.blogspot.gr>).

CYS Officers and executives had the opportunity, through presentations and discussions, to look at the way SN performs and conducts standardization activities in Norway.

According to the structure of the training, each day programme included case studies, team work, and lectures made by SN officers. The Norwegian Electrotechnical Committee and Standards Online also participated in the educational process as well by delivering lectures. Some of the topics included in the program were:

- ⇒ Cooperation with other countries
- ⇒ National rules for Standardization
- ⇒ How to manage committees and mirror standardization committees
- ⇒ Training both employees and onther associates in Standardization work
- ⇒ Ways used by SN to deal with Marketing and Sales of standards
- ⇒ Voting procedure, including the way used by SN to fulfill its formal commitments related to this area
- ⇒ Informatics and IT
- ⇒ Completion and publication of standards
- ⇒ Links between standards and national regulation
- ⇒ Activities aimed the involvement of universities and colleges at standardization work
- ⇒ Consumer participation
- ⇒ How to work with new projects
- ⇒ European and International committees with low national interest
- ⇒ Standardization related to the petroleum industry



Participants were very interested in how SN solves its tasks, and the experiences it has gained in its work. Many good questions were raised by the participants and SN officers tried to answer the best way possible. The challenge will always be to work most effectively with the resources someone has available. In particular this will apply to the smaller member states of CEN and ISO.



Participants of the 3rd Flow in the building of SN together with Mr. Einar Morten PR Advisor of SN



Participants gained ideas through their participation, not necessarily to adjust them to the Cypriot reality but to be the source of inspiration in order to look after and to find out their own solutions that fit in relation to the framework conditions in Cyprus.

Through this educational visit to Norway the cycle of trainings foreseen in the Leonardo project came to the end. As a whole, 20 officers and executives of CYS took actively part in the Mobilities.

The project has been approved and fully financed by the **Foundation for the Management of European (EU) Lifelong Learning Programmes (IDEP)**.



CYS staff training sessions at SN

Short profile of Standards Norway

Standards Norway (SN) is a private and independent member organization, and is one out of three standardization bodies in Norway. Standards Norway is responsible for standardization activities in all areas except the electrotechnical field and the telecommunications field.

It is the national member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the European Committee for standardization (CEN) and it holds a seat on the boards of these organizations.

Standards Norway is the leading player for national and international standardization in Norway.

Trainers say their opinion

On behalf of the Petroleum team at Standards Norway, I experienced an active audience. We had some discussions both on standardization issues and Norway's Income Model within Oil exploration and production. We hope for good prospects to come for the Cyprian petroleum area. We hope NORSOK may be a good model for developing Industrial petroleum standards". Jens O. Gran.

"It is always interesting to meet representatives from other standardization organizations and to share experiences with them. My impression is that there was a genuine interest from the audience for the topic of duties and responsibilities of a CEN TC-secretariat, especially since Cyprus has not yet undertaken such a responsibility. Two interesting key questions from the audience were a) how to finance the activity and b) what is the payback. In this specific case, CEN/TC135, the sales of committee-related standards is the main source of income. The main payback is 1) the development of personal network of experts and other delegates on topics which are important for the standardization in Norway and 2) the influence by Standards Norway on the success of a project which Norway has initiated and which Norway strongly supports, i.e. the fact that execution standards are developed separately from design standards". Roald Sægrov.

We discussed the consumer work in CYS and Standards Norway and we have the same challenges regarding engaging national consumers in international projects. The positive dialogue between two sister organizations like CYS and SN gave birth to new ideas on how to work, engage and communicate with stakeholders. We hope to see CYS at the ISO/COPOLCO Plenar in Geneva next year". M. Holmen Murvold

It was very interesting to meet our friendly and enthusiastic colleagues from CYS. We discussed electronic tools used in standardization work, as well as processes relating to implementation and quality assurance of national, European and international standards. We identified both similarities as regards the way we work, as well as differences. Our discussions may hopefully provide both our organizations with input to our future work". Kjersti Drøsdal Vikøren.

"To meet colleagues from our sister organizations is always very interesting. I have previously met colleagues from CYS in various international meetings and my impression is that CYS is a well-functioning organization. This impression was confirmed during the visit last week. It was a pleasure to meet a group of enthusiastic "young colleagues" with an impressive in-depth knowledge of a wide variety of aspects regarding the interface between standardization and regulation, public procurement, etc. It was also interesting for us to learn how CYS is organized and is managing their work with regard to dealing with the large number of TC's in CEN". Tom Høseggen.



CYS staff training sessions at SN



Participants say their opinion

The experience through my participation with the seminar organized by SN has been very satisfactory and useful. We had the opportunity to be informed and to acquaint best practices performed by SN, in specific areas that affect us directly. As a result, we turned back to Cyprus with many ideas and ways to deal with issues that concern us in these particular areas, but also ways to improve our efficiency and effectiveness. SN staff has been very welcoming, and intended to collaborate with us not only through lectures but also productive discussions. The atmosphere created was excellent, both as regards to the educational part, as well as to the cultural aspect. Oslo is a beautiful destination with remarkable people and impressive quality infrastructure such as SN, ensuring a very high level of quality of life. E. Demosthenous

Our visit to Oslo and the SN has been a unique experience. The organization of the training program, has been excellent. Rich, interesting and relevant topics have been analyzed with enthusiasm and professionalism by all lecturers. The hospitality offered by the Norwegians "hosts" has been impeccable and exemplary. I. Eleftheriou

A unique experience full of social, cultural and group moments that will remain imprinted in my memory. Attending a training seminar in a different environment provided us with particular benefits, allowing us to escape from the everyday routine. Besides, the visit at SN offered me the opportunity to meet with the working culture of the country, to exchange and discuss new, job-related ideas and in addition to cooperate with participants who I already knew or I was meeting for the first time. C.Papageorgiou

Information about the project can be founded in:

- the project BLOG (<http://cys-leonardo-standardization.blogspot.gr/>),
- as well as in the webpage of CYS (<http://www.cys.org.cy/default.asp?id=299>)

My feelings, resulting from my participation in the project have been excellent, both professionally and personally. It has been a great experience because I had the opportunity to come into contact with new standard methods of good practice related to the European standardization system, the networking and the promotion of standardization among businesses and the general public through innovative means that the Norwegian colleagues use normally. I also had the opportunity to look at the way my Norwegian colleagues in the same field actually work and to exchange views on the field of Marketing, the implementing of the new campaigns of standards and the use of the social media. M. Theophanous

During the week spent in SN we had the opportunity to see closely how an organization other than CYS implements a project and what kind of methods / best practices it uses. There is definitely a difference between SN and CYS as concerns to the volume and the type of work, but this turned into an advantage for us since we left Norway with many ideas about the ways we can use to improve our services. We acquired a very good relationship with the officers of SN, which I think will be very useful in the future in terms of know-how and information exchange. A.Panayiotou

It has been undoubtedly a valuable experience getting to know more closely the structure, the way it operates and the internal procedures of SN. Despite the differences, mainly as concerns to the needs and the size of the market that SN is addressing to, we can draw on many positive elements and practices able to simplify and improve the way of operating of CYS. Through the contacts we had I would consider a probable cooperation between SN and CYS in the area of gas / oil as a very important success, as long as the Norwegians are pioneers in this field. Apart from the educational part, I had excellent feelings especially in terms of the hospitality, the mentality and the culture of the Norwegians. I. Vassiades

Our visit to the headquarters of SN constitutes a very good professional experience for us. It gave us the opportunity to get to know some effective ways of organizing National and European Commissions and also some very interesting presentations were made from almost all departments of SN related to the sales, the promotion of standards, raising citizens' awareness about standards, the organization of seminars, the selection of technical experts etc. We were also given useful information about the organization of CYS about Norwegian standards related to gas extraction. D.Varzakakos



Visit to Holmenkollen Ski Jump and fjords mini cruise



<http://www.cys.org.cy>



<http://www.nen.nl>



<http://www.ipq.pt>



<http://www.standard.no>

This publication has been funded with support from the European Commission and reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

PROJECT NUMBER
LLP-LdV-VETPRO-12-CY-
1671214