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Guidance for the application of conformity assessment to accessibility requirements for public procurement of ICT products and services in Europe

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# TECHNICAL REPORT

# **CEN/CLC/ETSI TR 101 552**

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### English version

# Guidance for the application of conformity assessment to accessibility requirements for public procurement of ICT products and services in Europe

This Technical Report was approved by CEN and CENELEC on 28 February 2014.

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#### Contents Page Foreword .......4 Introduction 5 1 2 Normative references .......6 3 Terms and definitions ......6 Key issues for conformity assessment in relation to procurement ......8 4 The Standard EN 301 549 and related documents ......8 4.1 4.2 Selection of type of evidence ......8 Methods to follow-up the supplier's performance of contracts ......9 4.3 Legal issues ......9 5.1 General legal issues on public procurement......9 5.2 European legal issues on public procurement.....9 5.3 European common framework for the marketing of products (CE Mark)......11 Accessibility in European public procurement .......13 5.4 5.5 National implementation of accessibility aspects of the European public procurement 6 6.1 6.2 6.2.1 Supplier's Declaration of Conformity ...... 17 6.2.2 Second party attestation......17 6.2.3 6.2.4 6.2.5 7.1 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5 7.5.1 7.5.2 7.5.3 7.5.4 Proprietary software 22 Open-source software and open standards .......22 7.5.5 Services 23 7.5.6 7.5.7 Distributed Application Platforms and Services .......24 7.5.8 7.5.9 Development of bespoke applications ......24 Maturity of the technology......24 7.6 7.7 7.8 Guidance on selection of type of evidence......27 R 8.1 8.1.1 8.1.2

8.1.3

8.1.4	Second party attestation	29
8.1.5	Third party certification	
8.1.6	Accredited third party certification	
8.1.7	Certificates as an administrative burden	30
8.2	Post-award conformity assessment	30
8.2.1	Conformity assessment after delivery	30
8.2.2	Conformity assessment in development contracts	31
8.2.3	Conformity assessment during use and operation	31
9	Follow-up methods for long-term contracts	21
9.1	Follow-up as part of a conformity assessment scheme	
9.2	Follow-up as contract management	
9.3	Follow-up of supplier capacity and ability	
9.4	Conformity to the standard EN 301 549	
9.5	Conformity to award criteria	
9.6	Contractual supplier processes for ensuring service quality	
9.6 9.7		
9.7	Organizational issues	.33
10	Use of accessibility label systems	33
Anney	A Standards for conformity assessment	35
A.1	Vocabulary, principles and common elements of conformity assessment	
A.2	Code of good practice for conformity assessment	
A.2 A.3	Drafting normative documents for use in conformity assessment	
A.3 A.4	Testing and calibration	
A.5	InspectionSupplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDoC)	
A.6	•••	
A.7	Product certification	
A.8	Management system certification	
A.9	Certification of persons	
A.10	Marks of conformity	
A.11	Accreditation	
A.12	Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs)	
A.13	Peer assessment	37
Annex	B Generic Templates for Declaring and Certifying Conformity	38
B.1	First party declaration of conformity	
B.2	Supplier's Declaration of Conformity	39
B.3	Second party attestation of conformity	
B.4	Third party certification of conformity	
B.5	Accredited third party certification of conformity	
Annov	C Templates for Declaring and Certifying Conformity with EN 301 549	40
Annex	C remplates for Declaring and Certifying Conformity with EN 301 549	40
C.1	First party declaration of conformity with EN 301 549	
C.2	Supplier's Declaration of Conformity with EN 301 549	
C.3	Second party attestation of conformity with EN 301 549	
C.4	Third party certification of conformity with EN 301 549	
C.5	Accredited third party certification of conformity with EN 301 549	56
Annex	D Abbreviations and Acronyms	59
Biblion	raphy	60
<b>-</b> .~∨9	· ~P· · · J · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	~~

# **Foreword**

This Technical Report (CEN/CLC/ETSI/TR 101 552:2014) is part of the European Standardization Organizations (ESOs) coordinated response to Mandate M/376, "Standardization Mandate to CEN, CENELEC and ETSI in support of European accessibility requirements for public procurement of products and services in the ICT domain" [33].

It has been prepared by the CEN/CENELEC Project Team (PT) under the CEN/CENELC/ETSI Joint Working Group (JWG) on eAccessibility, the secretariat of which is held by AENOR.

## Introduction

One of the key activities in the public procurement process is to assure that the product or service offered by the tenderer actually has the characteristics and qualities specified in the technical specifications and award criteria. Conformity assessment, as defined in the ISO/IEC 17000 series of standards (see Annex A.1), is an agreed framework for carrying out such assurance.

This Technical Report (TR) provides guidance to procuring bodies on which conformity assessment systems or schemes to refer to in their procurement.

"The purpose of this TR is to provide all reference documents needed to assess conformity, whether as a self declaration or a certification (referenced documentation following ISO/IEC 17000 series) needed to have the various schemes operational if procuring bodies would like to require a self declaration or a certificate." (See Mandate M/376 [33].) The TR includes generic (see Annex B) and EN 301 549 specific (see Annex C) templates for declaring or certifying conformity as well as advice on the conformity assessment methods that can be referred to in procurements.

The TR addresses conformity assessment both pre-award (mainly by the supplier during production) and post-award (according to provisions in the contract).

One of the bases for this TR is the report produced under phase I of the Mandate M/376: CEN/BT WG 185 / CLC/BT WG 101-5 Report on "Conformity assessment systems and schemes for accessibility requirements" (see [2]). Another basis is a report on verification of environmental requirements in public procurement, produced in 2006 by the Swedish Environmental Research Institute (see [32]).

## 1 Scope

This Technical Report (TR) incorporates all information and documentation needed in the frame of the procurement process in order to allow conveying the assessment of accessibility via conformity with the functional accessibility requirements contained in EN 301 549 (see clause 2, i), regardless of whether self-declaration, second party attestation or third party certification is requested, and with award criteria: the criteria, by which the award of a contract is judged.

In addition, this Technical Report provides procuring bodies with guidance on conformity assessment mechanisms for accessibility as part of contract management in the post-award stage. It is also useful in the pre-procurement research phase as well as during the contract negotiations. Finally it may be consulted by bidders preparing an offer.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ETSI EN 301 549, Accessibility requirements suitable for public procurement of ICT products and services in Europe

ETSI/TR 101 550, Documents relevant to EN 301 549 "Accessibility requirements suitable for public procurement of ICT products and services in Europe"

ETSI/TR 101 551, Guidelines on the use of accessibility award criteria for publicly procured ICT products and services in Europe

EN ISO/IEC 17000:2004, Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles (ISO/IEC 17000:2004)

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