



Lebanese Republic
Ministry of Industry
Lebanese Standards Institution - LIBNOR

Standardization and Technical Regulation in Lebanon

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1- Standardization in Lebanon

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LIBNOR in brief

- **LIBNOR is a public institution attached to the Ministry of Industry**
- **Established in 1962 by a law .**

Main Mission:

- **Issue, publish, and amend National Standards for all products and services (construction, chemical, electrical, agro food, mechanical, etc...)**
- **Grant the Lebanese Conformity Mark**
- **Represent Lebanon Internationally in the field of standardization**
- **Training activities for the public and private sectors.**

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LIBNOR in figures

- Issued ~1800 standards (end of 2009) covering different sectors.
- Issued 15 NL Conformity Marks (cement products, Pipes, Medical Oxygen, Generators etc...)
- LIBNOR is a member of:
 - ✓ The International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
 - ✓ Codex Alimentarius (Codex Contact Point)
 - ✓ The Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO).
 - ✓ An affiliate member of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN)



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Lebanese Standards

Lebanese national standards are VOLUNTARY.

However;
For reasons of public safety, public health, and/or national interest, and upon approval by LIBNOR's Board of Directors

A standard may be given a MANDATORY status by a decree from the Council of Ministers

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Implementation of Standards

It is the role of the relevant **public administrations to control the application and implementation of Lebanese standards**

Article 23 of the law :

“The public administrations, public institutions, or concerned official authorities shall not take any measure without due regard to national standards, or any measure inconsistent herewith”

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How Standards are developed?

- Standards are discussed and prepared by technical committees formed by LIBNOR (Around 250 experts)
- Consensus based process.



The following public and private entities are represented:

- ✓ Ministries
- ✓ Manufacturers (ALI, Syndicates....)
- ✓ Importers (Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture)
- ✓ Laboratories
- ✓ Universities
- ✓ Consumer organizations, Syndicates, Associations....
- ✓ International organizations (WHO, UNIDO)
- ✓ Others

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Lebanese Standards

National Standards

- ✓ Facilitate exchange of goods and services
- ✓ Consumer protection
- ✓ Environmental protection

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*Standards in the real world
Communication technologies*

Advances in information and communication technologies range from image coding (JPEG), the video coding and multimedia framework (MPEG), to IT security and biometrics.



*Standards in the real world
Credit cards*

All the credit cards or phone cards you carry in your wallet look very much alike, and can be used worldwide because their dimensions and thickness are based on an International Standard.



*Standards in the real world
Improving food safety*

Failures in the food supply can be dangerous and costly plenty.

The ISO standard for food safety management systems provides security by ensuring that there are no weak links in the food supply chain (ISO 22000)

Some 65% of ISO's food standards deal with analysis and test methods.



Standards in the real world

Ensuring human safety

Every day, millions of people

- step into lifts,
- play with toys,
- work with machines,
- travel in vehicles.

How do they know they are safe?

Because scientists, engineers and consumers develop specifications to ensure their safety.



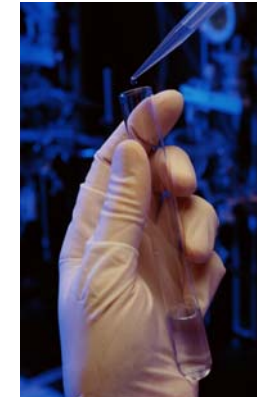
Standards in the real world

Laboratories

Laboratories and certification bodies use internationally agreed criteria

to check that products, materials, services, systems or people

meet the specifications of relevant standards.



Standards in the real world

Market and society transactions

Suppliers can base the development of their products and services on specifications enjoying broad acceptance in their sectors.



Standards in the real world

Nut and bolt

An enterprise can stock fewer types of parts used for a greater range of applications.



Standards in the real world
Pallets

Several billion pallets are in use every day throughout the world.
An ISO standard limits the variety of pallet sizes to six for efficient transport, handling and storage.



Standards in the real world
Quality and environmental management

The ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 Standards have revolutionized the way organizations ensure the quality of their products and meet their environmental challenges.



Standards in the real world
Safe transport

Graphical symbols for automobile controls. Imagine if these were different in each car !



Standards in the real world
Safe transport

Cooperation between ISO and international port, shipping and custom organizations has resulted in ISO guidelines for assessing security threats to maritime port facilities and planning preventative measures.



Standards in the real world *Safeguarding health*

Standardization strategies for facilitating the worldwide deployment of medical technologies range from clinical laboratory testing, sterilization of health care products or surgical implants to the area of health informatics where communication and interoperability are imperative.



Standards are a major asset for...

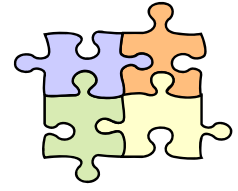
- **States and communities** – *Economic competitiveness and access to world markets, regulation, sustainable development, loyal competition, public purchases...*
- **Companies** – *Technology transfer, market knowledge, good management practices, quality recognition...*
- **Consumers** – *Products and services comparison, quality improvement, information on performance, security and impact on environment*
- **Researchers** – *Measurements, risk assessment, dissemination of innovation.*



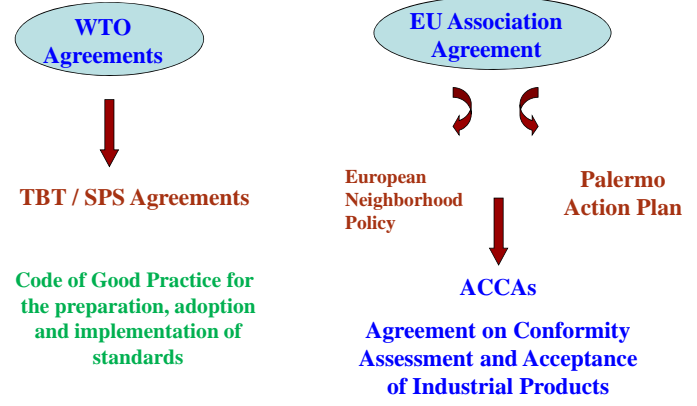
Standards are a major asset for...

- Standards are a basic and essential tool for The Quality Infrastructure:

Metrology
 Conformity Assessment
 Market Surveillance
 Accreditation



Standardization and International Agreements



WTO Agreements → TBT / SPS Agreements

EU Association Agreement → ENP / Palermo Action Plan

Relevant Articles related to Standardization

F. Where international standards exist the standardizing body shall use them, or the relevant parts of them, as a basis for the standards it develops

G., the standardizing body shall, in an appropriate way, play a full part, within the limits of its resources, in the preparation by relevant international standardizing bodies of international standards

Article 48
The parties shall cooperate in:
a) **reducing divergences in standardization, metrology, quality control and conformity assessment.**
d) **strengthening the Lebanese institutions responsible for standardization, quality and intellectual, industrial and commercial property.**

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Recent Changes made by LIBNOR

- ✓ Membership in the Arab, European and International standardization activities
- ✓ MOUs with Arab and European Standardization bodies
- ✓ Change the structure of the TCs and enhance stakeholder participation
- ✓ Work program that fits with the priority sectors of the ACAA Agreement
- ✓ Participate in the preparation process and vote on international standards

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Mirror Committee Structure

From ISO/TC to NL TC

ISO TCs
ISO 176
(Quality Management and Quality Assurance)

SC1 → WGs → International
SC2 → ...
SC3 → ...

Mirror committee: NL ISO TC
NL 176 → National

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Libnor and International Standards

Participation of LIBNOR in ISO Technical Committees

International Organization for Standardization

Participation in TCs

- **ISO 176** - Information technology (O-member)
- **ISO 15924** - Document description and processing languages (P-member)
- **ISO 228** - Food products (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Chemistry (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Concrete, reinforced concrete and pre-stressed concrete (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Starch (including derivatives and byproducts) (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Air quality (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Water quality (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Quality management and quality assurance (P-member)
- **ISO 228** - Concepts and terminology (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Quality systems (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Supporting technologies (O-member)
- **ISO 228** - Environmental management (O-member)

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Recent Changes made by LIBNOR

1. Change the internal working procedures

- Sign the *Code of Good Practice for the preparation, adoption and application of Standards (WTO/TBT Agreement)*
- *Adoption of international and European standards*
- Implement a Quality Management System - ISO 9001:2008 certification

2. Improve the services provided by LIBNOR information center:

- New Interactive Website,
- E-newsletter,
- Soft copies of standards,
- Reduce the delivery time

3. Start the establishment of the WTO/TBT Enquiry point

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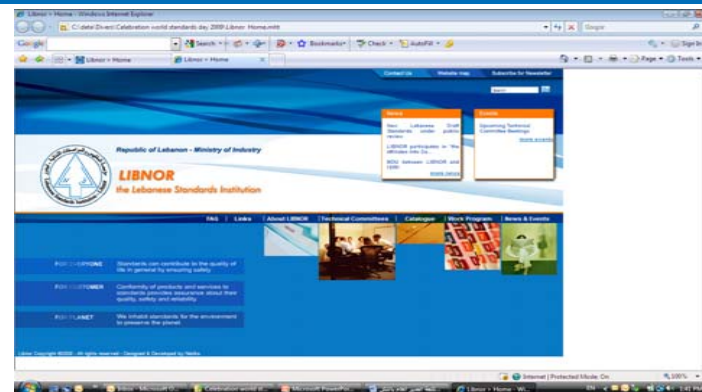
LIBNOR has been certified for Quality Management System according to ISO 9001.

To be the first Public institution in Lebanon certified for Quality Management System



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Website: www.libnor.org



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LIBNOR e-newsletter

Subscribe:
www.libnor.org



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Recent Changes made by LIBNOR

4. Improve the NL Conformity Mark Scheme and tackle new companies and products

- *Improve the quality of Lebanese products*
- *Increase the level of consumer confidence in Lebanese products*
- *Increase and facilitate Lebanese exports to the international market*

6. Work on a NEW DRAFT LAW ON STANDARDIZATION

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2- Technical Regulation Lebanon

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Technical Regulation in Lebanon

- *A new draft law for technical regulation and conformity assessment under preparation*

Current situation :

Decrees are published giving the mandatory status of standards based on :

- *The recommendations of LIBNOR TC*
- *The decision of LIBNOR Board*
- *Ministry of Industry proposal*
- *Council of ministers*

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