



CEN/TC 468 “Preservation of digital information” and the eArchiving initiative

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CEN/TC 468

Preservation of digital information

What is CEN/TC 468 ?

- European standardization (CEN-CENELEC) Technical Committee on preservation of digital information
- History
 - French initiative (AFNOR mirror committee to ISO/TC 171)
 - Approved by CEN members on December 1st, 2020, with a weighted majority of 74%
 - 1st meeting in may 2021, plenary meetings twice a year
 - Public business plan available [on the CEN website](#)
 - European counterpart of ISO/TC 171/SC 1 “Quality, preservation and integrity of information” and ISO/TC 46 “Information and documentation”

What is CEN/TC 468 ?

- **Scope** : Standardization of the functional and technical aspects of the preservation of digital information.
- **Goal**: Develop a structured set of standards, specifications and reports, addressing business requirements, including compliance with the European legislation and regulation framework (e.g. GDPR, eIDAS).
- **Addresses** the following issues:
 - **Maintenance of characteristics** (integrity, authenticity, reliability, usability etc.) of digital information during its life cycle;
 - **Design, implementation and management of preservation systems processes** (availability, confidentiality, etc.);
 - **Audit and quality control** procedures for the preservation of digital information;
 - **Interoperability and information** exchange between systems and services;
 - **Procedures and processes** supporting legal admissibility.

Expected benefits

- **Adopt a 360° approach of the sector and market of information preservation in Europe**, with a focus on governance, risks and compliance
- Ensure a **higher level of trust** on electronic evidence and information integrity in data spaces in Europe
- **Provide interoperability and portability between existing solutions and services** using data exchange protocols, to allow data sharing and distribution
- **Promote choices for users and healthy competition** between providers, including from different countries
- Provide guidance on important challenges with regards to the compliance with **European legal and regulatory requirements**

Strategy

- Identify existing activities and standards in use within the European market, whether national or international deliverables, in a **mapping**
- Define a **common vocabulary** for the sector and its multiple concepts
- Complete suitable standards and technical specifications by **developing European standards** in areas including Preservation, Integrity, Sustainability, Security
- Develop **relationships with key stakeholders**, including the European Commission and the eArchiving initiative

Horizontal issues

Accessibility

- Accessibility of preserved information for all users
- UX
- Language User interfaces etc

Services

- Clarification of the state of the art
- Clarification on legal requirements and issues
- Implementation of national regulations in line with EU requirements

Energy and Environment

- Green IT
- Data centers' environmental impact
- Performance/environmental cost balance
- etc

Consumer interests

- Service quality assessment
Interoperability
- Data transfer between providers
- Right to chose providers etc

Committee structure

- **Chairperson:** Ms. Severine Denys, Docaposte
- **Secretariat:** AFNOR (French Standardization Body)
- **1 active Working Group (WG1):** “General concepts for preservation of digital information”
 - Convenor : Mr. Christian Dubourg, NC Dubourg Conseil
 - Technical Report (in development) “Mapping of existing standardization deliverables on European digital archiving and preservation”

Representation and end users

Large companies and SMEs

will benefit from a clarified state of art and a coherent set of standards to answer legal requirements.

Government

will be able to promote the initiatives and best practices implemented in the past 20 years with regards to this issue.

will be able to share concrete experiences coming from the implementation of national regulations in line with European requirements

will be able to address the transfer of information for research programmes, including the field of history

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

archiving professional associations and federations such as International Council on Archives (ICA), European archivist group (EAG), Open preservation foundation (OPF), Digital preservation coalition (DPC), Aristote Groupe PIN, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), UNESCO, Preservation and Archiving Interest Group

Academic and research bodies, programs

will help them to identify the best solutions according to their needs. They can also be considered as contributors, promoting their research results in standardization.

Standards application business

will develop Audit and quality control procedures for the preservation of digital information

Ecosystem

Liaison and Partner organisations

- DG Connect
- ETSI
- SBS (Small Business Standards)

TC Cooperation with other standardization bodies

- CEN/CLC/JTC 13 Cybersecurity and data protection
- CEN/CLC/JTC 19 Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies
- CEN/TC 224 Personal identification and related personal devices with secure elements, systems, operations and privacy in a multi sectorial environment
- CEN/TC 434 Electronic invoicing
- CEN/TC 440 Electronic Public Procurement
- CEN/TC 442 Building Information Modelling (BIM)
- CEN/TC 457 Preservation of digital cinema movies
- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 27 Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection
- ISO/TC 171 Document management applications
- ISO/TC 20 Aircraft and space vehicles
- ISO/TC 42 Photography
- ISO/TC 46 Information and documentation
- ISO/TC 59 Buildings and civil engineering works

How can standardization support regulation?

- European Commission promotes standards as a way to better regulation and enhance the competitiveness of the European industry
- European Commission ICT Rolling Plan
- European Commission could issue standardization requests to CEN/TC 468 to support eIDAS (harmonized ENs)

CEN/TC 468 and eArchiving synergies

How can the two work together?

What is the eArchiving Initiative?

- **Origin** : Digital Decade Strategy and Digital Europe Programme
- **Start date**: 1st October 2022
- **Duration**: two years + two possible annual extensions
- **Budget**: EUR 1,970,000 (four years)
- **Members**: DG CNECT and E-ARK Consortium

What is the eArchiving Initiative?

- **Goal** : to develop a common set of specifications and software for packaging and preserving digital information over the short, medium and long term, with the following benefits:
 - Interoperability by default
 - Trustworthiness and Security
 - Openness and Transparency
 - Sustainability and Legal Compliance

eArchiving and CEN/TC 468 synergies

- Working together
- Common members (national delegations, organizations, are part of both CEN/TC 468 and the eARK consortium)
- DG Connect is an observer in CEN/TC 468
- E-ARK Specifications are about Information packages under OAIS model, the eArchiving architecture is used in the TR developed by TC468/WG1
- eArchiving works beyond the specifications for information packages: practical experience to help with all eArchiving processes, especially implementation

Benefits for both organizations

- Large amount of stakeholders represented in both committees
- All the eArchiving results are publicly available
- CEN-CENELEC provides spread recognition on the market
- DG CNECT promotes the use of E-ARK specifications and services
- Collaboration of E-ARK experts in the proposal and development of CEN standards
- CEN experts can enrich the work of the E-ARK consortium
- eArchiving tools, manuals, studies, etc. can be relayed to stakeholders through standards
- CEN 468 activity can be disseminated through the eArchiving events, training and onboarding services
- Any other kind of official collaboration can be discussed

Common goal: support regulation

- Common base: earchiving
- Variations: public sector, private sector, individual customers
- Increasing regulation : need to answer specific requirements
- CEN/TC 468 and eArchiving initiative merge the 3 visions
- eIDAS: very clear link, but other future regulation will call for a defined framework

Thank you



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