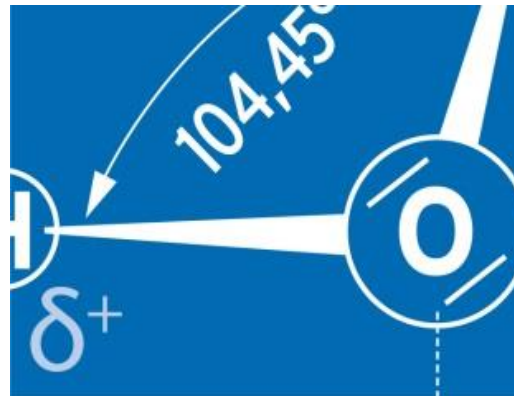


European Drinking Water - our mission and strategy

19th of January, Brussels



- European Drinking Water (EDW) is an **alliance of European trade associations** representing industries which are involved with supply products or materials that are used in drinking water applications and connected to municipal drinking water supplies within the European Union (EU) . This includes, for example, pumps, pipes, valves, taps, fittings, water treatment, water heaters, catering equipment industry, seals, etc. and all types of materials such as elastomers, metals, plastics, etc.
- The alliance is **open to any industry association** relevant to drinking water contact applications.



- The mission of the EDW is to address the current absence of harmonisation of regulatory requirements within the EU, for suitability of products and materials that are used in applications involving contact with drinking water.
- The objective is to achieve an **EU harmonized scheme for requirements and conformity assessment of products and materials** that are used in drinking water applications, which will be accepted in all EU Member States.



- The structure of the EDW is horizontal in that all members have equal rights to participate in, and/or contribute to, all of the meetings and activities of the consortium.
- EDW shall be formed for an unlimited period and may be dissolved at any time at the discretion of the EDW members. Any EDW member is entitled to withdraw from the alliance at any time. EDW will have a chairperson elected by the EDW members.



- **The European Drinking Water consortium statement on the review of the DWD – Materials and articles in contact with drinking water:**

The European Drinking Water (EDW) **supports the on-going Commission review of the “Drinking Water Directive (DWD) ,** with particular regard to materials and articles in contact with drinking water (i.e. article 10 of the DWD).



- The current EU situation for materials and articles in contact with drinking water is characterised by a non-harmonised European legislation and by national-specific requirements and provisions that differ from one Member State to another and, in certain cases, diverge from one another. This lack of EU harmonised measures, coupled by the non-application of the mutual recognition principle, is leading to: potentially different levels of protection of consumers; a fragmented EU internal market bringing obstacles to innovation; a duplication of efforts and resources in terms of, e.g., testing and certification costs for industry, meaning higher prices for consumers; a competitive disadvantage for the EU industry vis-à-vis third countries.



The lack of a harmonised EU regulatory framework on materials and articles in contact with drinking water is leading to:

- Potentially **different levels of consumer protection** across EU Member States. While we are fully confident that the safety of the European consumer is by no means put at risk, EDW believes that a **harmonised regulatory framework** would be the best tool to ensure that all European citizens benefit from the same level of human health protection.



The lack of a harmonised EU regulatory framework on materials and articles in contact with drinking water is leading to:

- **Market fragmentation** which constitutes a **bottleneck to innovation** and hinders the introduction of innovative products (e.g., with lower migration profiles) to the whole EU market. EU market fragmentation is exacerbated by the non-application of the mutual recognition principle: materials that are lawfully produced and marketed in one Member States cannot, at the moment, circulate throughout Europe, **in contradiction with the provisions set by EU treaties and the EU Regulation No 764/2008**. As a result, companies do not have the legal certainty that their product will be accepted by other EU Member States and lack appropriate incentives to invest in innovative products.



The lack of a harmonised EU regulatory framework on materials and articles in contact with drinking water is leading to:

- **High administrative and financial burden**, especially for SMEs. Given that industry is forced to test and certify the same material in each Member State requiring so, this situation is especially dramatic for SME that, due to their limited resources, are not in the position to fulfil the different requirements imposed.



The lack of a harmonised EU regulatory framework on materials and articles in contact with drinking water is leading to:

- **Competitive disadvantage of European manufacturers vis-à-vis third countries in the competition for extra-EU markets.** The focus on water quality is growing, especially in emerging economies where an internationally recognised product safety mark is more and more often required. Today, American National Standards (NFS) are widely recognised, while there is no EU product safety mark for materials and articles in contact with drinking water. The existence of a harmonised regulatory framework and an EU product safety mark could be accepted as a sign in many countries, enhancing export opportunities for European companies.



In the context of the review of the DWD, we ask the Commission to:

Revise art. 10 of the Drinking Water Directive to ensure that the safety of materials and articles in contact with drinking water should be dealt at the EU level. As a result, the EU should develop a pragmatic and workable EU regulatory framework on materials and articles in contact with drinking water. This framework should follow a unified and science-based ensuring the same high level of protection for all EU consumers. Additionally, this legislative framework should create a level playing field for industry, where one product has to demonstrate compliance with the harmonised requirements only once within the single market. This harmonisation would provide the legal certainty needed by the industry to place on the market more and more innovative products. As soon as an EU regulatory framework for materials and articles in contact with drinking water is put in place, the conformity assessment procedure should be in line with Decision No 768/2008/EC.



Members European Drinking Water





Human health protection
Die Versorgung der Bevölkerung mit sauberem Trinkwasser ist eine der Grundvoraussetzungen für eine funktionierende Gesellschaft.
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Why an european initiative?

Regulation

Regulation
Different Products and Materials in Contact with Drinking Water...
[MORE ...](#)

Standardization

Standardization
The CEN TC 164 is the technical body responsible for preparing „standards for the installation and performance...“
[MORE ...](#)

Certification

Certification
The Way to a national certification. Pulvinar, hendrerit id, lorem. Maecenas nec odio et ante tincidunt tempus. ...
[MORE ...](#)





Learn more about EDW



European Drinking Waters' mission ...

... is to harmonize the current untenable diversity of EU national requirements for materials and products which are used in drinking water applications

[MORE ...](#)



Member associations

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[MORE ...](#)



Structure

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[MORE ...](#)

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POSITION PAPERS

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PDF, 1,26 MB

PRESS RELEASES

20.11.2015

Industry calls for European standard on drinking water products

The creation of a European system of testing materials in contact with drinking water is moving closer thanks to a think-tank founded

Consortium Members

European Drinking Water (formerly known as ICPCDW) is an alliance of 25 European associations formed in 2015 representing the industries which manufacture and supply products that are used in drinking water applications. This includes pumps, pipes, valves, taps, fittings, water treatment, water heaters and catering equipment industry. Therefore, European Drinking Water represents the industry value chain of producers of materials and products in contact with drinking water.

Interested in joining the consortium?
Please contact: contact@europeandrinkingwater.eu

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Donec pede justo fringilla

Water Maecenas tempus
Fusce vulputate eleifend Phasellus
Maecenas tempus



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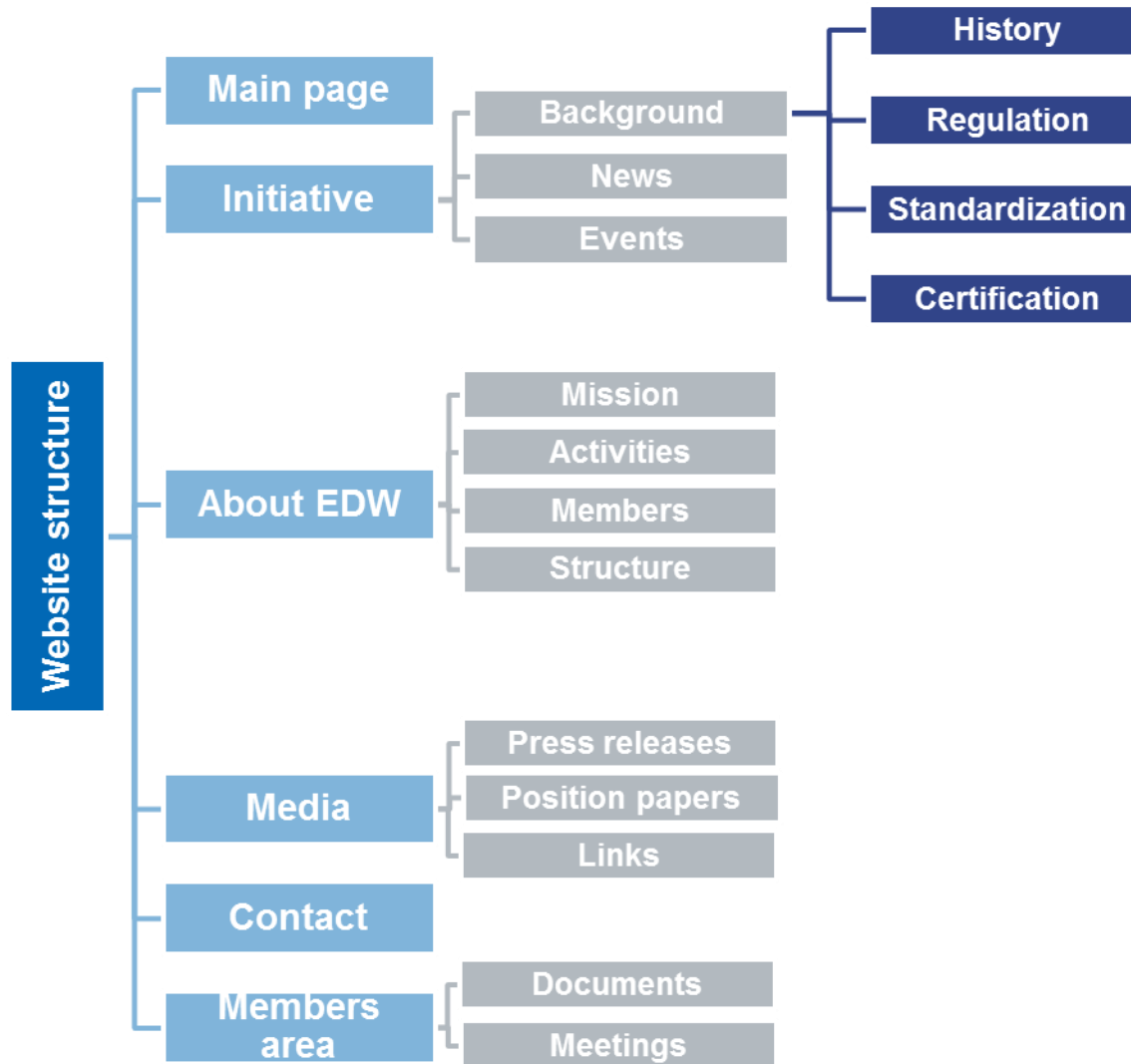
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European Drinking Water



Scheme for Assessment of Plastic and Silicone Products for Suitability for Contact with Drinking Water

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