

Open Source Solutions: Call for Pilot Projects



April 2022

Are you struggling to incorporate different content formats into your EN/TR/TS/CWA deliverables? Would you like to provide free tools to help people implement your standard and thereby encourage wider adoption? Would you like these tools to be recognised as having the quality level expected of CEN and CENELEC without being constrained by slow revision cycles?

CEN and CENELEC are exploring how to incorporate Open Source approaches into standardization, in order to keep standards relevant in the digital era. Our aim is to have a framework, tested by pilots, in place by December 2022. And this is where you come in. We are now looking for pilots to help us explore how we can work with Open Source.

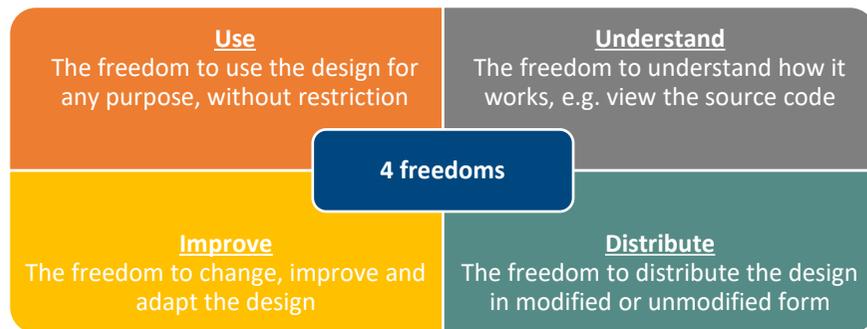
Which TCs are most likely to be interested?

Any TC or Workshop with an EN/TS/CWA that contains requirements for digital content, data fields or data processes.

What is “Open Source”?

An Open Source design is any sort of design (e.g. software or hardware) that is issued under a licence that satisfies certain criteria. You can find the full definition at <https://opensource.org/osd>.

Open Source licences grant four freedoms:



How is this connected to standardization?

Many individuals and groups currently produce tools to help users implement standards, but they are currently not formal deliverables, so they are published in other places, for example on the websites of individual TCs. But that means that often, standards users are unaware that such tools exist, or are not sure whether they are endorsed by CEN or CENELEC.

We have already seen examples of this in a broad range of subjects, such as electronic invoicing, smart home technologies, 3D printing and industry 4.0.

Therefore, we aim to introduce a framework that concretely links these implementation tools into our standardization ecosystem.

Reference Implementation



Sample software or hardware built in conformity with a standard

Testing Tool



A testing tool that helps you test for conformity with a standard

Marketing Demonstrator



A marketing tool that demonstrates the advantages of products that conform to potential buyers

What is this project about?

We want to find a way to incorporate Open Source approaches into standardization at CEN and CENELEC. We are developing a new process and we need you to help us test it through all lifecycle stages, from proposal, development, approval and publication, to download and ongoing maintenance. The framework will need to cover agile processes (updated more than once every 5 years), licence selection, and ensuring the open source deliverables can be found when searching on the websites of our national members.



Why is this important?

We want to keep standards relevant and user-friendly. Having an Open Source design could remove the need for users to build a piece of software to conform to a standard, saving time and money for organisations, no matter their size.

We know that some of you already want to publish designs that aren't currently allowed under existing standardization deliverables, and we want to work with you to explore possible ways to do that.

Would you like to propose a pilot project?

We are looking for pilot projects to help us build and test our new process. Please get in touch with us if you want to develop a tool that helps people implement a standard.

This could be in parallel with or after the creation of an EN/TS/CWA.

Timing: We are looking for pilots to begin as soon as possible.

Eligibility: Any interested technical body looking to trial a new way of working using Open Source principles.

What are the benefits of getting involved in this project?

- Help your standard better meet the needs of industry
- Increase market adoption of your standard
- Represent of the interests of your industry
- Shape the future of standardization
- Innovate
- Provide a practical application of interoperability
- Connect with open source communities

Interested?

If you have questions or think you may have a project for one of our pilots, please complete the [expression of interest form](#). It would be great if you could send in your expressions of interest by 2022-04-30 to secure your place in this project.

Or, for more information, check out the [CEN project website](#) or [CENELEC project website](#) or contact us at oss@cencenelec.eu.