

Report on HZN's activities for SMEs in 2014

SMEs as HZN members

Number of SMEs members of HZN in 2014: 152

Rights of SMEs as members of HZN:

- participation in the work of HZN technical committees
- involvement in the work of technical bodies of European and international standardization organizations
- free insight into draft standards
- possibility to influence the content of future standards
- a 20-percent discount on standards, services, workshops

SME portal on HZN web site: SMEs Corner

www.hzn.hr/default.aspx?id=40

HZN's news, activities, events and publications for SMEs in the SME Corner of HZN web site.

HZNacrti draft review tool on HZN's web site

<http://hznlive.67bricks.com/>

HZN introduced a new e-service for users on its web site on 1 September 2014 – free on-line review of and commenting on draft standards, *HZNacrti*. The tool is intended primarily for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), to facilitate their participation in national standardization activities and development of Croatian standards (HRN, HRN EN). The tool *HZNacrti* has been designed and implemented within the eComments project co-financed by EC and EFTA.

Publications for SMEs, free download

Sustavi upravljanja energijom (Energy Management Systems), BIZIMPACT (June 2014)

Free information for SMEs

SMEs can access the following at HZN's web site:

HZN e-Bulletin, SMEs Corner, HZN on-line catalogue, HZN's work programme, translations of publications, *HZNacrti* draft review tool.

HZN's participation in projects related to SMEs

The eComments project, aimed at the implementation of an effective system of enquiry on draft Croatian standards via HZN's web platform, implemented within the EU Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) 2007-2013 supported by CCMC

Participation of HZN representatives in the SME Working Group of European standardization organizations (CEN/CENELEC SME-WG)

A HZN employee participated in the meetings of the SME Working Group (CEN/CENELEC SME-WG). HZN employees participated in the development of the Croatian version of the SME eLearning tool.

Participation of HZN representatives in the working group for grants for SMEs

HZN employees participated, as commission members, in the preparation of the grants programme of the Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts (MINPO) *Support to SMEs in implementing standards, conformity assessment and product and services certification aimed at entering international markets and increasing competitiveness*.

Participation of HZN representatives in the SME Forum

HZN employees represented HZN at two working meetings of the *Internationalization* Working Group within the SME Forum of the Public-Private Partnership dialogue mechanism related to the SME sector in Croatia organized by the Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts (MINPO).

Marking of the European SME Week 2014

The new HZN's service, *HZNacti* draft review tool was presented in Zagreb on 30 September 2014. The presentation was attended by representatives of SMEs, Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Crafts (MINPO), Ministry of Economy (MINGO) and the Croatian Chamber of Economy (HGK). Participants were informed about HZN's work and activities aimed at SMEs. Participation was free of charge but subject to prior registration.

Workshops for SMEs

Marketing technical products under EU rules
Application of standards in public procurement specifications

SME contact points

The **STANDARDS LIBRARY** as an information, documentation and communication point of HZN is the only point in Croatia that maintains collections of Croatia (HZN), international (ISO, IEC), European (CEN, CENELEC, ETSI), national (DIN, BSI) and industry standards (ASTM). The Standards Library maintains databases on and search tools for standards. It provides all users with a free insight into standards and professional assistance. Its staff also provides free advice on standards by phone or e-mail.

The HZN Standards Library's holdings and services contribute to better involvement of SMEs in standardization activities aimed at representing their interests at the national, European and international levels.

Contact: normoteka@hzn.hr

WTO/TBT Enquiry Point – information on technical regulations of the Republic of Croatia, Croatian standards, conformity assessment procedures and agreements within the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

Contact: wto.tbt.info@hzn.hr

Codex Contact Point for the Republic of Croatia – Codex Alimentarius is the basis for many national food standards and regulations

Product Contact Point – information on technical rules for non-harmonized sectors for specific products, prior authorizations and mutual recognition, bodies competent for product surveillance, available legal remedies

More than 450 e-mail inquiries by SMEs have been answered.