Euralarm challenges ETSI, writes to Commission about delays harmful for Industry and EU citizens

Euralarm is collectively challenging the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) over the delay in publishing revised standards to meet the essential requirements of the Radio Equipment Directive (RED), which took effect this June. It has also brought the issue to the European Commission.

The RED is a new European Directive that applies to radio products sold in Europe. New security and fire radio products will ultimately need to be compliant to the RED and to meet standards developed for this purpose. Standards needed to achieve the transition are still under development by ETSI and test houses will need to provide approval services to meet these yet unconfirmed standards.

The timescale for the publishing of the ETSI standards is now not expected to be until earlier 2017 leading to insufficient time for product development, testing and certification. Without the availability of the full suite of ETSI standards, conformity of equipment to meet the RED will be impossible, notwithstanding limited availabilities of test laboratories and certification agencies.

Whilst existing products complying with the old R&TTE Directive can still be placed on the market until June 2017, products placed on the market after that date must meet the RED through the use of the new ETSI standards.

Euralarm experts believe that it will not be possible to develop and test radio products within the time frame of the standards being published and the crucial June 2017 date.

Euralarm Members are gathering information on the exact number of products that will be affected by the new testing. An estimate number has been used in a recent Euralarm letter to the Commission (link) stating the issue. Average cost to test radio products would range from €6,000 to €32,000 per product.

With an estimated 2000 product lines sold by European businesses used across Europe, this would equate to approximatively €12 million to €64 million in testing costs, equating to a year-worth of testing. New products could therefore be ‘off the market’ from six to twelve months as a result. Loss of revenue could potentially be up to 50% for some companies resulting in significant losses. Figures could be in excess of €0.6 billion across the European supply chain.

It is estimated there are up to 75,000 installations of wireless systems per month across the EU equating to 3,750 engineers installing wireless systems every working day. Installing companies may be faced with either redeploying or losing staff.

Euralarm’s Security Section is active in its input into Euralarm’s responses and directly contributing through the various groups writing the standards. It continues to call on our member’s expertise in this area to guide industry through the difficulties it will face in the coming months. Euralarm
Press Information

Members have also been asked to lobby their own national institutions in order to raise the profile of the issue at hand.

About Euralarm
Euralarm represents the electronic fire and security industry, providing leadership and expertise for industry, market, policy makers and standards bodies. Our members make society safer and secure through systems and services for fire detection, intrusion detection, access control, video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centres. Founded in 1970, Euralarm represents over 5000 companies within the fire safety and security industry valued at 67 billion Euros. Euralarm members are national associations and individual companies from across Europe.

More information
Piotr Pogorzelski, Communications Manager
E. Piotr.pogorzelski@euralarm.org
T. +32 495 126 788

OR

Press office Euralarm
E. pressoffice@euralarm.org