

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



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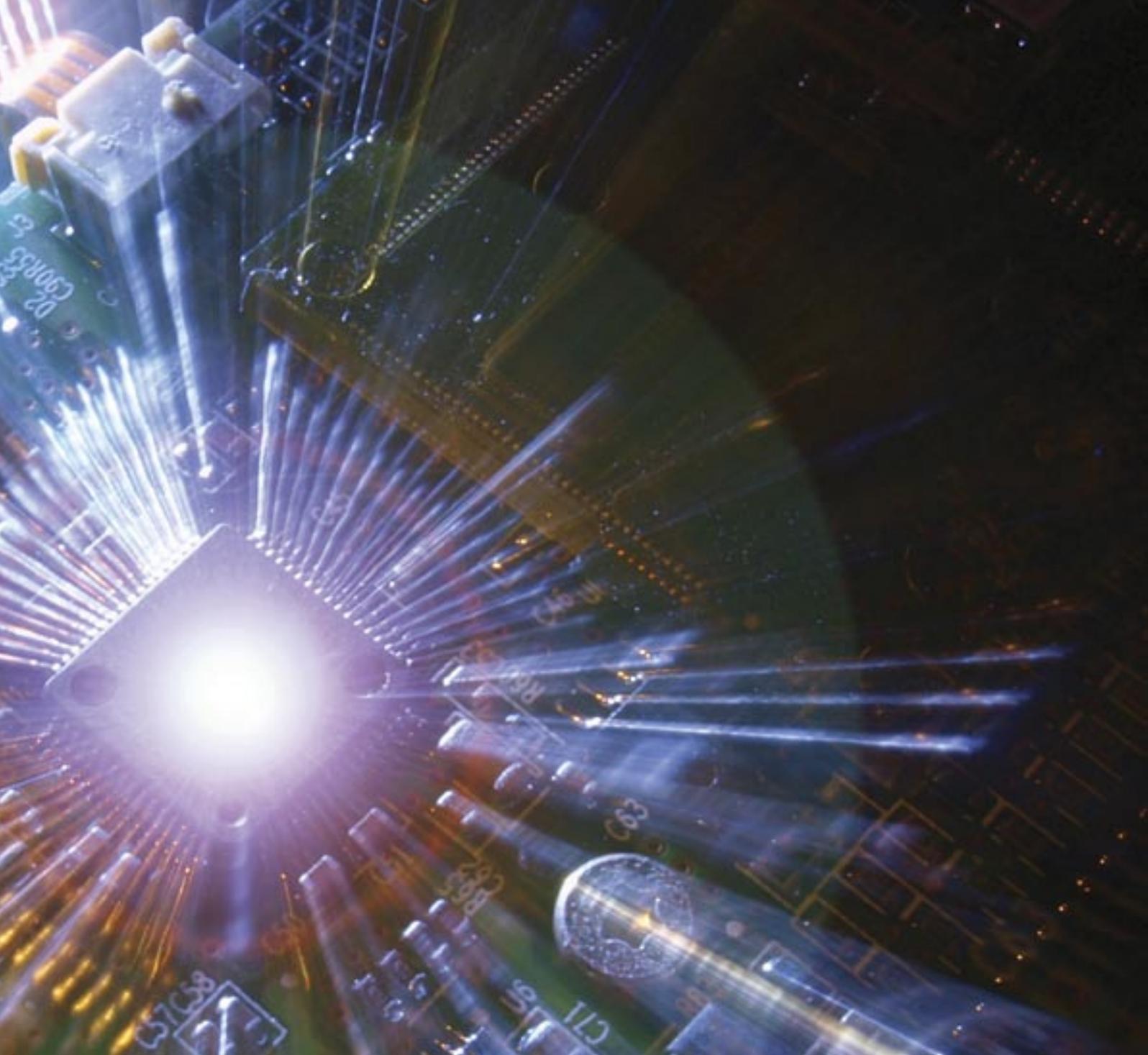
Our Mission

Euralarm represents the electronic fire safety, extinguishing and security industry, providing leadership and expertise for industry, market, policy makers and standards bodies. It endeavours to protect people, property and the environment and aims at enhancing the continuity of societal life, businesses and institutions through systems and services for fire detection and extinguishing, intrusion detection, access control and video monitoring. Euralarm members include national trade associations, industrial companies or research and educational institutions. Associate membership is also open to non-European companies and institutions.



European Year of Skills

Having a workforce with the skills that are in demand contributes to sustainable growth, leads to more innovation and improves companies' competitiveness. Skilled workers enjoy better job opportunities as well as broader possibilities to fully engage in society. This is key to ensure that the economic recovery as well as the green and digital transitions are socially fair and just. The European Year of Skills puts skills centre-stage. Helping people get the right skills for quality jobs and helping companies, in particular



small and medium enterprises, address skills shortages in the EU is what this Year is all about. Throughout this Annual Report you will find information and initiatives on the European Year of Skills and the importance of skills for our industry.

- *77% of EU companies report difficulties in finding workers with the necessary skills*
- *20 million ICT specialists should be employed in the EU by 2030*
- *60% of adults should participate in training every year by 2030*

President's Letter

“Change is a growing constant that we have to learn to live with”

Who doesn't feel it: change is happening faster and faster. We can see that with the regulatory world as well, a real regulatory tsunami. This rapid development is coming less from our traditional regulation, but coming from the European Commission's agenda with the European Green Deal and the program fit for the digital age. A growing number of standards



and an even greater number tied to digitalization. These are horizontal regulations which require us to scrutinize them as they are going to impact us. We've had to study and comment on the Data Act, Cybersecurity, Digital Services Act, AI as well as specific subjects such as PFAS. At the same time, we are dealing with plenty of revisions in our fields of safety and security. Fortunately, we were able to handle this volume of work, due to our strong Technical Manager team.

To make sure that our Advocacy measures are as effective as possible we have not only written our positions, but have co-signed feedback to these with different partners such as Orgalim and CoESS. In the past year, we have grown the cooperation with other associations as well with CEN and CENELEC. I have had the opportunity to represent Euralarm in the CEN CENELEC Industry Advisory Board, an advisory body to the CCMC management. In this board, we have given industry input on the EC standardisation Strategy, Circular Economy, CPR and the Global influence of EU Norms. We see the necessity to grow such relationships with other bodies to ensure that our needs and messages are heard.

One new initiative is the creation of the Euralarm Executive Advisory Council. We invited senior management representatives from our trade association and industry members to provide their input on strategic subjects around Euralarm's strategy. Themes such as supply chain, sustainability, or export of CE labeled products and services. They may be strategic issues tied to technological or regulatory changes or even the broadening of the Euralarm scope. We have



run two introductory calls with 15 people that have volunteered to participate in the council. The first resonance and ideas that they have come-up with have been very positive. The first face-to-face meeting is to take place on the 19th of September in Zoetermeer in the Netherlands.

With this in mind, let us continue to use the concentrated know-how of the Euralarm members and professional team, coupled with the values that are close to our hearts! In doing so, I wish us all: the willingness to leave our comfort zone every now and then, but to continue to maintain our equally important comfort zones of interpersonal exchange.

Sincerely,

Jon Könz
Euralarm President

General Director's Letter

Did 2022 set the future agenda for our industries?

As time moves forward, we got a better view on the impact from the European Green Deal and the digital transformation projects in 2022, and it looks Europe wants to accelerate the changes. After COVID already showed the vulnerability of Europe when it comes to its dependency on components and products, the war in Ukraine and the record prices for energy



showed that Europe has challenges not only to ensure climate change is reversed, but also that Europe must become more independent. With the upcoming European elections in 2024 it could even go one gear up.

Together with the challenges of labour and skill shortage and the aging population in Europe, our industries will be impacted by these transformations. The EU wants to approach this on a European level and with that a lot of these changes will be conducted by the European Commission, the European Parliament, and the European Council. Based on the European treaties and existing processes, Euralarm will have to work closely together with these stakeholders to ensure that our voice is heard and that we are involved in the work on new or updated regulations and directives which have an impact on our industries.

Standards are the base of the trust from our customers, we know we have only one chance to detect an incident. Increased activity by the European Commission will also result in increased work on the standardisation side and the digital transformation will also drive an update of industry standards. This standardisation work will ensure that there is a road forward for the professional fire safety and security market which ensures end users products and services they can trust.

It is good to see the increased involvement of our members in the sections, committees and

working groups in 2022. The Euralarm members and the Professional Team will continue to work together to set priorities and see where we need to be closely involved or collaborate with our partners and other associations. The collaboration tools, the new website and the technical managers are helping us to do this work in an efficient way.

Let me finish with welcoming our new members and thanking our existing members for their support and the Professional Team for their contribution. I am looking with confidence to the future and am proud to be part of an organisation which helps Europeans to live, work and travel in a safe and secure Europe.



Paul van der Zanden
General Director Euralarm



EURALARM AT A GLANCE

Who we are

Founded in 1970, Euralarm represents over 5000 companies within the fire safety, extinguishing and security industry, providing leadership and expertise for industry, market, policy makers and standards bodies.

Euralarm members are national associations and individual companies from across Europe. Our members make society safer and more secure through systems and services for fire detection, access control and video monitoring.

Euralarm in figures



European companies
in our sectors employ
700.000 people



We represent a
€69 billion market



An 11% market
growth expected



Our strategy

Euralarm strives for a professional, innovative and transparent market for the members to deliver products, systems and services with a high level of quality, performance and lifetime dependability, for the benefit of society.

Euralarm monitors the major influencing factors and trends in European and global markets, informs its members and promotes action where appropriate. We strive to be the partner of choice for all authorities having jurisdiction, policy makers, relevant private partners, research and educational bodies, as well as other organisations dealing with fire safety and security. As such anyone involved in fire safety, security and extinguishing at the European and international level will think of Euralarm.

Euralarm continually looks to expand its membership of the fire safety, security and extinguishing industry both in terms of geographic coverage as well as its representation into adjacent areas, in line with its outlined goals and strategic objectives.

Welcoming new members

One of Euralarm's objectives is to provide an open, transparent and equal platform for members of all sizes, including by monitoring trends in European and global markets, informing members and promoting action where appropriate. Additionally, Euralarm uses professional advocacy, when appropriate, to achieve its goals, including building close relations and constructive dialogue with related industries, associations, standardisation, testing and certification bodies, and political authorities (including relevant directorates-general of the European Commission). Companies that join Euralarm gain expertise into 'political' issues impacting the Industry and its markets and have an opportunity to influence the Industry by having a say directly into Brussels.

This year we can welcome Agoria, BSIA and SäkerhetsBranschen.

BSIA

The BSIA is the voice of the professional security industry, supporting and encouraging excellence; educating the marketplace on the value of quality and professional security; and creating an environment in which to flourish.

BSIA members are responsible for more than 70% of privately provided UK security products and services (by turnover) including the manufacture, distribution and installation of electronic and physical security equipment and the provision of security officer services and consultancy. The members are industry professionals ranging in size from global companies to small and medium enterprises, offering quality products and services to a vast spectrum of end-users.



SäkerhetsBranschen

SäkerhetsBranschen is the Security Industry association from Sweden that gathers actors in security to make visible and create public opinion for security issues for a safer and more secure Sweden.



SäkerhetsBranschen offers a platform where actors in the security industry together can address and highlight central security issues to create a safer and more secure Sweden. The association's main task is to uphold good quality and high knowledge in the security industry, and to make sure that the members of the association act responsibly. The main aim of the association is to promote more and better business for member companies and their clients.

Agoria

.AGORIA

Agoria, the federation of the technology industry, brings together 2079 technology companies and all those who are inspired by technology. With more than 321,000 employees, the technology sector is the largest sector in Belgium and Agoria is the largest federation within FEB. Some 70 percent of Agoria's members are SMEs. Agoria has more than 200 employees. They work at members' homes or offices in Brussels, Antwerp, Liege, Ghent and Charleroi. In the first three cities, Agoria has its own BluePoint business center and a Tech.Lounge. Agoria's services and positions focus on digitalization, the manufacturing industry of tomorrow, talent management policy and training, market developments, regulation, infrastructure, climate, environment and energy.

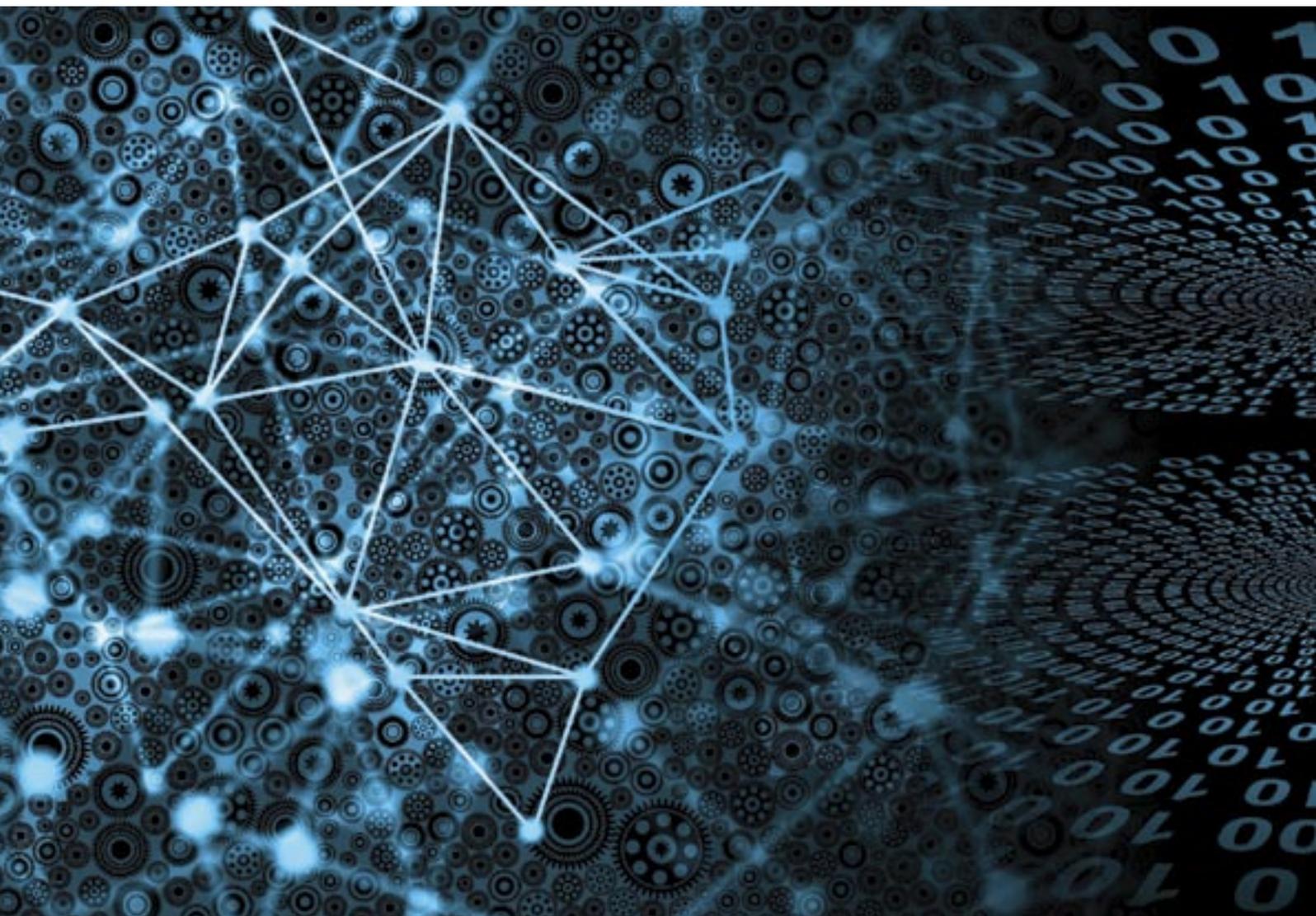
Agoria aims to connect all those inspired by technology and innovation, increase business success and shape a sustainable future. Through its Agoria Techlancers initiative, Agoria also offers a range of services to freelancers. Through "Be The Change", Agoria focuses on the future of the labor market, via "Factory of the Future" on the strengths of our manufacturing industry and with "DigiCoach" on the further digitalization of individuals and organizations. Agoria has both a research center and an innovation center and is active at all policy levels. Bart Steukers is the CEO of Agoria. Agoria has existed since 1946.

European Skills Agenda

The move to a resource-efficient, circular, digitised and low-carbon economy could create more than 1 million jobs by 2030. Artificial intelligence and robotics alone will create almost 60 million new jobs worldwide in the next 5 years. Other jobs may change or even disappear. The coronavirus pandemic has amplified the skills trends in the labour market, accelerating both the need and opportunities for change. In a fast-moving labour market and society, lifelong learning must become a reality.



The European Skills Agenda sets ambitious, quantitative objectives for upskilling (improving existing skills) and reskilling (training in new skills). Its 12 actions focus on skills for jobs by partnering up with Member States, companies and social partners to work together for change, by empowering people to embark on lifelong learning, and by using the EU budget as a catalyst to unlock public and private investment in people's skills.



REPORTS FROM THE SECTIONS

Euralarm has four Sections: Extinguishing, Fire, Security, Services with delegates from company and association members. The Section members decide on the work programs of the Section. The Chair and Vice-Chair report to the Board and are members of the Board.





New European Innovation Agenda

The New European Innovation Agenda is an initiative of the European Commission to position Europe as a leading player on the global innovation scene. Europe wants to be the place where the best talent work hand in hand with the best companies and where deep tech innovation thrives and creates breakthrough innovative solutions across the continent that will inspire the world. One of the five flagships of the European Innovation Agenda is fostering, attracting and retaining deep tech talents. This will ensure the development and flow of essential deep tech talents in and to the EU through a series of initiatives including an innovation intern scheme for startups and scale-ups, an EU talent pool to help startups and innovative businesses find non-EU talent, a women entrepreneurship and leadership scheme and a pioneering work on startup employees' stock options.

Extinguishing Section:

Monitoring and guiding technology and stakeholders

The Extinguishing Section continued its important activities in 2022 and has been very productive in sharing information as well as highlighting the importance of standards for quality for product, installation, services as well as maintenance. Environmental matters, accelerated by the Green deal, and the review of the REACH directive will also impact the extinguishing business as we know it today. The section wants to ensure that these changes will not negatively impact the availability of choice for firefighting systems and ultimately the level and quality of fire protection offered by extinguishing systems.

Successful start of series webinars

As a follow-up to the successful publication of the Guidance document on integrated fire protection solutions for lithium-ion batteries, the Extinguishing Section also organised a webinar last year. The large number of webinar participants, the number of times a recording of the webinar was viewed, as well as the number of downloads of the guidance documents across many languages are good evidence that the Section is providing valuable advice and on the right track with this initiative. To cater for the continued interest of non-English-speaking parties, the Section is also organising French and Spanish language versions of the webinar during the course of 2023. Other webinars are in the pipeline, based on the guidance documents that the Extinguishing Section is about to publish in 2023.

Ongoing flow of guidance documents

The latest addition this year is the updated version of the Guidance document on the periodic testing of transportable gas containers used in fixed fire extinguishing systems. There is currently some confusion on when fire extinguishing agent containers are required to be submitted for periodic testing under the Pressure Equipment Directive (PED), the Transportable Pressure Equipment Directive (TPED) and the Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). The latest update of this Euralarm guidance gives recommendations on how

fire extinguishing system containers should be treated. Other issues that are addressed include the importance of procedures for periodic testing and subsequent refilling of the containers. The document guides the reader to avoid serious safety issues during hydrostatic testing. Also published is a Guidance document covering fill stations, which dovetails with the Guidance on the periodic testing of containers. Other guidance documents in the pipeline for 2023 include the revision of the EN 15004-1 and the maintenance of condensed aerosol fire extinguishing systems/equipment controlled by electronic detection systems.

Monitoring and guiding

As fire protection methods continually improve, the Extinguishing Section continuously monitors the trends and developments and guides legislators and other political stakeholders. Technologies for fire protection and in particular extinguishing systems are not always fully understood.

The challenges with the Construction Product Regulations (CPR) remain a significant concern and alongside the Fire Section, the Extinguishing Section continues to contribute to the Euralarm position on this subject. Euralarm published its position on the revised CPR proposal in 2022 in which we welcome the publication of the Commission's proposal for a new regulation on construction products. However, Euralarm also observes that the core problem facing our sector is the stagnation of the standardisation process and has reservations that the processes and legislative complexities contained within the Commission's proposal for a new CPR will address this fundamental issue. We look forward to work with all stakeholders involved to build a future regulation that provides for timely generation of standards which can reflect best and latest practices – including both a high level of sustainability and ensures the free flow of goods in the European single market with a high level of product quality, which meets the state-of-the-art requirements of the markets.

The Extinguishing Section has also started working on a position paper on the PFAS restriction proposal which could be used externally by members to explain how this proposal will affect Gaseous Extinguishing systems. Another related position paper will form the basis of the Euralarm position, to be used in stakeholder meetings, including input into the consultation on the PFAS restriction proposal document.

Other regulatory matters that are currently of interest to the Section include the revisions of REACH and to the European F-Gas Regulations and in turn a revision to the UK equivalent of the Regulations.

Fire Section:

Protecting people, property, and environment from fire

The Euralarm Fire Section promotes the protection of people, property, and environment from fire, thereby contributing towards a fire safe environment for society. The section monitors the technical and political trends and takes action to influence the developments. This has led last year to a wealth of activities of which the new Strategy 2025 of our section should be mentioned first.

Derived from Euralarm's Priorities & Challenges and in alignment with input received from its delegates, the Fire Section's strategy focuses on Emerging technologies, Standardization & regulation, Testing, certification & quality marks and Enlarging the scope of the Fire Section. While the first project under the new strategy was launched, the Fire Section's Task Groups and Task Forces continued steadily with their important work.

Providing valuable information

The Task Force Fire Standards Acceptance worldwide introduced a series of Country Fact Sheets. These documents, intended for guidance of Euralarm members, give detailed information on requirements on products/systems of the traditional fire detection business in a certain country. The documents contain valuable information on the main requirements for a country, such as fire standards, marking and certification, the legal and regulatory framework, major installation codes and additional notes. The Task Force will not only continue to gather country specific information based on the needs of the section members, but will also ensure that the published fact sheets are updated regularly.

Avoid unnecessary burdens for manufacturers

For CE marking purposes audible signalling devices (sounders) of fire detection and fire alarm systems are tested according to the cited version EN 54-3:2001+A1:2002+A2:2006 standard. In a Position Paper of the Task Group Fire Standards, the Fire Section asked all test and certification

bodies last year to not mandatory request compliance with EN 54-3:2014+A1:2019 with regards to any private label scheme or quality mark they offer. The manufacturers organized in Euralarm do not see any additional benefit or gain in quality if a product meets both standards at the same time. From the manufacturers' point of view, there is no deadline that justifies the approach of individual testing and certification bodies to ask to demonstrate compliance with both versions of EN 54-3 at short notice.

Improving certification timescales

Products and equipment manufacturers invest heavily in keeping the world a safe place to live and work in. However, over the years the certification process has become increasingly important when introducing new products. One third of the time of the product development is spent on certification, not to mention the time and money that is spent on local requirements. Apart from the time that the current certification process requires, our members are also confronted with a continuous flow of regulatory changes. For specific European quality marks, the Task Force EFSG works with EFSG for improving the process efficiency. It is important that the Task Force finalized its work on a common application form. This will allow one application accepted by all EFSG members followed by a central project management process within EFSG, which should help improve overall certification timescales.

To tackle the problems with certification processes and reduce administrative burdens for fire safety and security companies, the Fire Section also took the initiative to start a new Task Group Certification.

European Fire Safety Week

Last year the Fire Section supported the European Fire Safety Week, that focused on citizen safety at the heart of the energy transition. That citizen safety is also the focus of the Task Group Domestic Life Safety. To properly ensure domestic life safety, be it fire safety or protection against CO poisoning, it is necessary to have a good overview of all related standards. The Task Group Domestic Life Safety has fully updated the database with information about standards, legislation, national application guidelines and statistical data about residential buildings. The database now covers all EU member states as well as the EEA states and other affiliated or associated states, like Switzerland and the UK. The database is not only targeted at smoke alarm but also on CO alarms. As part of the active involvement in citizen safety, the Euralarm Task Group supported the European Fire Safety Week and contributed to the Smoke Alarm Day, that was organized on

the last day of the Fire Safety Week. This enabled the Fire Section, together with others, to raise the awareness on the topic of fire safety and influence stakeholders to make the right decisions when it comes to legislation.

Explaining our position

The work of the new Task Force NLF continues to be crucial for our industry. Following questions of the European Commission the Fire Section laid down its answers in a Position Paper. Euralarm remains convinced that the New Approach and the New Legislative Framework (NLF) are the best tools to support the free movement of goods and the proper functioning of the European Single Market for Goods. The NLF in its broad set-up is fit for purpose to deal with upcoming challenges through technological developments. Thus, Euralarm believes that changes should be made only in response to clear needs, within the existing framework. In the Position Paper Euralarm further explains its position towards CE marking itself, harmonised standards, conformity assessment procedures, notified bodies, the accreditation system and digitalisation of the information.



Green Deal and enhancing skills

As between 35% and 40% of all jobs could be affected by the green transition, developing the skills needed for well-paid quality jobs will be a priority for the European Year of Skills. To develop the skills for a people centred green transition the European Commission will propose to establish Net-Zero Industry Academies to roll out up-skilling and re-skilling programmes in strategic industries. It will also consider how to combine a 'Skills-first' approach, recognising actual skills, with existing approaches based on qualifications, and how to facilitate access of third country nationals to EU labour markets in priority sectors, as well as measures to foster and align public and private funding for skills development.

Security Section:

Moving forwards while actively and positively contributing to change

The Security Section continues working on the strategy for the section. Under new leadership of Oscar Feijoo as chair and Milan Ceeh as vice chair we move forward. With a lot of new legislation in the pipeline related to the Green Deal, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Radio Equipment Directive (RED) and Cybersecurity that will impact our products and services, it is more than ever important the industry is involved to ensure that the new legislation and standards are workable.

Progress on the revision of EN 50131-1

Last year the Security Section continued with feeding the discussions on the revision of EN 50131-1 (system requirements for intruder and hold-up alarm systems). The Euralarm ad-hoc group on this project (constituted of members from the Security Section and the Services Section) regularly provides contributions to the standardisation working group CLC/TC 79/WG 1 and seized the opportunity of the return to face-to-face meetings for initiating fundamental discussions.

The contributions put on the table of WG1 aim to sketch and anchor the high-level concepts for the development of the revised standard. This top-down approach allows to reach consensus amongst the experts on concepts before discussing the details and the wording. The deliverables have been: a document listing statements on which WG1 agreed and that builds the fundamentals for the revision, a drawing depicting the top-level view of the functions and interconnections of an I&HAS, a top-level view of the interactions between the system standard and the product standards and a series of diagrams depicting the details of the different functions of an I&HAS and their interactions.

These contributions have been presented, debated and refined within WG1. This action illustrates how the Security Section can actively and positively contribute to a challenging revision project.

Interoperability between components

The interoperability between components of security systems is still desired by the industry. With the renovation of buildings and homes and the integration of more different systems into one building, the need for communication and information exchange between the different systems will increase. Three interoperability standards have been presented and discussed jointly with the Services Section: OSDP, SSCP and OSSA.

CLC/TC 79

Euralarm has the opportunity to have a liaison officer sitting in the CLC/TC 79 plenary meeting and uses this opportunity to push forward the involvement of Euralarm in the standardisation system and to bring its important messages to this community. In this context, the Security section has contributed to the messages to be broadcast.

The main messages to TC 79 during the October plenary meeting were

- a call to accelerate the revision process for EN 50131-1,
- to support the initiative of WG17 towards a Technical Report on cybersecurity best practices and
- to refrain any Formal Vote on revised EN 50130-4 until confidence in citation in the OJEU has been gained.

IEC/TC 79 Alarm systems

Some initiatives at international level have raised concerns by European and like-minded regions. They are envisaging the connection of security devices like detectors on non-security systems like building intercom systems. This project has been discussed within the Security Section and ended up with a clear agreement that the existing sets of standards ensuring the proper processing of security signals should not be undermined.

The quarterly Security Section meetings have also been the opportunity to exchange on diverse topics of interest and possibly impacting the members: the Delegated Regulation on cybersecurity and privacy under the Radio Equipment Directive, standardisation activities in CLC/TC 79 and IEC/TC 79 on alarm systems, CEN/CLC/JTC 4 on services for alarm systems, CEN/CLC/JTC 13 on cybersecurity and privacy.

Services Section:

Supporting and guiding the services community

Investing in Remote Services

The Services Section's sub-group on guidance for the delivery of remote services published a tool that members can use to manage their remote services in line with the requirements of the standards EN 50710 together with EN 16763 and CLC/TS 50136-10. The guidance document provides an explanation of the main elements of the Remote Access Infrastructure, including drawings from the standards, and three checklists allowing the service companies to make a self-assessment of their readiness and compliance with the provisions laid down in these standards. A webinar presenting this guidance is foreseen in 2023.

Artificial Intelligence

The Section, along with the other Euralarm sections is closely following the development of European legislation on Artificial intelligence and is considering how the legislation when published will impact on the delivery of services. This work is being led by the Section Vice Chair, Victoria Ferrera.

The objective is to monitor the outcomes of the discussions at the European Parliament and at the European Council on the proposal for an AI Act published by the European Commission and influence on those aspects that can have an impact on the activities of our members and understanding how the regulation will be put in place once it is approved. It is important to remark the European dimension of this proposal and the fact that it will be directly applicable at national level as it comes with the form of a regulation.

Data Act

The Section monitors also the discussions in the European Parliament and the European Council about the proposal published by the EC within the European strategy for data. The objective of this proposal is to stimulate a competitive data market, open opportunities for data-driven innovation

and make data more accessible for all. However, it can create some burden or limitations for IoT companies which should be addressed in order to ensure that there are no negative impacts for security or related activities. The section identified

- that the mandatory sharing with third parties of data generated by security and safety systems can compromise customer's security and the whole performance of the security system itself without any benefit for the user and
- that these provisions for mandatory sharing of data can conflict with national laws regulating private security and the installation of video surveillance systems.

A position paper explaining these concerns and requesting exemption for data generated by security and fire safety systems has been released by the Services Section and broadly shared by the Advocacy Committee with the Members of the European Parliament.



Other topics

From the list of key subjects identified by the Services Section and in addition to the ones presented above, the following ones have been discussed in 2023:

- Standardisation activities at CLC/TC 79, CEN/CLC/JTC 4 and CEN/CLC/JTC 13
- Revision of EN 50518
- Promotion of competency
- Residential Services
- Cyber Security





REPORTS FROM
THE COMMITTEES



European strategy for universities

Today, European society needs the contribution of universities and other higher education institutions more than ever. Europe is facing major challenges such as climate change, the digital transformation and aging population, at a time when it is hit by the biggest global challenges. Universities, and the entire higher education sector, have a unique position at the crossroads of education, research and innovation, in shaping sustainable and resilient economies, and in making the European Union greener, more inclusive and more digital.

Advocacy Committee:

Setting the future direction

Last year has been a year in which the Advocacy Committee worked closely together with the Euralarm sections in shaping the Advocacy program for the coming years. In addition, and in alignment with input received from the sections, several actions were undertaken to highlight Euralarm's position on important topics in Brussels.

The work of the Advocacy Committee requires a close cooperation with the Euralarm Sections and their members. After section leadership changes and updated strategies and visions of the different sections, the Advocacy Committee organized meetings with the section chairs last year. These strategic sessions established close ties with the sections and a proactive response to industry and political trends, changes and developments that are relevant to the sections.

Capitalize on cooperations

In addition to the meetings with sections, several specific actions were undertaken, and support was given to the European Fire Safety Week that focused on citizen safety at the heart of the energy transition. Euralarm also contributed to the Smoke Alarm Day, that was organized on the last day of the Fire Safety Week. This enabled us to raise the awareness on the topic of fire safety and influence stakeholders to make the right decisions when it comes to legislation. With that in mind we will capitalize on the cooperation with the European Fire Safety Alliance, the organizer of the event, and re-establish or reinforce the cooperation. Depending on next year's theme we hope to renew our cooperation in the European Fire Safety Week.

Strong action on Data Act

Together with the both the Security and Services section, the Advocacy Committee started a strong action on the Data Act. Although we welcome the initiatives from the European Commission towards legislations promoting the data economy, Euralarm stressed that specific provisions would generate security risks, if enforced as intended in the draft of the Data Act. The concerns were shared in a Position Paper presented to the European Commission and to more than 270 Members of the European Parliament. Together with CoESS, the European employers' organisation representative of the private security services, we also released a joint declaration expressing our serious concerns about the proposal for an EU Data Act.

New Legislative Framework

Following questions of the European Commission Euralarm has given feedback on the NLF. We laid down our feedback in a Position Paper that explained our position towards CE marking, harmonised standards, conformity assessment procedures, notified bodies, the accreditation system and digitalisation of the information. Based on this position, Euralarm believes that a full revision of the NLF might not be necessary to address problems with specific legislation.

Energy Performance of Buildings

Euralarm welcomes the position adopted by the European Parliament, following proposals of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) on the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) after long and difficult negotiations. The compromise amendments contain significant changes and Euralarm especially welcomes recommendations to better address fire safety of buildings. Euralarm has full confidence in the European political institutions to take the right decisions which will strengthen the cohesion of the European Union, revive our economy, and ensure for all citizens a sustainable future, be it in terms of environment, energy, use of natural resources as well as safety and security.

Most recently, with 12 other European Associations, we co-signed a position paper urging the European institutions – European Council, Parliament and Commission - to incorporate all fire, electrical, gas and CO safety provisions voted by the European Parliament into the final text of the revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD).

Hopefully, we will be able to further intensify our co-operation with partners and other stakeholders and to establish more direct contacts with policy makers and MEPs. Please join me in the Advocacy Committee to work together on a safer and more secure Europe!

Horizontal Compliance Committee: Assessing legislative proposals and constructively suggesting improvement

The Euralarm Horizontal Compliance Committee is the place where the new initiatives from the European Commission for legislative proposals having a horizontal coverage for Euralarm members are assessed. HC Committee and the Taks Group Cybersecurity scrutinised 7 initiatives and sent the responses to the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of Europe. The views from the fire safety and security industry have been broadcasted via answers to targeted consultations, public consultations and Commission adoptions on the following topics: evaluation of the New Legislative Framework (NLF), Standardisation Request (mandate) supporting the Delegated Regulation on cybersecurity under the Radio Equipment Directive (RED DA), Directive for Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS), Regulation on Ecodesign requirements for Sustainable Products (ESPR) and the Cyber Resilience Act (CRA).

The constant approach has been to understand the goals of the legislator and the issues to be solved and to constructively suggest improvements and refinements going towards a proportionate approach targeting these goals and avoiding ineffective burden for the fire safety and security industry. In addition, the amendments proposed by the European Parliament and the Council related to the previous initiatives on Artificial Intelligence (AIA) and Data Act (DA) have been monitored and assessed by the members.

Unlock revision of EMC standard

On horizontal standardisation, a sensible proposal to unlock the revision of the EMC standard EN 50130-4 has been presented to CLC/TC 79/WG 9. The proposal builds a condition for the extension of the radiated immunity test to radiofrequency disturbances up to 6 GHz to products that are more susceptible to be disturbed by these high-frequency fields. A consensus has been reached among the experts which opens the door to the enquiry on this revision in 2023.



Sharing information with members

Information has been shared among the members on other horizontal compliance topics: the amendment to the European Standardisation Regulation 1025/2012 limiting the rights for decisions regarding harmonised standards to the National Standardisation Bodies of EU and EEA members, the revised Blue Guide, the revision of IEC 62368-1 on safety of apparatus, the UKCA marking, the possible changes to the spectrum allocation of sub-bands to alarms, the EC annual work programme and the new contract between the European Commission and Ernst & Young for the assessment of the candidate harmonised standards.

More specifically, the Technical Group on Cybersecurity closely monitored and contributed to the standardisation activities related to the Delegated Regulation under the RED. The liaison with CEN/CLC/JTC 13 (reinforced by the liaison from CLC/TC 79 to this same JTC) allows direct participation to WG8 rushing with the preparation of 3 brand new harmonised standards. These future standards will need citation in the Official Journal of the EU in order to allow self-declaration of conformity by the manufacturers of radio equipment as from August 2024.

New Committee Chair

All these activities have been made possible thanks to the active contribution and participation of the members during the HC Committee and TG Cybersecurity meetings. Moreover, a new Committee Chair has been elected in June this year. Christian Schmitz has taken the role to lead the choice of topics of interest and to manage the discussions.

Compliance Newsletter

Finally, a comprehensive communication of information regarding changes in the European legislative landscape have been communicated via the quarterly Compliance Newsletter. This periodical release is based on contents received from Orgalim and complementary information from the Euralarm professional team. These newsletters systematically provide a legislative update on Internal market, Environment, Industrial policies and Digitalisation.

Work programme for 2023

The work programme for 2023, in addition to ongoing topics from 2021 and 2022, is made of legislative and standardisation topics like the new radio spectrum policy programme announced by the EC, the AI Liability Directive, the revised Product Liability Directive, the Cybersecurity Skills Academy announced by the EC and the ENISA schemes for IoT and IACS under Cybersecurity Act (CSA). Analysis from an alarm device perspective of the technical requirements laid down in the future harmonised standards supporting the RED DA and a comparison of the essential requirements of the RED DA and of the Cyber resilience Act are envisaged.



Talent Booster Mechanism

Not less than 82 regions in 16 Member States (accounting for almost 30% of the EU population) are severely affected by a decline of the working age population, a low share of university and higher-education graduates, or a negative mobility of their population aged 15-39. The Talent Booster Mechanism will support EU regions affected by the accelerated decline of their working age population to train, retain and attract the people, the skills and the competences needed to address the impact of the demographic transition.

The Mechanism was the first key initiative in 2023 contributing to the European Year of Skills, which aims to bring a fresh impetus for re- and upskilling.



Marketing Committee:

Raising awareness with new initiatives

This year the Marketing Committee rolled out important new initiatives and focussed on progressing our reach via traditional PR, the website and social media. Thankfully we have been able to welcome many of our members at our live events in Brussels and Zug again after the restrictions of the last two years. Next to this we also supported webinars which are becoming a key offering to inform our members and other (external) stakeholders about the latest work Euralarm is doing. Our key initiative this year is the implementation of a strategy to raise awareness for diversity and help to attract new talent for our industry. Finally, we have overhauled our corporate brochure after launching the new Euralarm brand identity last year.

Implementation of Diversity and Attracting Talent Strategy

This year Euralarm started a new initiative focusing on diversity and attracting new talent which is heavily supported by the Marketing Committee. The importance of the initiative is underlined by the rapid engineer retention and the lack of competent and qualified engineers in the fire and safety industry. We, members and Board of Euralarm, see the importance to increase the awareness for this topic to successfully position our industry for the future and have started to develop and launch several initiatives.

Strategic focus on Online activities

Since the introduction of our website in 2021 our digital offerings have been increased. The website and its content have been tweaked while the focus has been on search engine optimization. Analytical information on the usage of the website has allowed us to focus on the topics that our website visitors are looking for. And we will continue doing so, in order to fully use the possibilities of the website's technology. Our bi-monthly newsletter is a well-established tool for our members and external audiences to learn more about the work the sections are doing, keep up to date with latest industry and standard updates and keeping informed about events.

Apart from the bi-monthly corporate newsletter, we have introduced a bi-weekly news update that is sent to our members only. It allows us to inform our members specifically on the topics that they are interested in. We have also sharpened our focus on webinars which have proved to be an extremely successful way to engage with our members on relevant industry topics.

Internal Communication

In line with the internal newsletter, we are continuously improving the internal communications with our members via Microsoft Teams. We have seen more engagement of our members in using this communication and storage via Teams, thus benefiting from the efficiency advantages of video meetings, chat function and webinar capabilities.

Extended Media coverage

This year again we have been able to increase our impression and clipping numbers for traditional media channels like online and print trade press. We have also successfully expanded our reach via our social media channels bringing the total number of professionals we have reached with our media activities to more than 163 million. With Euralarm's Twitter and LinkedIn channel we not only actively bring the opinion and position of Euralarm to the attention of the key audiences, but also share insights into activities that Euralarm undertakes and engage with our members. We welcome those who are interested in the latest developments and trends in our industry to follow our social media channels.



Pact for Skills

The Pact for Skills aims to get public and private organisations together and encourage them to make concrete commitments to upskilling and reskilling adults. Members of the Pact have access to knowledge on upskilling and reskilling needs, advice on relevant funding instruments to boost the skills of adults in their regions and countries, and partnership opportunities within the growing Pact for Skills community. The Pact is open for authorities, companies, social partners, cross-industry and sectoral organisations, chambers of commerce, education and training providers and employment services.

The image features a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard in the foreground. The background is a complex digital interface with various data visualization elements. At the top left, there are several circular gauges and bar charts. One gauge shows '64%' and another shows '79%'. There are also line graphs and pie charts scattered throughout the interface. A prominent orange L-shaped frame is overlaid on the left side of the image, framing the word 'GOVERNANCE'. The overall color scheme is dark blue and black, with white and orange accents.

GOVERNANCE

How we are structured

The Euralarm Board consists of: the President of Euralarm, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Euralarm Sections, as well as the Chair of the Committees. The Association is composed of four Sections: Fire, Extinguishing, Security and Services Section. Euralarm's Committees cover Marketing internal and external, Advocacy, Legal, Finance and Remuneration and Horizontal compliance.



GDPR

The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was designed to harmonise data privacy laws across Europe, to protect and empower all EU citizens data privacy and to reshape the way organisations across the region approach data privacy. As a user and holder of membership data Euralarm has fulfilled its security obligations arising from European Data Protection legislation. In general terms, this means that it has to have appropriate organisational and technical security measures in place to protect this data. Therefore, it has requested all those who have access to the data to observe the relevant laws. Members of Euralarm, of the Management Team and other persons who provide or have access to such data have to be made aware of and observe the Data Protection Terms & Conditions.



Euralarm Board

From left to right:

Oscar Feijoo Jimenez, Vice President Security Section, Christian Schmitz, Chair Horizontal Compliance Committee, Milan Ceeh, Vice Chair Security Section, Julie Hanson, General Secretary, Alan Elder, Vice President Extinguishing Section, Nikolaos Stamoulis, Chair Finance Committee, Victoria Ferrera Lopez, Vice chair Services Section, Jon Könz, President, Robert Thilthorpe, Vice President Services Section, Dominique Taudin, Chair Advocacy Committee, Neil Budd, Vice Chair Fire Section, Anja Schäfers, Chair Marketing Committee, Paul van der Zanden, General Director

Not on photo: Torbjørn Laursen, Vice chair Extinguishing Section



Euralarm Members

AUSTRIA

VBÖ Austroalarm
VSÖ

BELGIUM

3M
Agoria
ALIA Security
ANPI
Carrier Fire and Security

BULGARIA

NAFOTS
Teletek Electronics YSC

CYPRUS

FirePro

CZECH REPUBLIC

AGA

DENMARK

SikkerhedsBranchen

FINLAND

Innohome
Schneider Electric Fire & Security Oy

FRANCE

DEF
FFMI
GESI
IGNES

GERMANY

BHE
Bosch Sicherheitssysteme GmbH
EUSAS
Hekatron Vertriebs GmbH
Viking Direct GmbH & Co. KG
ZVEI / FV Sicherheit

GREECE

G4S Telematix S.A.

IRELAND

Vanderbilt

ITALY

ANIE Sicurezza

LATVIA

N2 Global

NETHERLANDS

Federatie Veilig Nederland
Kiwa FSS Products

NORWAY

Brannteknisk forening (BTF)
NORALARM

PORTUGAL

APSEI

ROMANIA

ARTS



Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition

The ongoing digital transformation of the economy and of society requires that all Europeans acquire and develop digital skills. As outlined in the Digital Decade strategy, “digital skills, basic and advanced, will be essential to reinforce our collective resilience as a society”. In particular, the labour force needs to up-skill and re-skill to make the best use of new digital technologies in their workplace. The Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition (DSJC) is a EU initiative bringing together Member States, companies, social partners, non-profit organisations and education providers, who work to address the lack of digital skills in Europe. It offers organisations that take action to increase digital skills across Europe an opportunity to learn from peers and showcase their actions and impact. The actions done under the Coalition umbrella are key to reaching the Digital Decade targets.

SPAIN

AES

TECNIFUEGO-AESPI

Verisure

SWEDEN

SäkerhetsBranschen

SWITZERLAND

Securiton AG

SES-Geschäftsstelle

Siemens

Sitasys

Swiss Securitas Group

UNITED KINGDOM

BSIA

Drax 360

Eaton Electrical Products Limited

FIA

Fike Safety Technology Ltd

Halma plc

Honeywell Security (UK) Ltd

Johnson Controls (JCI)

Kidde Fire Protection

USA

TLX Technologies

OSSA

Euralarm represents the fire safety 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 prevention, detection and extinguishing, intrusion detection, access control, video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centres.

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