WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER AND MORE SECURE EUROPE

PRIORITIES AND CHALLENGES 2019-2024

euralarm

INNOVATING THROUGH RESEARCH

Ensuring that the European electronic fire safety and security industry remains a global innovation leader requires high-quality research. The industry will continue to fund R&D efforts but to maximise the quality, scope and potential societal benefits of this research, collaboration and cooperation with the public sector will be crucial.

We therefore urge the EU institutions and research bodies to work with us in the following areas:

- foster partnerships between industry, testing houses, universities and research institutes to identify priority areas and coordinate efforts;
- maximise potential of EU research programmes under Horizon 2020 and its successor.

FAST AND FLEXIBLE STANDARDISATION

Standards for products and services are at the heart of our industry's success. Euralarm's members need a fast and flexible standards-setting system because it is the best way to serve the interests of customers, the industry and society. An agile system would help us to respond rapidly to customers' demands and put European companies on the best footing to serve global markets. It would help us to continue to deliver the highest levels of safety and security to citizens.

Our members will work closely with the key players — European Commission, standards organisations, approval bodies and other organizations, to write the standards that will deliver the highest quality products and services as efficiently as possible.

We therefore urge the EU institutions to work with us to deliver an efficient system that responds to market needs. Here are some of the areas we would like to see progress over the next five years:

- interoperability standards for building systems;
- remote services;
- standards for the residential market, especially for combined security and home-assisted systems;
- developing and improving standards for service including
  ◦ quality of services;
  ◦ competence of staff involved in planning, design, engineering, installation, maintenance and repair of fire safety and security systems.

SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF DIGITALISATION

Digitalisation is already having a huge impact on our industr[y] and this trend will continue to grow in the future. Cybersecu[rity] the Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are crucial issues for our sector. We and our customers need to take them carefully into account when planning for the futur[e]. All participants in the value chain need to be sensitised to th[e] importance of increasing resilience in the face of cyber-atta[cks]. At the same time, the potential of AI needs to be carefully assessed to maximise opportunities this technology offers.

We therefore urge the EU institutions to work with us in the following areas:

- make rapid progress on a Europe-wide voluntary certifica[tion] mark (quality label) that shows that all reasonable protect[ive] measures against cyber-attacks have been taken;
- advance work on standards for cybersecurity, IoT for fire [and] security systems and Building Information Modelling (BIM[);
- promote education programs focusing on the industrial control systems.

A EUROPE-WIDE APPROACH TO TESTING AND CERTIFICATION

At the moment, our members face a fragmented landscape for testing and certification of their products and services. This adds to costs as companies have to submit multiple applications. It also risks having an inconsistent approach to testing and certification across the EU's single market.

Pan-European processes for testing, audit and certification would reduce administrative burdens for fire safety and security companies, the vast majority of which are small- and medium-sized enterprises. A European wide process would allow companies to avoid uncertainty and encourage investment if they only had to submit their products and services for testing and certification to a single authority.

We therefore urge the EU institutions and standard-setting bodies to work with the industry to make progress in these and other areas:

- achieving consistent, objective and repeatable processes for testing across Europe;
- over the longer term, developing a single testing and certification scheme for electronic security equipment such as our industry's CertAlarm* scheme;
- stepping up work between leading laboratories on Multilateral Test Result Recognition Agreements (MTRA);
- improving exchange of information about training and certification schemes for personnel involved in planning and design, engineering, installation and hand over, maintenance and repair of fire safety and security systems.

CertAlarm is an independent pan-European certification scheme for the fire safety and security industry

OUR GOALS

One of the most basic requirements for each is defence against harm, no matter what form it takes. Without protective measures, the individuals that make up society are at risk. For decades our industry has worked diligently to develop solutions to prevent and limit the consequences from threats such as fire, theft, property damage and others. In collaboration with public authorities, policy makers, standards and certification bodies and industry associations, our industry works to address society's needs for safety and security in Europe and globally.

We, the members of the European fire safety and security industry and committed Europeans, want to contribute to driving sustainable growth that will strengthen the EU's Single Market, attract investment to Europe, and expand global markets for European companies. To do this we are continuously assessing the opportunities and the challenges facing us to identify the priorities that will allow us to advance as a prosperous, safe society and global actor.

Our priorities for 2019 to 2024 are:
• developing a strong Single Market for quality products and services;
• raising standards for industry professionals through training and qualification;
• turning emerging technologies into sustainable solutions;
• advancing knowledge and innovation.

We aim to accomplish this by focusing on the following areas:
• market-oriented standards for products and services;
• pan-European testing and certification of products;
• training and qualifications;
• digitalisation including Cybersecurity, IoT and AI;
• partnering with research bodies.

Working together, we can achieve a safer and more secure society for Europe and build an industry that contributes to sustainable growth in Europe.

EURALARM STATEMENT

We are proud to be world leaders in our field. Ours is a forward-looking industry that relies on constant innovation and major investment to provide the best solutions and services that ensure safety and security for Europe.

Over 90% of our members are small- and medium-sized enterprises. All our members with their skilled workforce rely on the priority areas as listed above to design, install and maintain those solutions and provide the necessary services to ensure performance at the highest level.

ABOUT EURALARM

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 detection and extinguishing, intrusion detection, access control, video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centres.

Founded in 1970, Euralarm represents over 5 000 companies, employing 700 000 people, within the fire safety and security industry with an estimated revenue of € 67 billion. Euralarm members are national associations and individual companies from across Europe.

euralarm