SESEC V
China Standardisation Newsletter

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Seconded European Standardisation Expert in China
(SESEC)

Index

Takeaways

Mr. DENG Zhiyong Nominated as New Administrator of SAC

On 28 November 2024, Mr. Deng Zhiyong was appointed as the new Administrator of the National Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) to oversee China standardisation work. Mr. Deng has been deeply engaged in standardisation and quality management over decades. One month after he stepped in, on 10th January 2025, he has already organized the meeting with European companies in China on the topic of "Recommendations to the SAMR's Standards and Technology and Standards and Innovation Departments on stabilising foreign investment from standardisation perspective." This is a very open and positive signal to European industries on the future cooperation and participation with Chinese standardisation work.

SAMR Mandates Strict Enforcement of the 24-Month National Standard Development Timeline

On December 31, 2024, SAMR/SAC issued a notice titled "*Notice on Strict Management of National Standard Development Timelines*" requiring strict enforcement of the policy that national standards must be developed within a maximum of 24 months. While fixed time limits can expedite consensus-building, questions remain about whether the resulting standards will adequately meet societal and user needs and whether their implementation will achieve the desired outcomes.

China Issues Antitrust Guidelines for Standard Essential Patents

China has recently released the Antitrust Guidelines for Standard Essential Patents (hereinafter referred to as the Guidelines), a detailed framework designed to regulate the competitive dynamics associated with standard essential patents (SEPs). The Guidelines, structured into six chapters comprising 22 articles, address critical antitrust concerns related to SEPs, including market competition, patent disclosure, licensing commitments, and the abuse of market dominance.

SAC/TC260 Cybersecurity Standard 2nd Meeting Week in 2024

The four-day event featured a diverse range of activities, including conference, forums, training session, and working group discussions, aimed at fostering collaboration and advancing cybersecurity standardization. During the event, Mr. Wang Jingtao, Vice-Administrator of CAC and Chairman of TC260, delivered a keynote address, underscoring the critical role of standards in enhancing China's cybersecurity infrastructure and emphasized four standardisation priorities. Experts from industry also shared their thoughts and practices on the development of cybersecurity technologies and standards in various fields like intelligent driving, post-quantum cryptography, consumer IOT, unman aerial vehicles, etc.

China Issues Data Security Compliance Guidelines for Industrial and IT Sectors

On November 19, 2024, 17 Chinese sector associations jointly released the Guidelines. It was a highlight of the Light of Internet Expo, a key segment of the World Internet Conference 2024 Wuzhen Summit. The guideline emphasizes security measures throughout the entire data lifecycle, from data collection and storage to processing, sharing, and disposal.

China Unveils Global Data Flow Cooperation Initiative

On November 20, 2024, the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) officially released the Initiative at the 2024 World Internet Conference Wuzhen Summit. The Initiative, presented in both Chinese and English, underscores China's commitment to fostering global cooperation on cross-border data flows while balancing innovation, economic development, and security concerns.

NDA Releases Draft Guidelines for Building National Data Infrastructure

On November 22, 2024, the National Data Administration (NDA) released the Guidelines for public consultation. The Guidelines aim to establish a clear vision, framework, and developmental goals for data infrastructure, fostering societal consensus and providing a roadmap for its advancement. Feedback submission channels closed on December 1, 2024.

SCA Seeks Public Comments on Regulations for Commercial Cryptography Use in Critical Information Infrastructure

From November 15 to December 15, 2024, the State Cryptography Administration (SCA) is inviting public comments on the draft Regulation. This draft regulation, a subordinate legal framework under China's *Cryptography Law*, the *Regulations on the Administration of Commercial Cryptography*, and the *Regulations on the Security Protection of Critical Information*

Infrastructure, aims to clarify and enhance the management of commercial cryptography within critical information infrastructure. It addresses key issues related to compliance, security, effectiveness, and the overall integrity of cryptographic practices in safeguarding critical information infrastructure.

NDA Seeks Public Comments on New Data Flow Security Policy

From November 29 to December 6, 2024, the National Data Administration (NDA) is soliciting public comments on the draft *Implementation Plan for Improving Data Flow Security Governance and Promoting the Marketization and Value Realization of Data Elements*. This policy document aims to establish and improve China's rules for data flow security governance, laying the foundation for the compliant and efficient circulation and utilization of data elements.

CAC Calls for Comments on New Regulation for Personal Information Cross-Border Transfer Certification

From January 3 to February 3, 2025, the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) is soliciting public comments on the draft regulation. This regulation is designed to support the implementation of the second compliance pathway for cross-border personal information transfers as outlined in Article 38 of the *Personal Information Protection Law*. (The other two compliance pathways include: conducting a security assessment organized by the CAC and entering into a contract with the foreign recipient based on the standard contract developed by the CAC).

SAMR Launches 2nd Round Public Commenting on the Green Product Certification and Labeling

From December 4 to December 20, 2024, the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) is seeking public comments on the draft regulation. It is intended to replace the *Administrative Measures for the Use of Green Product Labels* issued in 2019 and aim to regulate green product certification activities and the use of green product labels.

China Calls for Comment on Revised RoHS Standard

On November 19, 2024, China's Science and Technology Department of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) published the *Requirements for Restricted Use of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Products (Draft for Comment)* for public comment. The opinion submission channel will open until January 18, 2025. The revised RoHS Standard will replace the current GB/T 26572-2011 and all related amendments.

SAMR Includes Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment under CCC Certification

On December 5, 2024, the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) announced the implementation of the compulsory product certification (CCC certification) for electric vehicle (EV) charging equipment.

Standards Were Updated for the CCC of Household and Similar Electrical Appliance

The mandatory product certification (CCC) for household and similar appliances is based on the *GB/T 4706.1-2005 Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances – Part 1: General Requirements* and its associated series of national standards for specific products. The updated GB/T 4706.1-2024 and its associated national standards were published on July 24, 2024, and will come into effect on August 1, 2026. On December 31, 2024, the Certification and Accreditation Administration of China (CNCA) issued a notice updating the *CCC Implementation Rules for Household and Similar Appliances* (Code: CNCA-C07-01:2024). The updates include revisions to the referenced standards and allow certification bodies to carry out CCC certification based on the new standards.

SESEC Activities

1. SESEC-SPEAC-CQC Training, Enhancing Awareness of European Product Safety Standardisation and Legislation

#Standardisation Event

On 4 November, experts from the Seconded European Standardisation Expert of China (SESEC) and the Safe Non-Food Consumer Products in the EU and China (SPEAC) joined forces to deliver a focused training session at the China Quality Certification Centre (CQC) in Beijing, aimed at increasing awareness of product safety requirements in the European Union. Over 50 stakeholders attended the session on-site, while more than 2,000 participated online. This strong turnout from various Chinese industries highlights SESEC's commitment to raising awareness and fostering a deeper understanding of the European standardisation in China.

During the training, the SESEC expert, Dr. Betty Xu, provided a detailed overview of the European standardisation system and its crucial role in supporting EU product safety legislation. The session highlighted how European standards serve as a cornerstone in aligning products with EU market requirements, which is essential for Chinese manufacturers and businesses seeking market access in Europe. By sharing her expertise on applying European standards effectively, Dr. Xu offered participants valuable insights into ensuring that their products meet the EU's rigorous safety, health, and environmental protection standards.

Before the training commenced, SESEC and SPEAC experts participated in an exchange session hosted by CQC, where they introduced their respective organizations and shared updates on their recent initiatives. This session provided a valuable platform for all parties to strengthen collaborative efforts, fostering mutual understanding and further cooperation between Chinese stakeholders and European entities.

The training at CQC marks another significant step in SESEC's ongoing mission to bridge the gap between European and Chinese standards. By educating local stakeholders on the relevance and application of European standards, SESEC is playing a pivotal role in supporting China's efforts to align with European and international standards, thereby facilitating safer and more compliant products entering global markets.

2. SESEC Highlights European Standardisation at Meeting on Power Battery Carbon Footprint Standards

#Standardisation Event

On November 22, 2024, a meeting hosted by the China Automotive Power Battery Industry Alliance brought together approximately 100 experts from industry, academia, and associations to discuss the newly released "*Power Battery Carbon Footprint Quantification Methods and Requirements"* standard and the launch of the Power Battery Carbon Footprint Platform. Among the attendees, SESEC expert, Dr. Betty Xu played a prominent role, delivering a keynote address that emphasized the importance of aligning China's carbon footprint standards with global practices.

The SESEC expert provided attendees with a comprehensive overview of the European Standardisation System, highlighting its integral role in supporting legislation across Europe. Her presentation underscored how harmonized European standards facilitate regulatory compliance and trade within the European Union.

She then introduced the New Legislative Framework (NLF), drawing attention to the European Battery Regulation, which serves as a key piece of legislation under this framework. The expert explained that harmonized European standards will be critical in supporting this regulation, ensuring consistency in carbon footprint calculation and verification for EV batteries.

The meeting also featured the unveiling of the *"Power Battery Carbon Footprint Quantification Methods and Requirements"*, a new association standard developed by the China Automotive Power Battery Industry Alliance. The standard, which references the EU draft regulation on EV battery carbon footprint calculation and verification, aims to bring Chinese practices closer to international benchmarks.

Industry experts contributed by showcasing best practices in carbon reduction and product carbon calculation, demonstrating the sector's commitment to sustainability. Additionally, the launch of the Power Battery Carbon Footprint Platform was announced, providing a dedicated tool to facilitate carbon footprint assessments and enhance data-driven decision-making in the power battery value chain.

Horizontal Topics

3. Mr. DENG Zhiyong Nominated as New Administrator of SAC

#Standardisation

On 28 November 2024, Mr. Deng Zhiyong was appointed as the new Administrator of National Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) to oversee China standardisation work.

A leadership change in SAMR and SAC occurred in September 2024, while Mr. Tian Shihong, the vice administrator of SAMR and SAC administrator at that time, announced his retirement ahead of the original plan, and officially stepped down as the SAC administrator.

Mr. Tian was appointed as SAC Administrator in 2013. During his tenure, Tian actively promoted the reform and innovation of China's standardisation system and vigorously advanced the internationalization of standardisation efforts. It is under his pushing, last round of China Standardisation reformed happened from 2013 and the New Standardisation Law was published in 2017, implemented 1 Jan 2018.

The newly appointed SAC Administrator, Mr. Deng Zhiyong, has been deeply engaged in standardisation and quality management over decades.

Below is his publicly available resume:

- Born in February 1971, holds a university degree and an MBA.
- Deputy Director of the Office and Director of the Publishing and Distribution Department at the China Quality Daily a leading national newspaper dedicated to reporting on quality management, standardisation, and market regulation.
- Director (Division Chief) of the Office (Personnel Division), Director of the Disciplinary Inspection and Supervision Office under the Party Committee, Deputy Director of the Comprehensive Business Department, and Director of the Office at the Standardisation Administration of China (SAC).
- Used to work as Director of International Cooperation department of SAC around 2013.
- In October 2017, appointed as Head of the Disciplinary Inspection Group and a member of the Party Leadership Group at SAC.
- Subsequently served as Director of the General Office of the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR).
- In November 2024, Mr. DENG was appointed as a member of SAMR's Party Leadership Group, Vice Administer of SAMR, and Administrator of SAC.

Mr. Deng has extensive experience in the quality infrastructure and standardisation sectors, reflecting his deep understanding of standardisation. Additionally, Mr. Deng oversees six departments of SAMR currently, while his predecessor Mr. TIAN only in charge of two departments.

- Planning and Finance Department
- Internet Trading Supervision and Management Department
- Quality Development Bureau
- Product Quality Safety Supervision and Management Department
- Standardisation Technology Management Department
- Standardisation Innovation Management Department

Mr. DENG has deep knowledge with standardisation work and his experience as Director of International Cooperation department of SAC makes him quite familiar with international standardisation and international cooperation. One month after he stepped in as the new administrator of SAC, on 10th January 2025, he has already organized the meeting with European companies in China on the topic of

"Recommendations to the SAMR's Standards and Technology and Standards and Innovation Departments on stabilising foreign investment from standardisation perspective". This is a very open and positive signal to European industries on the future cooperation and participation with Chinese standardisation work. For the EU stakeholders in EU, it also showed China and SAC still put EU-China standardisation cooperation as a priority.

4. SAMR Mandates Strict Enforcement of the 24-Month National Standard Development Timeline

#Standardisation

On December 31, 2024, SAMR/SAC issued a notice titled "Notice on Strict Management of National Standard Development Timelines" requiring strict enforcement of the policy that national standards must be developed within a maximum of 24 months.

Key Points of the Notice:

- Defined Development Timelines: The development cycle for mandatory standards should generally not exceed 24 months, and for recommended standards, 18 months. If an extension is needed, applications must be submitted 30 days in advance. Extensions for mandatory standards are capped at 12 months, while recommended standards are limited to 6 months.

- Strict Timeline Management: Starting January 1, 2025, project timelines will be managed automatically via the National Standards Development and Revision System. Projects exceeding the timeline will be automatically frozen, and the responsible technical committee will lose operational access.

- Support for Key Projects: Projects designated as priorities by the Central Committee of the CPC and the State Council will receive enhanced oversight. If such projects exceed the timeline, written explanations must be provided, and approval is required to lift the freeze. For projects with slow progress, the SAMR Standards and Technology Department will issue official reminders.

- Regulation of Project Termination and Re-establishment: Projects automatically frozen for exceeding the timeline will undergo review, and termination notices will be published. Terminated projects will generally not be eligible for re-establishment. In cases where re-establishment is necessary, a detailed justification must be submitted, evaluated by experts, and no repeat funding support will be provided.

- Enhanced Tracking and Outcome Utilization: Starting January 1, 2025, the completion status of project plans will be tracked and analyzed, with results ranked. The evaluation outcomes will inform the assessment of the technical committee's performance. Measures such as suspension of standard project approvals or revocation of technical committees will be applied to underperforming technical committees.

Policy Implications:

This stringent timeline management approach aims to prevent delays, ensuring that national standards are updated promptly to meet market and societal demands. However, standard-setting inherently involves achieving consensus, which may require significant time, particularly for complex issues. While fixed time limits can expedite consensus-building, questions remain about whether the resulting standards will adequately meet societal and user needs and whether their implementation will achieve the desired outcomes.

5. China Issues Antitrust Guidelines for Standard Essential Patents

#Standard Essential Patent (SEP)

China has recently released the *Antitrust Guidelines for Standard Essential Patents* (hereinafter referred to as the Guidelines), a detailed framework designed to regulate the competitive dynamics associated with standard essential patents (SEPs). The Guidelines, structured into six chapters comprising 22 articles, address critical antitrust concerns related to SEPs, including market competition, patent disclosure, licensing commitments, and the abuse of market dominance.

Key Highlights of the Guidelines:

- General Provisions (Articles 1–5): This section establishes the foundation of the Guidelines, outlining their purpose, scope, and legal basis. It defines key concepts related to SEPs and introduces principles for analyzing potential anticompetitive behaviors. The provisions also provide a framework for defining relevant markets and identifying antitrust concerns in both preemptive and ongoing contexts.

- Disclosure, Licensing Commitments, and Good Faith Negotiations (Articles 6–8)：The Guidelines emphasize compliance with FRAND (Fair, Reasonable, and Non-Discriminatory) principles, requiring SEP holders to adhere to transparent licensing commitments and good-faith negotiation practices. These measures aim to promote fair market conditions and strengthen antitrust enforcement within the SEP domain.

- Anticompetitive Agreements (Articles 9–11)：This section addresses monopolistic agreements that could arise during the standardisation process or the licensing of SEPs. It specifically highlights concerns related to patent pooling and other collaborative agreements that might distort market competition.

- Abuse of Market Dominance (Articles 12–18)：These articles detail the assessment of market dominance in the SEP context, including methodologies and key factors for evaluation. They define various forms of abusive conduct, such as unfair pricing practices. discriminatory licensing terms, refusal to license SEPs. The section also provides clear criteria for identifying and addressing such anticompetitive behaviors.

- Concentrations of Undertakings (Articles 19–20)：The Guidelines outline the procedures for reporting and reviewing mergers and acquisitions involving SEP holders. Key factors for consideration include the impact on market competition and potential antitrust risks posed by such concentrations.

- Miscellaneous Provisions (Articles 21–22)：The final chapter clarifies the scope, applicability, and interpretation of the Guidelines. It emphasizes their voluntary nature while encouraging stakeholders to adopt best practices in SEP-related activities.

Balancing Innovation and Competition

The drafters of the Guidelines highlight their dual objectives:

- Protecting intellectual property rights to incentivize innovation.
- Preventing monopolistic behaviors that could hinder market competition.

By promoting compliance with FRAND principles, the Guidelines aim to align China's SEP regulatory framework with international best practices. Additionally, they encourage the lawful use of patents to foster technological advancements and ensure a transparent, equitable SEP market.

SESEC Briefing on the Guidelines

The Guidelines build on key legislative frameworks, including the *Anti-Monopoly Law of the People's Republic of China* (Anti-Monopoly Law), the *Antitrust Guidelines in the Field of Intellectual Property* (IP Guidelines), and the *Provisions on Prohibiting the Abuse of Intellectual Property Rights to Exclude and Restrict Competition* (IP Provisions). They extend China's legislative efforts to integrate intellectual property rights with antitrust principles, promoting fair competition and innovation while refining regulatory practices for the standard development and implementation process.

The Guidelines introduce both procedural innovations—such as mechanisms for "enhanced ex-ante and ongoing supervision"—and substantive provisions that balance the interests of SEP holders and implementers. By addressing key issues like monopoly agreements and abuses of market dominance, they provide clearer guidance on typical monopolistic behaviors and their determining factors.

This briefing highlights the key provisions and practical applications of the Guidelines, aiming to assist enterprises in understanding SEP-related antitrust compliance, mitigating risks in SEP licensing and disputes, and safeguarding their legitimate rights.

1) Enhanced Ex-Ante and Ongoing Supervision Mechanisms：The Guidelines establish a tiered antitrust regulatory framework for SEPs, emphasizing proactive measures to identify and address antitrust risks at both the standard development and implementation stages.

2) Promotion of "Good Practices" in SEP Management：The Guidelines encourage compliance with legislative and judicial precedents by emphasizing three key obligations for SEP holders and implementers:
   - Information Disclosure Obligations: Stakeholders must ensure transparent communication of relevant SEP-related information.
   - Licensing Commitment Obligations: Commitments under FRAND principles must be upheld to maintain fairness in the market.
   - Good-Faith Negotiation Obligations: Licensing negotiations should be conducted with transparency and mutual respect to avoid unnecessary disputes.

Chapter 2 elaborates on these obligations, providing practical guidance to promote equitable and efficient practices in the SEP lifecycle.

3) Clearer Definitions of Monopoly Agreements in Standard Development：The Guidelines expand on the categories of monopoly agreements identified in the IP Provisions and IP Guidelines, offering more specific examples of behaviors to avoid during standard development and implementation:
   - Typical Risks of Monopoly Agreements: These include collusion and anticompetitive agreements formed during the standard-setting process.
   - Antitrust Risks in Patent Pools:
     - Avoiding sensitive information exchange and collusion.
     - Monitoring the substitutability of pooled patents.
     - Minimizing exclusive licensing to reduce barriers to market entry.

4) Clarification of Market Dominance Abuses：The Guidelines identify specific practices that could constitute abuses of market dominance in SEP-related activities, including:
   - Unfairly High Licensing Fees: Charging excessive fees that exploit implementers.
   - "Harsh" Grant-Back Arrangements: Imposing onerous requirements for implementers to license back improvements.
   - Bundled Licensing: Requiring implementers to accept unrelated or unnecessary patents.
   - No-Challenge Clauses: Prohibiting implementers from questioning the validity of SEPs.

5) Balanced Remedies for SEP-Related Abuses：Recognizing the complex stakeholder interests involved in SEPs, the Guidelines aim to balance the rights of SEP holders with those of implementers:
   - Support for SEP Holders: Protects their intellectual property rights and ensures reasonable returns from innovation.
   - Oversight of Monopolistic Behavior: Limits abuses of SEPs that hinder competition and innovation by implementers.
   - Alignment with FRAND Principles: Ensures that SEP-related practices promote fairness, reasonable pricing, and non-discriminatory access.

The Guidelines emphasize that intellectual property rights must be exercised within legal boundaries to stimulate innovation while maintaining market fairness.

6. New Government Procurement Policy: Foreign Products Face a 20% Price Disadvantage

Government Procurement

On 5 December, 2024, the Ministry of Finance issued the *Notice on Issues Related to Standards and Implementation Policies for Domestic Products in the Field of Government Procurement (Draft for Comments),* inviting public feedback. The deadline for comments is January 4, 2025.

This document primarily targets industrial products listed in the *Government Procurement Item Classification Directory.* It proposes that in government procurement activities where both domestic and non-domestic products compete, a 20% price deduction be applied to the quoted prices of domestic products, and the adjusted prices will be used for evaluation. This means that domestic products will effectively enjoy a 20% price advantage over foreign products in government procurement bidding.

The document narrows the scope for defining domestic products. Previously, any product manufactured within China was considered a domestic product for government procurement purposes. Under the new rules, only products manufactured in China with domestically produced components comprising a certain proportion of the total cost will qualify as domestic products. The Ministry of Finance, together with relevant departments, will determine this proportion based on industrial development needs and product categories. For specific products, additional requirements may be imposed, such as key components being manufactured in China and critical production processes being completed domestically.

In terms of calculation rules, the document includes the *Rules for Calculating the Cost of Domestically Produced Components in China.* It stipulates that the cost of components produced in China is generally calculated based on the cost of secondary components. (Primary components refer to those directly comprising the product, while secondary components are those that constitute the primary components. If a primary component cannot be broken down further, it is treated as a secondary component.) The full cost of secondary components produced in China is counted as the cost of domestically produced components. However, costs of secondary components not produced in China are excluded from the calculation.

Given the significant impact this policy may have on overseas products participating in government procurement, it is recommended that relevant enterprises actively provide feedback. The Ministry of Finance is expected to seek opinions when determining the cost ratio and clarifying the classification of primary and secondary components for specific products. Overseas enterprises are advised to closely monitor related announcements from the Ministry of Finance.

7. SAC/TC260 Cybersecurity Standard 2nd Meeting Week in 2024

#Cyber and Data Security

China National Information Security Standardization Technical Committee (SAC/TC260) is a key standardization body in China responsible for the development and management of national standards related to cybersecurity, data security, and information protection. It operates under the leadership of the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC), Standardization Administration of China (SAC), and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT). It plays a central role in shaping China’s cyber and data security regulatory and standardization landscape.

TC 260 initiated its biannual "Standards Week" events since 2017, marking a significant milestone in advancing cybersecurity and data security standardization in China. Over the years, these events have evolved into a premier platform for collaboration among Chinese stakeholders, including government agencies, industry leaders, academic institutions, and technical experts. The primary goal is to drive the development and refinement of cybersecurity and data security standards while showcasing the nation's progress in policies, standardization efforts, and technological advancements.

The 2nd Standards Week of TC260 in 2024 took place from December 8th to 11th, 2024, in Haikou City, drawing participation from over 900 experts representing more than 300 public and private organizations. The event provided a platform to discuss emerging technologies, future industry hotspots, and standardization projects and proposals.

The four-day event featured a diverse range of activities, including conference, forums, training session, and working group discussions, aimed at fostering collaboration and advancing cybersecurity standardization.

- Plenary Session: Inauguration and keynote addresses.
- Forums: Discussions on AI, E-government, data and consumer privacy, and new industrialization.
- Cybersecurity Standardization Training: Skill-building sessions focused on practical aspects of standardization.
- Working Group Meetings: Sessions for seven working groups under TC260.

Keynote Speech

The event commenced with a Plenary Session, during which Mr. Wang Jingtao, Vice-Administrator of CAC and Chairman of TC260, delivered a keynote address. His speech underscored the critical role of standards in enhancing China's cybersecurity infrastructure and emphasized the following priorities:

- Leverage standards to support the construction of a national cybersecurity defense system.
- Use standards to enhance data security governance and regulation.
- Employ standards to guide the secure and orderly development of new technologies and applications such as artificial intelligence (AI).
- Leverage standards to enhance China's international influence in cybersecurity.

Experts from industry also shared their thoughts and practices on the development of cybersecurity technologies and standards in various fields like intelligent driving, post-quantum cryptography, consumer IOT, unman aerial vehicles in the plenary meeting.

In the working group meetings, participants from seven working groups, namely WG3 on cryptography, WG4 on identification and authorization, WG5 on security assessment, WG6 on communication, WG7 on security management, WG8 on data, SWG-ETS on new technologies, discussed nearly a hundred ongoing standard projects and standard proposals.

In these one hundred ongoing standard projects and standard proposals , the priorities are as below.

- AI safety and security standards are a key focus of TC260's ongoing standardization efforts.
- Data Security Standards with Potential Implications for European Stakeholders
- New Standard Proposals to Support the Upgrade of the Cybersecurity Graded Protection Scheme

China's evolving regulatory landscape is increasingly shaped by the development and implementation of TC260' standards. These standards are designed to align with national priorities and international trends while addressing emerging technological risks. The revisions and new proposals will also play a pivotal role in supporting China's digital economy and enhancing its data protection and cybersecurity frameworks. For European stakeholders, staying abreast of these developments is essential, as they may impact both market access and regulatory compliance.

8. China and Peru Sign Memorandum of Understanding on Standardisation

#Standardisation Cooperation

Beijing, November 19, 2024 – The State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) and the Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) have announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Peru on international standardisation cooperation. The MoU, which was included in the outcomes of the recent heads of state meeting during the APEC summit, is set to foster closer ties between the two nations in the areas of climate change, smart cities, digital technology, and sustainable development.

The agreement emphasizes the promotion of international standardisation cooperation and includes provisions for joint research initiatives and capacity-building efforts. This marks a significant step forward in aligning the standardisation efforts of China and Peru within international standard-setting frameworks.

SAMR expressed its commitment to implementing the consensus reached at the heads of state meeting and

highlighted the importance of promoting standard coordination and alignment between the two countries. By reducing technical barriers to trade, the MoU aims to facilitate smoother trade exchanges, contributing to the ongoing growth of bilateral economic relations.

Furthermore, the MoU also addresses the areas of food safety, with SAMR and the Ministry of Health of Peru signing an additional cooperation agreement. This agreement, also a key outcome of the heads of state meeting, focuses on establishing a cooperation mechanism in the field of food safety regulation. The two sides will collaborate on food safety laws, enforcement of food safety regulations, and the quality and safety of agricultural and food processing products.

9. China-CEEE Standardisation Exchange on Sci-Tech Innovation Held

#Standardisation

The China-CEEC Standardisation Exchange Event on Science, Technology and Innovation was convened on December 12-13, 2024 in Yiwu, Zhejiang province.

Hosted by China Science and Technology Exchange Center and held by China Jiliang University (CJLU), the event was themed “standards innovation promotes high-quality development: tasks and challenges of standardisation development of biomanufacturing”, which is the third event of the series of activities, China-CEEC InnoShare, in 2024. More than 150 representatives from governments, universities, research institutions and enterprises in 15 countries attended the meeting to discuss cutting-edge achievements in sci-tech innovation.

The event aims to promote the technical innovation and achievement application through standardisation, and facilitate international technical cooperation and exchange in the metrology sector. It highlights the coordinated research and mutual recognition of technical regulations and standards, which is expected to boost the high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and build an international community of sci-tech innovation with openness, inclusiveness, and mutual benefit.

The International Intelligent Biomanufacturing Standard Development Alliance was launched during the event. It serves as a new approach to facilitate the industrial development with standardisation, and will support the application of technologies in the field of biomanufacturing.

Three seminars were held as well, where 16 experts at home and abroad made keynote reports, including Song
Mingshun, Chair of ISO/TC 321, Bron Kisler, Chair of ISO/TC 215/SC 1, Mi Xianqiang, Professor at Chinese Academy of
Sciences, Midhat Jašić, Professor at the University Tuzla in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Wang Baojun, Professor at Zhejiang University, and Dr. Servet Atayeter, Manager of ISO/TC 34/SC 3.

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025)

10. A Review of China’s Standardisation Efforts in 2024: Top 10 Major Standardisation Events

#Standardisation

In December 2024, the China Standardisation Press conducted an online vote via its WeChat account to identify the 10 most impactful events of the year. The campaign garnered widespread participation from Chinese standardisation professionals and the general public nationwide, achieving nearly 46,500 page views. The selected events are as follows:

1) **SAMR issues the *Guidance on Antimonopoly of Standard Essential Patents***

On November 21, 2024, the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) issued the *Guidance on the Anitimonopoly of Standard Essential Patents*, aiming to prevent and stop operators from abusing standard essential
patents to eliminate and limit competition behaviors, and protect fair competition in the market. It can also foster
innovation, improve the operational efficiency of economy, and protect consumers’ interests and public

interests.

2) SAMR and WTO jointly release the Chinese version of ePing SPS&TBT platform

On May 23, 2024, SAMR and WTO officially started to provide the Chinese version of the ePing sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) platform. The ePing platform is designed to facilitate SPS&TBT measures. On the platform, users can browse notifications on new and updated product regulations, search information on trade concerns discussed by the WTO SPS and TBT committees, and reach out to national and international counterparts. Now, the official languages of the platform are English, French, and Spanish. Other three languages, Chinese, Portuguese and Vietnamese, are also provided.

3) *Action Plan on Promoting Large-scale Equipment Upgrades and Trade-ins of Consumer Goods Led by the Improvement of Standards* issued

SAMR and other six ministries and commissions issued the *Action Plan on Promoting Large-scale Equipment Upgrades and Trade-ins of Consumer Goods Led by the Improvement of Standards* on March 27, 2024, to support the implementation of the *Action Plan on Promoting Large-scale Equipment Upgrades and Trade-ins of Consumer Goods* released by the State Council earlier. It lays out a list of nearly 300 national standards to be developed and revised in 2024 and 2025, which will exert the role of standards in promoting upgrades, expanding consumption, and smoothing circulation.

4) First National Standardisation Knowledge Competition held

The First National Standardisation Knowledge Competition, hosted by SAMR and National Standardisation Administration of China (SAC), came to a successful conclusion on October 14, 2024, the 55th World Standards Day.

A total of 519,000 standardizers participated in the competition with 270 million visits on the online competition platform. The competition popularized standardisation knowledge broadly, creating a good atmosphere of enhancing the role of standards. As a result, 8 teams from provinces and municipalities including Heilongjiang, Shaanxi, Jiangsu, Fujian, Shandong, Shanghai, Anhui, and Hunan won the First, Second and Third Prizes of Group Awards respectively.

5) First AI National Standards Evaluation Benchmark System "Qiusuo" Released

"Qiusuo", the First AI National Standards Evaluation Benchmark System, was released at the New Industry Standardisation Navigation Meeting, which was jointly organized by China Electronics Standardisation Institute (CESI) and CESI Certification Co., Ltd. on November 21. The Qiusuo system was jointly developed by CESI and CESI Certification Co., Ltd., which contributes to the preparation of 12 national standard, provides series of evaluation benchmark tools, such as the AI system performance testing benchmark (AISBench), big model evaluation benchmark (LMBench), and AI software and hardware adaptation testing tools (AICL).

6) AI standardisation TC of MIIT established

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) established the AI standardisation technical commit tee (MIIT/TC 1), which is responsible for the development and revision of sectoral standards in areas such as AI evaluation and testing, operation and maintenance, data set, basic hardware, software platform, big model, application maturity, application development and management, and AI risks. The technical committee is composed of 41 members, and its secretariat is held by China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT).

7) National data standardisation TC established

To promote the effective circulation and supply of data, and make good use of data safely, the national data standardisation technical committee (SAC/TC 609) was approved to be established in October. The technical committee is mainly responsible for the technical management, organization, and proposal submission and approval of national standards in the data area, including the common and fundamental standards on data resources, data technology, data circulation, smart cities, and digital transformation; data infrastructure standards to support data circulation and use; and security standards to safeguard data circulation and use.

8) Secretariat of ISO/TC 344 held by China

The inaugural meeting of ISO/TC 344, Innovative logistics, took place in Qingdao city, East China's Shandong province at the end of May 2024. The work scope of the technical commit tee includes the development of general requirement , framework, metrics, guidance, performance indicator, and evaluation for innovative logistics; innovative provision of service assurance for logistics; innovative operation, service and synergy optimization in logistics. Now, it has 14 participating members and 12

observing members, with 2 ISO standards under development. Its secretariat is held by China.

9) **SAC releases the *Comprehensive Performance Evaluation Index System of Association Standards Organizations***

In August 2024, SAC released the *Notice on Comprehensive Performance Evaluation Index System of Association Standards Organizations*. The Index System is composed of 4 first-level indexes, 21 second-level indexes, and 59 third-level indexes, covering 18 basic requirements for charge management, intellectual property management and others. The comprehensive performance evaluation of association standards organizations can be carried out according to the Index System, and the full score of evaluation result is 100. Organizations with over 95 scores are graded three stars, and those with 85-94 scores and 70-84 scores are graded two stars and one star respectively.

10) ***Action Plan on Implementing the National Standardisation Development Outline (2024-2025)*** **issued**

On March 18, 2024, SAMR and 17 other ministries and commissions jointly issued the *Action Plan on Implementing the National Standardisation Development Outline (2024-2025)*, to guide the implementation of the Outline in the next two years. The Action Plan put s forward specific requirements for key tasks, which includes 35 provisions in 3 parts. It requires the relevant governmental departments in all regions to earnestly implement the Action Plan based on their actual situation.

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025)

11. A Review of China's Standardisation Efforts in 2024: Top 10 Most Notable Standards

#Standardisation

In December 2024, the China Standardisation Press launched an online vote through its WeChat account to determine the 10 standards that garnered the most attention in the year. The campaign saw broad participation from Chinese standardisation experts and the general public, with nearly 46,500 page views. The chosen standards are as follows:

1) ***GB 45067-2024 Criteria for major accident potential of special equipment judgment***

The mandatory national standard *GB 45067-2024 Criteria for major accident potential of special equipment judgment* was released on November 28, 2024, and put into effect on December 1, 2024. Based on the *Measures of Special Equipment Safety Supervision and Inspection* and relevant technical regulations for safety, the standard defines major accident hazards in the use of special equipment, and provides explicit judging criteria for identifying and dealing with special equipment hazards. It is of great significance for improving the safety level of special equipment.

2) **Three national standards for furniture: GB 28008-2024, GB 18584-2024, GB 28007-2024**

On June 25, 2024, SAMR (SAC) released three mandatory national standards for furniture, which are *GB 28008-2024 Technical specification for the safety of furniture structure*, *GB 18584-2024 Limit of harmful substances of furniture*, and *GB 28007-2024 Technical specifications for the safety of infants' and children's furniture*. GB 28008-2024 specifies the basic safety requirements and relevant safety requirements based on the characteristics of different products, playing a key technical supporting role in ensuring users' personal safety. GB 18584-2024 stipulates the limit of harmful substances in various furniture, adds the definition and limit value of total volatile organic compounds, harmonizes related testing indicators, and puts forward the new nondestructive testing method for formaldehyde emission. It helps improve the quality and safety level of furniture. GB 28007-2024 outlines the general safety requirements of the furniture for infants and children under 14 years old as well as the safety requirements and relevant test and verification methods for specific products. It helps regulate the design, production and sales of such furniture.

3) ***General management guidelines for product quality reliability***

General management guidelines for product quality reliability, the first of its kind in China, was jointly released by the market regulation departments of Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai and Chongqing municipalities in Shanghai on November 26, 2024. The standard focuses on prevailing problems in product quality reliability management, establishes a complete

quality management framework, and sets out overall requirements for the design, analysis, test, and assessment of reliability, as well as evaluation and improvement of use reliability. It provides a clear implementation path for enterprises by illustrating items and types of reliability work and giving detailed requirements and implementation steps. It helps enterprises improve quality and efficiency in fields such as information technology, and intelligent manufacturing, which is of importance to the quality improvement, production safety and industrial upgrading of the manufacturing industry.

4) Two national standards for electric vehicles: GB 44263-2024 and GB 39752-2024

Two mandatory national standards for electric vehicles, *GB 44263-2024 Safety requirements for electric vehicle conductive charging system,* and *GB 39752-2024 Safety requirements of electric vehicle conductive supply equipment*, released on July 24, 2024, will be put into effect on August 1, 2025. GB 44263-2024 defines the basic requirements for electric safety, environment adaptation, mechanical strength, electromagnetic compatibility and other aspects of the charging system, and GB 39752-2024 puts emphasis on installation position, structural design, fault protection and other aspects of the supply equipment. The two standards will improve the charging safety and reliability of charging piles, ensure the safety of people, equipment and vehicles in the charging process, and promote the development of charging infrastructure in a healthy, safe and sustainable way.

5) GB 2760-2024 National food safety standard for uses of food additives

A total of 47 national standards for food safety and 6 ones with modification were jointly released by the National Health Commission (NHC) and SAMR on March 12, 2024, including the high-profile *GB 2760-2024 National food safety standard for uses of food additives*. The revised mandatory national standard will come into effect on February 8, 2025. It specifies the types of additives allowed in food, and specifies the scope and amount of use. It is of great significance for regulating the use of food additives and ensuring food safety. It deletes the types of food additives that are no longer technically necessary after conducting a survey and their terms of use. Enterprises should avoid using such food additives.

6) GB/T 24067-2024 Greenhouse gases — Carbon footprint of products — Requirements and guidelines for quantification

GB/T 24067-2024 Greenhouse gases—Carbon footprint of products—Requirements and guidelines for quantification, whose development was led by CNIS, was released by SAMR (SAC) on August 23, 2024. Proposed by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, the standard is in the charge of SAC/TC 548 on carbon management. With an adoption of ISO 14067, the standard defines the research scope, principles and qualification methods of product footprint. It is designed to fill the gap of common standards for product carbon footprint accounting in China, and provide an important basis for relevant standards for specific products. It helps enterprises explore the potential of energy conservation and emission reduction, and actively respond to the barriers of green trade around the world.

7) GB 44917-2024 Hygienic requirements for the bulk transportation of edible vegetable oils

The mandatory national standard *GB 44917-2024 Hygienic requirements for the bulk transportation of edible vegetable oils*, was released by SAMR (SAC) on October 28, 2024. The standard will be put into effect on February 1,
2025. The standard specifies the terminologies in the bulk transportation of edible vegetable oil, as well as the basic requirements, cleaning, maintenance, management, transportation operation, records, and sanitary requirements for bulk transportation containers. According to the standard, containers for edible vegetable oil must be packaged in dedicated food-grade containers clearly marked “for edible oil only” or “food use only”. The interior and exterior of the containers must be clean and sanitary. Containers used for non-food items are prohibited from transporting edible vegetable oil.

8) ISO 14785:2024 Tourism and related services — Tourist information services — Requirements and recommendations

The international standard *ISO 14785:2024 Tourism and related services—Tourist information services—Requirements and recommendations,* was officially published, whose development was led by Chinese experts, according to a press conference held by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism on December 5, 2024. The international standard focuses on tourist information services, injecting Chinese elements into international tourism standards, which will play an essential role in participating in the international tourism governance and promoting the sustainable development of tourism. The standard will facilitate the normative management and quality improvement of global tourism industry, and provide important support for overseas tourists to travel in China.

9) GB/T 44831-2024 General technical requirements of skin-on-a-chip

GB/T 44831-2024 General technical requirements of skin-on-a-chip, the first of its kind, was published on October 26, 2024, whose development was led by Gu Zhongze, President of Suzhou Institute of Medical Devices, Southeast University. The standard defines the relevant terminologies of skin-on-a-chip and the technical requirements including appearance, cell source, component performance, and biological performance. It can be applied to the design, production and testing of skin-on-a-chip products with micro-fluidic chips as a carrier. The standard indicates a major progress of organ chip standardisation in China, which is of great significance for pushing forward the normative development of its scientific research and industrial application. It will effectively enable the high-quality development of the industry.

10) GB 15979-2024 Hygienic requirements for disposable sanitary products

GB 15979-2024 Hygienic requirements for disposable sanitary products, was released by SAMR (SAC) on June 25, 2024 together with other 17 mandatory national standards. The standard was revised by the National Disease Control and Prevention Administration with highlights in the following five aspects. First, the scope of the standard is adjusted. The definition of disposable sanitary products is modified, and the terminologies and definitions of sanitary wipes, antibacterial agents, bacteriostatic agents and others are added. Second, the sanitary requirements for raw materials are refined, and the prohibited substances of raw materials and requirements for production water supply are increased. Third, the sanitary requirements for production process are optimized. Fourth, the sanitary requirements of products are strengthened, physicochemical indicators are added, and the requirements for microbial contamination indicators and toxicological safety are modified. Fifth, relevant testing methods are updated and supplemented.

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025)

Digital Transition

12. China Issues Data Security Compliance Guidelines for Industrial and IT Sectors

Data

On November 19, 2024, 17 Chinese sector associations jointly released the *Data Security Compliance Guidelines for the Industrial and Information Technology Sectors* (hereinafter referred to as the Compliance Guideline). This announcement was a highlight of the Light of Internet Expo, a key segment of the World Internet Conference 2024 Wuzhen Summit. The guideline emphasizes security measures throughout the entire data lifecycle, from data collection and storage to processing, sharing, and disposal.

Since 2021, several critical laws and regulations have been enacted, including the *Data Security Law*, the *Cybersecurity Law*, and the *Personal Information Protection Law*. Within this context, the industrial and information technology sectors have emerged as critical areas of focus due to their close ties to essential infrastructure and national security. To ensure compliance, recent regulations, such as the *Administrative Measures for Data Security in the Field of Industry and Information Technology (Trial)* and the *Detailed Rules for the Implementation of Data Security Risk Assessments in the Field of Industry and Information Technology (Trial)*, have outlined detailed procedures for legal and compliant data processing in these fields.

The Compliance Guideline aims to address the challenges faced by data processors in meeting data security obligations. It provides:

- A clear basis for compliance.
- Practical steps for comprehensive, accurate, and standardized data security management.
- Strategies to enhance data protection capabilities.

The document's legal basis draws from existing regulations, including the laws mentioned above, ensuring alignment with China's broader data governance framework. The guideline applies to data processors in the industrial and IT sectors, defined as entities that independently determine the purposes and methods of data processing. These entities include:

- Industrial enterprises.
- Software and IT service companies.
- Telecommunications and Internet providers.
- Radio frequency and station users.

The Compliance Guideline is structured into nine chapters, covering application scope, terms and definitions, a full list of legal documents that it is drafted upon. More details are laid out on how to categorize data, how to establish and carry out security management system, full lifecycle protection, risk monitor precautions/report/processing, security incident dealing, risk evaluation, cross-border management, and data trade.

13. China Unveils Global Data Flow Cooperation Initiative

Data

On November 20, 2024, the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) officially released the *Global Data Flow Cooperation Initiative* (hereinafter, referred to as the "Initiative") at the 2024 World Internet Conference Wuzhen Summit. The Initiative, presented in both Chinese and English, underscores China's commitment to fostering global cooperation on cross-border data flows while balancing innovation, economic development, and security concerns.

The Initiative highlights the importance of balancing the innovation of digital technologies, the development of the digital economy, and the protection of national security, public interests, personal privacy, and intellectual property rights. It aims to support countries' legitimate policy goals while promoting seamless cross-border data flows to advance global trade, industrial digitalization, and societal development.

The full text of the English version is as follows.

Global Cross-border Data Flow Cooperation Initiative

As digital technologies increasingly permeate every aspect of daily life and production, the global digital economy has experienced rapid development, with digital societies emerging as new spaces for sharing the progress of human civilization. As an essential element in the digital economy, data plays an increasingly important role in innovative development and public governance. Cross-border data flows are vital to e-commerce, digital trade, and various aspects of global economic, technological and cultural activities. It can reduce trade cost, enhance companies' capacity to engage in international trade, facilitate trade processes, accelerate industrial digitalization, bridge the digital divide, and foster a new type of globalization driven by data flows. Currently, the international community is actively exploring and establishing global rules and order in the digital sphere. Bilateral and multilateral efforts such as the Global Digital Compact by the United Nations, negotiations on e-commerce at the World Trade Organization, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, and the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement exemplify the shared willingness of and choices made by countries and regions worldwide to promote cooperation on cross-border data flows.

We noticed that, while promoting global cross-border data flows, countries are primarily concerned with risks related to national security, public interests, personal privacy, and intellectual property. We believe that the international community should fully respect the different policies and practices adopted by various countries and regions based on their specific conditions. It is crucial to pay heed to each party's concerns regarding data security and development and to work toward building consensus on cross-border data flow rules through consultation among countries and regions.

We call on all countries to uphold principles of openness, inclusiveness, security, cooperation, and non-discrimination, balance the promotion of digital technology innovation, the development of the digital economy, and the advancement of digital society with the protection of national security, public interests, personal privacy, and intellectual property, and foster cross-border data flows while ensuring that each country's legitimate policy goals are met. We hope that governments, international organizations, businesses, and civil society will adhere to the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits. By playing their respective roles, they can promote global cooperation on cross-border data flow, jointly build a mechanism to ensure efficient, convenient and safe cross-border data flow and an open and mutually beneficial landscape for international cooperation in the data sphere and ensure that the benefits of digital advancements are shared by people worldwide.

To make this happen, we suggest the following:

——Governments should encourage electronic cross-border data transmission to meet the needs of business and social activities. This will help global e-commerce and digital trade serve as new drivers for economic growth and sustainable development.

——Governments should respect the regulatory differences of various countries and regions in cross-border data flows. They should support free data flows that do not violate national security, public interests, and personal privacy. Regulations on cross-border data flows should be permitted when they aim to achieve legitimate public policy objectives on the premise that such regulatory measures do not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade, and do not cross the limits of the goals they seek to achieve.

——Governments should respect security measures taken by all countries in accordance with their laws to protect non-personal data related to national security and public interests, and ensure the secure and orderly cross-border

flows of relevant non-personal data.

——Governments should respect measures taken by all countries to protect personal information rights and interests including individual privacy. Countries should be encouraged to provide convenient channels for cross-border transmission of personal information on the condition that such information is well protected. Countries should be encouraged to establish and improve legal and supervision frameworks on personal information protection, conduct exchanges on best practices and experiences, improve the compatibility of personal information protection mechanisms and rules, and foster mutual recognition of relevant standards, technology regulations and conformity assessment procedures. Enterprises should be encouraged to obtain personal information protection certifications to demonstrate their compliance with personal information protection standards and ensure the secure and orderly cross-border flows of personal information.

——Governments should support exploring the establishment of negative lists for managing cross-border data flow to promote efficient, convenient and safe cross-border data flow.

——Governments should work together to create a data flow and usage environment that is open, inclusive, secure, and non-discriminatory, jointly uphold a fair and just market order, and promote the orderly and healthy development of the digital economy.

——Governments should enhance the transparency, predictability, and non-discriminatory nature of measures managing the cross-border flows of various types of data, as well as the interoperability of policy frameworks.

——Governments should actively conduct international cooperation in the field of cross-border data flows. Support should be given to developing countries and the least developed countries to enable them to effectively participate in and utilize cross-border data flows so as to promote their digital economic growth. Developed countries should be encouraged to provide capacity building and technical assistance to developing countries, especially the least developed ones, in order to bridge the digital divide and achieve fair and sustainable development.

——Governments should encourage the use of digital technologies to promote innovative applications in cross-border data flows. They should improve technological capabilities to ensure efficient, convenient and safe cross-border data flows. They should advance international mutual recognition of evaluation standards for technical and security assurance capabilities related to cross-border data flows and ensure effective intellectual property protection.

——Governments should oppose overstretching the concept of national security on data issues. They should object to making restrictive and differentiated policies on cross-border data flows targeting specific countries and enterprises without factual evidence, or implementing discriminatory restrictions, prohibitions, and other similar measures against specific countries and enterprises.

——Governments should prohibit illicit acquisition of data through methods such as setting up backdoors in digital products and services or exploiting vulnerabilities in digital technology infrastructure. They should collaborate to crack down on cross-border illegal activities in the data field and jointly safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of citizens and enterprises in all countries.

We are ready to carry out and deepen exchanges and cooperation in the field of cross-border data flows with all parties based on the above initiative. We call on all countries and regions to respond to and endorse the above initiative through bilateral, multilateral, or regional agreements and arrangements. We welcome the support of international organizations, businesses, and civil society for this initiative.

14. NDA Releases Draft Guidelines for Building National Data Infrastructure

Data

On November 22, 2024, the National Data Administration (NDA) released the draft *Guidelines for Building National Data Infrastructure* (hereinafter referred to as the "Guidelines") for public consultation. Feedback submission channels closed on December 1, 2024. The Guidelines aim to establish a clear vision, framework, and developmental goals for data infrastructure, fostering societal consensus and providing a roadmap for its advancement.

Redefining Infrastructure: From Digital to Data

Unlike traditional digital infrastructure, which emphasizes hardware and software technologies, the proposed data infrastructure framework is defined through its technological and economic functions, focusing on unlocking the value of data as a core resource. This new-generation infrastructure integrates data aggregation, processing, circulation, application, operation, and security services into a unified, cohesive ecosystem. It also incorporates hardware, software, algorithms, standards, and institutional frameworks, creating a robust and interconnected system.

Current Challenges in China's Data Infrastructure

While data infrastructure holds transformative potential, its development in China remains at an early stage, facing several significant challenges:

- Insufficient Data Circulation and Utilization: Limited mechanisms to enable efficient data sharing and integration.
- Data Security and Privacy Concerns: Gaps in protection measures and standards.
- Underdeveloped Application Scenarios: A lack of mature use cases demonstrating the value of data-driven approaches.
- Unclear Development Direction: Ambiguity around strategies and limited demonstration projects.

Key Objectives Outlined in the Draft Guidelines

The Guidelines propose a series of ambitious goals to address these challenges and establish a cutting-edge national data infrastructure:

- Enhancing Data Circulation and Utilization: Develop facilities that support a unified national data market, ensuring secure, seamless, and trustworthy data flows; Establish a collaborative public service system for large-scale data circulation and utilization.

- Building a High-Quality Computing Power Foundation: Create a diverse, efficient, intelligent, and eco-friendly computing power supply system capable of meeting the diverse demands of data processing.

- Strengthening Network Support: Build a high-speed, reliable, and dynamically adjustable data transmission network to enable flexible access and ubiquitous connectivity.

- Improving Security Measures: Establish a comprehensive, dynamic, and inherently secure framework to protect data assets from threats.

- Expanding Application Scenarios: Accelerate the digital transformation of traditional industries and empower emerging fields such as artificial intelligence with data-driven solutions.

A Strategic Vision for Digital Sovereignty and Economic Leadership

The release of the draft Guidelines demonstrates China's commitment to building a forward-looking, robust data infrastructure that aligns with its national strategic objectives. By addressing foundational challenges and setting clear developmental goals, the Guidelines aim to unleash the transformative potential of data across industries, enhance digital sovereignty, and position China as a global leader in the data-driven digital economy.

15. SCA Seeks Public Comments on Regulations for Commercial Cryptography Use in Critical Information Infrastructure

Commercial Cryptgraphy, Critical Information Infrasturcture

From November 15 to December 15, 2024, the State Cryptography Administration (SCA) is inviting public comments on the draft *Regulations on the Administration of Commercial Cryptography Use in Critical Information Infrastructure (CII)* as part of its ongoing regulatory review.

This draft regulation, a subordinate legal framework under China's *Cryptography Law*, the *Regulations on the Administration of Commercial Cryptography*, and the *Regulations on the Security Protection of Critical Information Infrastructure*, aims to clarify and enhance the management of commercial cryptography within CII. It addresses key issues related to compliance, security, effectiveness, and the overall integrity of cryptographic practices in safeguarding critical information infrastructure.

The draft regulation imposes several key obligations on CII operators, including:

1) Use of Commercial Cryptography: CII operators must implement commercial cryptography solutions to protect critical information infrastructure. They are required to synchronize the planning, construction, and operational stages of cryptography protection systems.

2) Compliance of Products and Services: Commercial cryptography products and services deployed by CII operators must undergo testing and certification processes to ensure compliance with regulatory standards.

3) Technical Review: Cryptographic algorithms, protocols, key management systems, and other cryptographic technologies utilized by CII operators must be reviewed and approved by the State Cryptography Administration.

4) Lifecycle Security Assessments:
   - During the planning phase, operators must draft commercial cryptography application plans and subject them to security assessments for approval.
   - During the construction phase, operators must implement the cryptography protection systems in accordance with the approved plans.
   - Before operation, CII operators must undergo a final security assessment of their cryptographic applications.
   - After operation, regular security assessments are required to ensure continued compliance and effectiveness.

5) Regulatory Reporting: CII operators must cooperate with regulatory authorities by providing annual reports on their use of commercial cryptography in critical information infrastructure.

While the regulation directly targets CII operators, it will also have significant implications for the commercial cryptography products that CII operators procure. European companies supplying commercial cryptography solutions to Chinese CII operators are encouraged to participate in the public consultation process and submit feedback.

16. NDA Seeks Public Comments on New Data Flow Security Policy

Data

From November 29 to December 6, 2024, the National Data Administration (NDA) is soliciting public comments on the *Implementation Plan for Improving Data Flow Security Governance and Promoting the Marketization and Value Realization of Data Elements (Draft for Public Comment)*. This policy document aims to establish and improve China's rules for data flow security governance, laying the foundation for the compliant and efficient circulation and utilization of data elements.

The document sets the goal of having a clear, prosperous, and multi-party collaborative data flow security governance system in place by the end of 2027.

Under this goal, the document outlines key tasks in the following seven areas:

1) Clarifying Data Flow Security Rules for Enterprises: Data processors are required to identify and declare important data in accordance with national regulations. For data confirmed as important, the relevant regions and departments must promptly inform or publicly release this information to data processors. When data processors provide important data externally, they must adopt necessary security measures in compliance with relevant laws, regulations, and industry authorities to protect national security, economic operations, social stability, public health, and safety.

2) Strengthening Public Data Flow Security Management: In the process of government data sharing, the data provider, in line with the principle of "whoever is in charge, provides and is responsible," must clarify the scope, purpose, and conditions for sharing government data, and bear the responsibility for security management prior to providing the data. The recipient, in accordance with the principle of "whoever handles, uses, manages, and is responsible," must assume responsibility for security management after receiving the data. Local governments and departments conducting public data authorized operations should define the security management responsibilities of authorized data operators based on relevant requirements, establish sound data security management systems, adopt necessary security measures, and strengthen the identification and management of related risks.

3) Strengthening Personal Information Flow Security: The circulation of personal information must be based on legal and regulatory consent or anonymization. Personal consent should not be obtained through coercion, fraud, or misleading practices.

4) Improving Data Flow Security Responsibility Definition Mechanism: Data providers must ensure the legality of the data source, while data recipients must strictly use the data in accordance with the requirements to prevent its use beyond the designated scope.

5) Enhancing the Application of Data Flow Security Technologies:
   - For general data that does not involve risk, self-initiated security measures should be encouraged for circulation and utilization.
   - For data not classified as important but considered crucial to business operations, data providers and recipients are encouraged to connect to and use data flow infrastructure, promoting secure data movement.
   - For important data, under the premise of protecting national security, personal privacy, and public safety, methods such as "data staying within the domain, data being available but invisible, and data being controllable and measurable" are encouraged, in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements, to realize the development of data value.
6) Expanding Data Flow Security Service Provision: Support data security service providers in strengthening basic theoretical research, core technology breakthroughs, and product innovation. Foster the development of services such as data flow security testing, evaluation, and security audits. Enrich services related to data hosting and data insurance, and encourage qualified enterprises to expand data security hosting services targeting small and medium-sized businesses.
7) Preventing Data Misuse Risks:
   - Strictly combat the illegal acquisition, sale, or provision of data by black and grey industries, enhance protection of sensitive personal information, and limit the use of personal information beyond authorized boundaries.
   - Enforce laws and regulations to punish actions that use data for monopolistic practices, unfair competition, and other illegal behaviors, safeguarding the rights and interests of all parties and maintaining fair market competition.
   - Under the coordination of the National Data Security Work Coordination Mechanism, strengthen the monitoring of data security risks in key industries and sectors, continuously enhancing risk analysis, monitoring, and mitigation capabilities to prevent systemic and widespread data security risks.
   - Research and improve the mechanisms for handling data flow security incidents or disputes, and enhance the ability to respond to flow-related risks.

It is worth noting that the document repeatedly mentions the use of standards to achieve the aforementioned policy

objectives, including:

- Clarifying Enterprise Data Flow Security Rules: The document proposes that data, after undergoing de-identification or other technical treatments, and reclassified as general data according to industry-specific classification and grading standards, may be circulated and traded as general data.
- Strengthening Personal Information Flow Security: The document suggests the development of standards related to personal information anonymization, including clear guidelines for anonymization operations, technical specifications, and circulation environment requirements.
- Improving Data Flow Security Responsibility Definition Mechanism: The document advocates for the improvement of data flow security governance standards, integrating technologies such as digital watermarks, data fingerprints, and blockchain to efficiently support evidence collection and accountability during data circulation.
- Enhancing the Application of Data Flow Security Technologies: The document calls for the improvement of data flow security standards, guiding enterprises to adopt different security technologies for data circulation in line with data classification and protection requirements.

It is foreseeable that once this document is issued, the aforementioned standardization efforts will become one of the key focuses of China's data standardization work in the near future. European standardization stakeholders are advised to actively monitor the activities of China's data standard-setting organization, TC609, and prepare for participation in these standards.

17. CAC Calls for Comments on New Regulation for Personal Information Cross-Border Transfer Certification

Data Cross-Border Transfer

From January 3 to February 3, 2025, the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) is soliciting public comments on the *Measures for Personal Information Cross-Border Transfer Protection Certification (Draft for Public Comment)*.

Personal information cross-border transfer protection certification refers to a process where professional certification bodies, legally established and approved by the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR), carry out certification for the protection of personal information regarding the cross-border transfer activities of personal information processors.

The main contents of the regulation include:

1) Personal information processors within China that provide personal information (excluding important data) to foreign entities through personal information cross-border transfer protection certification must meet the following conditions:
   - They are not operators of critical information infrastructure;
   - From January 1 of the current year, they have cumulatively provided personal information to foreign entities in amounts exceeding 100,000 but fewer than 1 million individuals (excluding sensitive personal information), or fewer than 10,000 sensitive personal information records.

2) Personal information processors outside of China that handle personal information from within China can carry out cross-border personal information transfer activities upon obtaining personal information cross-border transfer protection certification.

3) Qualified professional certification bodies will conduct personal information cross-border transfer protection certification activities based on unified standards, rules, and identification.

4) The CAC, in cooperation with relevant departments, will organize the development of relevant standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures for personal information cross-border transfer protection certification to supervise and manage cross-border personal information transfer activities. The SAMR, together with CAC, will develop implementation rules for personal information cross-border transfer protection certification, as well as a unified certification certificate and mark.

5) Personal information cross-border transfer protection certification will focus on the following assessments:
   - The legality, legitimacy, and necessity of the purpose, scope, and methods of the personal information transfer;
   - The impact of the personal information protection policies and laws, as well as the network and data security environment, in the country or region where the foreign personal information processor or recipient is located, on the security of the cross-border transferred personal information;
   - Whether the level of personal information protection by the foreign personal information processor or recipient meets the requirements of the laws and administrative regulations of the People's Republic of China, as well as the mandatory national standards;
   - Whether the legally binding agreements between the personal information processor and the foreign recipient include obligations for personal information protection;
   - Whether the organizational structure, management system, and technical measures of the personal information processor and foreign recipient can sufficiently and effectively ensure data security and personal information rights;
   - Any other matters deemed necessary for evaluation by the professional certification bodies based on the relevant personal information protection certification standards.

Clearly, this regulation is designed to support the implementation of the second compliance pathway for cross-border personal information transfers as outlined in Article 38 of the *Personal Information Protection Law* (PIPL). (The other two compliance pathways include: conducting a security assessment organized by the CAC and entering into a contract with the foreign recipient based on the standard contract developed by the CAC). However, from the draft regulation, it appears that this certification targets specific data transfer scenarios rather than the protective capabilities of data processors. This will significantly increase the compliance burden on data processors. Additionally, the draft is somewhat vague and does not clarify many key issues. For example, the implementation standards for certification, the supervisory mechanisms, penalties for non-compliance, and exceptions are not clearly defined. These uncertainties may lead to challenges in the implementation of the regulation, making it less operable and practical compared to the compliance pathway involving standard contracts.

18. Key Standard Projects for Data Governance in 2024-2025

Data

On 30 October 2024, SAC/TC609 (data) proposed 37 key standard projects for drafting or revision in 2024–2025, as follows.

- *Data — Terminology* (Revision)
- *High-quality Dataset Format Specification*
- *High-quality Dataset Types and Quality Requirements*
- *Methods for Evaluating the Effectiveness of Data Circulation Anonymization*
- *Implementation Guide for Data Circulation Anonymization*
- *Data Infrastructure — Reference Architecture*
- *Data Infrastructure — General Requirements*
- *Technical and Service Capability Requirements for Hub Node Public Transmission Channel Networks*
- *Integrated Monitoring and Scheduling of Computing Networks*
- *City-Wide Digital Transformation — Evaluation Model for Effective Use of Urban Data*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 2: Circulation and Transaction Capability Model*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 3: Third-Party Service Capability Model*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 4: Consulting Service Capability Model*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 5: Application Innovation Capability Model*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 6: Product and Platform Capability Model*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 7: Resource Integration Capability Model*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 8: Processing and Analysis Capability Model*
- *Data Service Capability Evaluation — Part 9: Security Technology Capability Model*
- *Public Data — Authorized Operation — Part 1: Reference Architecture*
- *Public Data — Authorized Operation — Part 2: Management Specifications*
- *Public Data — Authorized Operation — Part 3: Service Directory and Specifications*
- *Public Data — Authorized Operation — Part 4:*

Performance Evaluation Requirements (Proposed name change: Monitoring and Evaluation Requirements)
- *Implementation Guide for Public Data Resource Registration*
- *Capability Requirements for Data-Driven Enterprises* (Proposed name change: Standards for Identification and Evaluation of Data Enterprises)
- *General Technical Requirements for Data Registration Platforms*
- *General Requirements for Data Quality Evaluation Systems*
- *Data Space — Reference Architecture*
- *Data Space — Basic Capability Requirements*
- *Data Space — Application Maturity Evaluation*
- *City-Wide Digital Transformation — Terminology* (Revision)
- *City-Wide Digital Transformation — Technical Reference Model* (Revision)
- *City-Wide Digital Transformation — Top-Level Design Guide* (Revision)
- *Data Quality for Analytics and Machine Learning — Part 1: Overview, Terminology, and Examples* (Adoption of International Standard)
- *Data Quality for Analytics and Machine Learning — Part 2: Data Quality Metrics* (Adoption of International Standard)
- *Data Quality for Analytics and Machine Learning — Part 3: Data Quality Management Requirements and Guidelines* (Adoption of International Standard)
- *Data Quality for Analytics and Machine Learning — Part 4: Data Quality Process Framework* (Adoption of International Standard)
- *Data Quality for Analytics and Machine Learning — Part 5: Data Quality Governance Framework* (Adoption of International Standard)

19. National Standard Proposals on Digital Transformation Approved

Digital Transformation

The digital economy has become an important impetus of global economic growth. The rapid development of emerging and key technological fields, such as the new generation of information technology and biotechnology, has put forward new requirements for standards development.

However, the traditional mode of standards development relying on paper documents faces problems such as low efficiency, long cycle, and relatively low quality, which fails to meet current demands.

Therefore, major international and regional standards organizations as well as standardisation bodies of developed countries have already begun to develop machine-readable standards, promoting the digital transformation of standards in terms of strategic planning, technological research, mechanism building, platform development, and industrial practice.

Learning from advanced practice, the National Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) recently announced that China has initiated the research on digital transformation of standards. Led by the China National Institute of Standardisation (CNIS), the research on digital transformation of standards in China has kicked off in all respects, covering top-level design, key technologies, full chain of application scenarios, and other projects.

The proposals of 15 national standards were approved in 2024, laying a foundation for providing the common knowledge and general technological rules of the transformation. In 2025, efforts will be made to carry out research on large language models of standards, intelligent standards development, data analysis, and other aspects. The construction of National Library of Standards will be improved to build the world's leading standards data resource center and standards research and service platform. Based on the newly established national collaboration mechanism of standardisation research institutions, it is expected to improve the new mode of sharing and coordinating standard resources, to promote the digital cooperation of standards.

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025).

20. CCSA Convenes the 2024 Work Meeting

Communication

The 2024 work meeting of China Communications Standards Association (CCSA) was held on December 26, which was attended by over 260 officers and representatives from relevant authorities and institutions.

The meeting was virtually addressed by Shan Zhongde, Vice Minister of MIIT. Xi Guohua, Director of the Strategic Steering Committee of CCSA, Guo Huanxin, First-class Inspector of the Standards Technical Management Department of State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR), Yu Xinli, President of China Association for Standardisation, Wen Ku, Chair of CCSA, attended and addressed the meeting. Dai Xiaohui, Vice Chair and Secretary General of CCSA, made a work report to the attendees.

CCSA has vigorously participated in the development and promotion of domestic standards, and introduced standards for 3G, 4G and 5G to global partners, which has become a major player in China's standardisation of information and communications technology (ICT), and a strong impetus to improve China's standards for ICT, said Shan Zhongde.

CCSA has made achievements in leading the development of the industry and implementing major national deployments, said Guo Huanxin. Facing the new trends of digital, intelligent, integrated, and green development of the global industrial chain, CCSA can make efforts to support the development of new quality productive forces with better standards, giving play to the fundamental role of standards in safeguarding the stability of industrial chains, driving the highquality economic development with standards, and steadily expanding the institutional opening up of standards.

The meeting laid out the roadmap of standardisation work in 2025, and initiated the standardisation work plan of ICT in the 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030).

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025).

Green Transition

21. SAMR Launches 2nd Round Public Commenting on the Green Product Certification and Labeling

Green Product

From December 4 to December 20, 2024, the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) is seeking public comments on the draft *Administrative Measures for Green Product Certification and Labeling.* These measures are intended to replace the *Administrative Measures for the Use of Green Product Labels* issued in 2019 and aim to regulate green product certification activities and the use of green product labels.

According to the draft, green product certification includes comprehensive green product certification and partial green product certification. Comprehensive certification refers to the conformity assessment conducted by certification bodies to evaluate whether all green attributes of a product meet the green product evaluation standards. Partial certification evaluates whether specific green attributes of a product meet the green product evaluation standards.

The draft also outlines three label designs for green products under different conformity assessment methods. These designs, from left to right, correspond to comprehensive certification, partial certification, and green product self-declaration.

The draft stipulates the following requirements:

- For products with multiple applicable green labels, the label must be selected in the order of comprehensive certification, partial certification, and self-declaration.
- For products certified by multiple certification bodies, the labels of all relevant certification bodies must be displayed.

Regarding product coverage, the draft specifies that the green product certification catalog and implementation rules will be formulated and issued by SAMR. If the catalog involves the responsibilities of other State Council departments, it will be jointly issued with these departments. Each category of green product in the catalog will have a corresponding comprehensive certification, while products outside the catalog may be subject to partial certification.

Previously, China's green product certification system encompassed the green product evaluation system established by SAMR (covering 17 product categories) and other certifications addressing green attributes, such as green packaging, green building materials, and the China RoHS directive, jointly developed and implemented by SAMR and other ministries. The draft indicates SAMR's ambition to establish a broader green product certification framework that integrates more products and existing, green-related certification systems into a unified green product certification and labeling system. However, coordination with other ministries remains the biggest challenge in this process.

The original text (in Chinese) of the draft regulation can be accessed [here]. If you would like to submit feedback or

have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

22. China Calls for Comment on Revised RoHS Standard

China RoHS

On November 19, 2024, China's Science and Technology Department of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) published the *Requirements for Restricted Use of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Products (Draft for Comment)* (hereinafter referred to as the RoHS Standard) for public comment. The opinion submission channel will open until January 18, 2025. The revised RoHS Standard will replace the current GB/T 26572-2011 and all related amendments.

Key Changes in the RoHS Standard

- New Definitions: Three additional terms have been defined (see Sections 3.6, 3.7, and 3.8).
- Classification Management: New classification management requirements are outlined in Chapter 4.
- Labeling Requirements: Chapter 6 introduces mandatory labeling requirements.
- Declaration of Conformity: Chapter 7 specifies new requirements for the declaration of conformity.
- Inspection Rules: Section 8 adds relevant inspection rules.

Delays in Implementation Timeline

The timeline for the RoHS standard's implementation appears delayed. According to the work schedule set by SAC/TC297/SC3 (Test Methods of Hazardous Substances), the draft for comment stage should have concluded by the third quarter of 2024. This delay could push back the final approval process, which was initially scheduled to conclude by March 2025. It is also important to note that the RoHS standard is tentatively planned for implementation 13 months after its official approval.

Resources

SESEC has translated the draft for comments of this standards and the official explanation of the draft by the drafting technical committees. If you wish to submit your comments, please submit your comments into the attached commenting form and send them back to SESEC's email (assistant@sesec.eu) before 14 January 2025, as we need to translate them into Chinese then submit then to MIIT.

See Annex III for SESEC translation of the draft standard.
See Annex IV for SESEC translation of the official explanation of the draft standard.

23. GCC Special Interest Group on Energy Saving and Decarbonisation Set up in Beijing

Decarbonisation

The Global Computing Consortium (GCC) established the Special Interest Group on Energy Saving and Decarbonisation on December 20, 2024 in Beijing. The founding meeting was attended by nearly 40 representatives from universities and research institutions, R&D and production enterprises, operators, new-type household appliance manufacturers, third party testing and certification bodies, and other units in the computing field online and onsite.

An expert committee was set up to enhance the strategic planning and systematical progress of the special interest group, which is composed of renowned professionals such as Guan Xiaohong, Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Experts from the Branch of Resource and Environment Research of CNIS, Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., the Cloud Computing & Big Data Research Institute of the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT), and related institutions were invited to make special reports on issues including the standardisation progress
of energy efficiency of computing infrastructure, ICT equipment facilitating green transformation, and technological application of green data centers.

Authorized by the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the GCC is an international non-profit social organization. The Special Interest Group will focus on the coordinated development of digitalization and greenness, welcome the participation of relevant international and domestic parties, strengthen international cooperation and exchanges, promote the energysaving and low-carbon development of the computing industry, and boost the all-round green transformation of economic and social development by digital technologies, to realize the goals of carbon peak and neutrality.

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025).

Product Safety and Market Access

24. SAMR Includes Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment under CCC Certification

CCC

On December 5, 2024, the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) announced the implementation of the compulsory product certification (CCC certification) for electric vehicle (EV) charging equipment.

Key points of the announcement include:

- Starting from March 1, 2025, designated certification bodies will begin accepting CCC certification applications for EV (AC and DC) charging equipment. The certification bodies and testing laboratories responsible for the related certification and testing will be announced separately.
- From August 1, 2026, EV charging equipment that has not obtained a CCC certification certificate and does not bear the certification mark will be prohibited from being manufactured, sold, imported, or used in other business activities.

On December 12, 2024, the Certification and Accreditation Administration of China (CNCA) issued the *CNCA-C25-01:2024 Implementation Rules for Compulsory Product Certification: Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment*, which will take effect on March 1, 2025. On the same day, CNCA began soliciting applications for five CCC certification bodies and 20 testing laboratories for EV charging equipment, listing specific application requirements.

The CCC certification for EV charging equipment will be based on *GB 39752 Safety requirements for electric vehicle conductive supply equipment* and *GB 44263 Safety requirements for electric vehicle conductive charging systems.* Relevant enterprises are advised to promptly conduct compliance assessments according to these standards and apply for CCC certification once the designated certification bodies and laboratories are announced.

25. Standards Were Updated for the CCC of Household and Similar Electrical Appliance

CCC

The mandatory product certification (CCC) for household and similar appliances is based on the *GB/T 4706.1-2005 Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances – Part 1: General Requirements* and its associated series of national standards for specific products.

The updated GB/T 4706.1-2024 and its associated national standards (hereafter referred to as the “new standards”) were published on July 24, 2024, and will come into effect on August 1, 2026. The new standards revise the previous GB/T 4706.1-2005 and its associated product-specific requirements. They also integrate and clarify the applicable standards for products such as portable induction cookers and evaporative air coolers.

Against this backdrop, on December 31, 2024, the Certification and Accreditation Administration of China (CNCA) issued a notice updating the *CCC Implementation Rules for Household and Similar Appliances* (Code: CNCA-C07-01:2024). The updates include revisions to the referenced standards and allow certification bodies to carry out CCC certification based on the new standards. The key details are as follows:

No.	Product Categories and Codes		Standards Cited	
			Safety	EMC
1	Household refrigerators and food freezers (0701)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.13	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
2	Electric fans (0702)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.27 (applicable to non-evaporative air coolers) or GB/T 4706.115(applicable to evaporative air coolers)	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
3	Air conditioners (0703)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.32	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
4	Motor-compressors (0704)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.17	/
5	Household electric washing machines (0705)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.24 GB/T 4706.20 (if applicable) GB/T 4706.26 (if applicable)	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
6	Electric water heaters (0706)	Storage water heaters	GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.12 GB/T 4706.32 (if applicable)	/
		Instant water heaters	GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.11	
7	Indoor heaters (0707)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.23	/
8	Vacuum cleaners (0708)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.7	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
9	Skin and hair care appliances (0709)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.15	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
10	Electric irons (0710)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.2	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
11	Induction cookers (0711)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.14 (applicable to portable induction cookers) or GB/T 4706.22 (applicable to freestanding induction cookers)	/
12	Electric ovens (portable grills, toasters, and similar cooking appliances) (0712)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.14	/
13	Electric food processing appliances (food processors/kitchen machines) (0713)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.30 GB/T 4706.19 (if applicable)	/
14	Microwave ovens (0714)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.21	/
15	Electric stoves, cooktops, ovens, and similar appliances (freestanding ovens, built-in grills, and similar cooking appliances) (0715)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.22	/
16	Range hoods (0716)		GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.28	/
17	Liquid heaters and hot/cold water dispensers (0717)	Liquid heaters	GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.19	/
		Hot/cold water dispensers	GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.19 GB/T 4706.13	

18	Rice cookers (0718)	GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.19	GB 4343.1 GB 17625.1
19	Electric blankets, heating pads, and similar flexible heating appliances (0719)	GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.8	/
20	Electronic bidets (0720)	GB/T 4706.1 GB/T 4706.53	/

According to the *Announcement on Requirements Related to Revisions of Standards for Compulsory Product Certification,* after revising the standards used for CCC certification, products that have not yet been certified must comply with the revised new standards from the effective date of the new standards. For products already certified under the old standards, the product confirmation work as per the new standards must be completed, and a new CCC certificate must be issued before the next follow-up inspection after the new standards take effect. If a new certificate is not obtained by the follow-up inspection date, the original certificate will automatically become invalid.

As compliance with the new standards requires supplementary testing of components such as remote control systems, small parts, and batteries, manufacturers of related products are advised to promptly apply for supplementary testing according to the new standards and update their CCC certificates.

Others

26. China Establishes Standard System for Lithium-ion Battery Industry

Battery

On November 15, 2024, China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), in collaboration with several other competent authorities, officially released the *Guidelines on the Comprehensive Construction of the Standards System for the Lithium-ion Battery Industry* (hereinafter referred to as the Guideline).

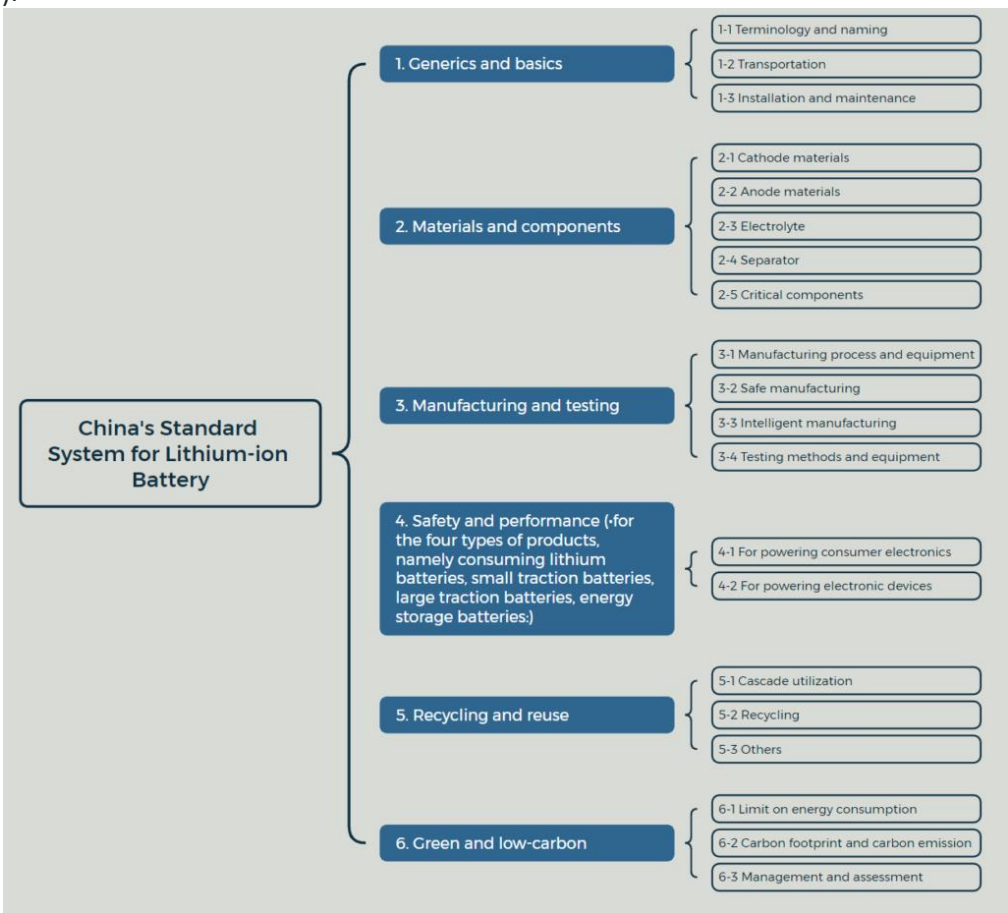
Purpose and Key Objectives

The Guideline aims to strengthen the standardisation framework for the lithium-ion battery industry, outlining the key objectives, system structure, and organizational measures to support its implementation. A draft of the Guideline was initially issued by the MIIT in December 2023 to solicit public comments. The final version has been further streamlined, with more clearly defined objectives. The primary goals outlined in the Guideline include:

- By 2026, over 100 new national and sector standards will be developed, creating a more robust standards system to guide the high-quality development of the lithium-ion battery sector. The standardisation efforts will continue to solidify China's dominant position in the industry.
- Over 1,000 enterprises are expected to implement and promote these standards, while fostering innovation in standard service enterprises.
- China aims to participate in the creation of more than 10 international standards, further enhancing the global influence of its lithium battery standards.

Standard System Structure

The Guideline introduces a comprehensive standard system, which is categorized into six key areas (please refer to the figure below).



Organizational Support and Workforce Development

To ensure the success of the lithium battery standardisation initiative, the Guideline emphasizes the optimization of organizational structures at all stages of the standardisation process. Key actions include:

- Enhancing organizational capabilities among research institutions, manufacturers, and academic entities.
- Building a skilled workforce and cultivating talent in the standardisation field.
- Strengthening the promotion and training on key standards, and guiding enterprises to align with the required standards.

This revised version maintains clarity and a formal tone while improving the overall flow and precision of the original content. Foreign stakeholders are advised to monitor the process of the follow-up actions and participate in the standardisation if possible, as the standards might create impacts on the trade and market access.

27. NRA Releases Measures to Manage Railway Technical Standards

Railway

To address the standardisation demands of the railway industry under the new circumstances, the National Railway Administration revised current regulations, and issued the *Measures for Management of Railway Technical Standards* to implement relevant deployments and mechanism construction, based on the current situation of railway standards system and standards management.

Taking effect on December 9, the Measures is an important basis for railway standardisation work, and provides fundamental rules for formulating plans on railway standardisation development, establishing railway standards system, developing and revising national and sectoral standards for railway, organizing standards implementation, and supervising the effect of standards implementation. It can strengthen the management of technical standards for railway, boosting scientific and technological progress, and guaranteeing safe construction and operation of railway.

There are 7 chapters and 56 articles in the Measures, which delineates the general provisions, management responsibilities, standards planning, standards development, standards publication, standards implementation and supervision, as well as other necessary information including general requirements for association and enterprise standards.

Catering to the new circumstances, the Measures stipulates the scope and implementation requirements of standards in the three major fields of equipment technology, engineering construction and transportation services, and clarifies requirements for procedures of standards development and revision. It further defines the type of national and sectoral standards, and the scope of sectoral railway standards.

The requirements for standards copyright, patents, standards implementation in the transitional period, standards interpretation and other aspects are improved as well.

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025).

28. The 3rd Education Standardisation Development Forum Marks a New Chapter

Standardisation Education

The *Implementation Plan of Selection and Building of Pilot Colleges for SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) Standardisation Talent Cultivation* was released at the 3rd Education Standardisation Development Forum on December 28, 2024, marking the establishment of service system for the pilot of integrated education of profession and standardisation.

Witnessed by Zhang Tianbao, former Minister of Education, Zhang Xiaogang, former President of ISO, and over 100 attendees, cooperation agreements were signed between Chinese Society of Educational Development Strategy (CSEDS) and other parties, including OUC Education and Training Center, Beijing Zhongcai Guoke Education Technology Co., Ltd., and China Quality Certification Centre.

To address demands of building China's strengths in

education under the new circumstances, we are now facing problems such as the shortage of standardisation talent and incomplete training system, said Zhang Tianbao. After standardisation engineering and standardisation technology have been included in the list of undergraduate majors, the proportion of colleges carrying out standardisation training nationwide is still less than 1%, which restrains the talent supply for China's standardisation strategy.

In response to the problems, CSEDS and the OUC Education and Training Center worked together to set up the cooperation mechanism for the special action plan on standardisation talent cultivation, integrating resources in industry and education, and leveraging the roles of colleges and academic associations.

Zhang Xiaogang stressed that China has made achievements in international standardisation activities, but there is still a long way to go. From the manufacturing industry to the high-quality development of China, the demands for high-level standardisation talent become increasingly prominent. Those who have a grasp of professions, standards, and foreign languages are capable of participating in international standardisation activities.

Source: China Standardisation Magzine (Issue I, 2025)

Annex I – Who's who in Chinese Standardisation
Annex II - Standardisation at the Artificial Intelligence Industry Alliance (AIIA)
Annex III - SESEC translation of the draft China RoHS standard.
Annex IV - SESEC translation of the official explanation of the draft China RoHS standard.

Introduction of SESEC Project

The Seconded European Standardisation Expert in China (SESEC) is a visibility project co-financed by the European Commission (EC), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) secretariat and the three European Standardisation Organizations (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI). Since 2006, there has been four SESEC projects in China, SESEC I (2006-2009). SESEC II (2009- 2012), SESEC III (2014-2017), SESEC IV (2018- 2022) and SESEC V (2022-2025). Dr. Betty XU is nominated as the SESEC expert and will spend the next 36 months on promoting EU-China standardisation information exchange and EU-China standardisation cooperation.

The SESEC project supports the strategic objectives of the European Union, EFTA and the European Standardisation Organizations (ESOs). The purpose of SESEC project is to:

- Promote European and international standards in China;
- Improve contacts with different levels of the Chinese administration, industry and standardisation bodies;
- Improve the visibility and understanding of the European Standardisation System (ESS) in China;
- Gather regulatory and standardisation intelligence.

The following areas have been identified as sectorial project priorities by the SESEC project partners: Internet of Things (IoT) & Machine-to-Machine(M2M) communication, communication networks & services, cybersecurity & digital identity, Smart Cities (including transport, power grids & metering), electrical & electronic products, general product safety, medical devices, cosmetics, energy management & environmental protection (including eco-design & labeling, as well as environmental performance of buildings).

SESEC V China Standardisation and Technical Regulation Bimonthly Newsletter

SESEC V China Standardisation and Technical Regulation Bimonthly Newsletter is the gathering of China regulatory and standardisation intelligence. Most information of the Monthly Newsletter was summarized from China news media or websites. Some of them were the first-hand information from TC meetings, forums/workshops, or meetings/dialogues with China government authorities in certain areas.

In this Bimonthly Newsletter

In this Bimonthly Newsletter, some news articles were abstracted from Chinese government organizations. All new published standards, implementation or management regulations and notice are summarized; original document and English version are available.

Abbreviations

SAMR	State Administration for Market Regulation	国家市场监管总局
CAS	China Association	中国标准化协会
CCC	China Compulsory Certification	中国强制认证
CCSA	China Communication Standardization Association	中国通信标准化协会
CEC	China Electricity Council	中国电力企业联合会
CEEIA	China Electrical Equipment Industrial Association	中国电器工业协会
CELC	China Energy Labeling Center	中国能效标识中心
CESI	China Electronic Standardization Institute	中国电子标准化研究所
CMDSA	Center for Medical Device Standardization Administration	医疗器械标准管理中心
CNCA	Certification and Accreditation Administration of China	中国国家认证认可监督 管理委员会
CNIS	China National Institute of Standardization	中国国家标准化研究院
CNREC	China National Renewable Energy Center	中国国家可再生能源中 心
EPPEI	Electric Power Planning and Engineering Institute	电力规划设计总院
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission	国际电工委员会
ITEI	Instrumentation Technology and Economy Institute	机械工业仪器仪表综合技术与经济研究所
MEE	Ministry of Ecology and Environment	中国生态环境部
MIIT	Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of People's Republic of China	中国工业和信息化部
MoH	Ministry of Health	卫生部
MoHURD	Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development	住房与建设部
MOT	Ministry of Transport	中国交通运输部
MOST	Ministry of Science and Technology	中国科学技术部
NDRC	National development and reform commission People's Republic of China	中国国家发改委
NIFDC	National Institute of Food and Drug Control	中国食品药品检定研究 院
SAC	Standardization Administration of China	国家标准化管理委员
SGCC	State Grid Corporation of China	国家电网
TC	Technical Committee for Standard Development	标准化技术委员会