ETSI,
the essentials

What ETSI is. The value of ETSI.

ETSI is a flexible platform to produce ICT standards.

It provides a space accessible to all market actors where expertise and technical input is pooled to produce reliable technical norms for all, including industry, consumers and policy makers.

Driven by its members and market requirements, ETSI supports European policy goals with standards that have global reach and utility.

To make this happen, ETSI is open and inclusive with participation from **MORE THAN 900 MEMBERS** in **65 COUNTRIES** worldwide from industry, operators, academia, research, users and government agencies.

How ETSI operates

ETSI work is consensus-based and derives from the input of its members. The platform itself cannot originate or develop specific standardization activities on its own.

In addition to supporting the production of standards, ETSI facilitates networking, and the exchange of information and best practices. This helps build synergies and adds value to the activities of its members.

The double function of producing standards both to support EU policy and regulation as well as standards for the global marketplace is quite unique to ETSI.

The fact that ETSI standards are accessible free of charge on the web by users across the globe facilitates their worldwide implementation.

EU policy objectives: why ETSI matters

History has shown how standards contributed to the building of a single mobile communications market in Europe, which grew global rapidly to become one of the most remarkable European industrial success stories in recent decades.

In today's digital world, interoperability, portability, and open ecosystems are critical to supporting EU policy objectives such as competitiveness, digital and industrial leadership, and innovation and growth.

ETSI is one of the 3 ESOs (European Standards Organisation) recognized by the EU. It is the preferred port of call for EU lawmakers when ICT standards are needed in support of policies and legislation. Through formal 'standardisation requests' the community of interested parties gathers in ETSI to create standards that are ultimately adopted in EU and often beyond.

The power of standards

ETSI standards and specifications support interoperability and portability, which are pre-requisites for the creation of open industrial eco-systems. This gives European innovators the critical mass to compete on the world stage and to contribute to the construction of a global digital economy. Without this power, Europe would become a standards-taker.

ETSI standards, building the future on solid ground

Standards are essential for Europe to achieve its industrial strategy, and are a key driver of Europe's recovery, generating long term sustainable growth and employment opportunities in high value-added industries. Standards safeguard important values that risk being jettisoned in times of crisis.

Standards are often invisible, but they are a vital component of EU's ambitious plans for its digital future.

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