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# SABS National Norm:2018

Edition 1

## South African Bureau of Standards

### National Norm for the development of South African National Standards

**WARNING**

This document references other documents normatively.

**SABS National Norm:2018**  
Edition 1

**Table of changes**

<b>Change No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Scope</b>

**Foreword**

This National Norm was approved in accordance with procedures of the South African Bureau of Standards, in accordance with Section 23 (1) of the Standards Act, 2008 (Act No. 8 of 2008).

This document was approved for publication in February 2018.

This document supersedes SANS 1-1:2012 (Edition 3).

Annexes A to C form an integral part of this document.

## **0 Introduction**

### **0.1 Status of the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)**

**0.1.1** The SABS is, in terms of the Standards Act, 2008 (Act No. 8 of 2008), the peak national institution for the development, maintenance and promotion of South African National Standards. This National Norm has been developed by the SABS, in terms of sections 23 (1) of the Standards Act, to detail the process for the development, approval, issue, maintenance, amendment and withdrawal of South African National Standards and the appeals procedure for resolving disputes and deadlocks. The SABS Standards Division acts as an arbiter in the development and maintenance of South African National Standards.

**0.1.2** The affairs of the SABS are governed by the Board of the SABS, whose members are appointed by the Minister of Trade and Industry.

**0.1.3** The SABS provides standards and conformity assessment services to industry. The mission of the SABS is to provide and promote standardisation services in South Africa and abroad in support of the national system of innovation and trade, with the ultimate aim of contributing to uplifting the quality of life of all sectors of society.

**0.1.4** The objectives of the SABS, as stated in the Standards Act, include the following:

- a) to develop, promote and maintain South African National Standards;
- b) to promote quality in connection with commodities, products and services; and
- c) to render conformity assessment and related services.

**0.1.5** The SABS may also, in its capacity as the peak national standards institution

- a) enter into agreement with,
- b) render assistance to, or
- c) obtain the cooperation of a person, a body, an organisation, an administration, an authority or a government, in any country or territory outside South Africa.

**0.1.6** The National Norm is applied in the development, and amendment of South African National Standards by the SABS and by any Standards Development Organisation (SDO) appointed by the SABS, in terms of section 25 of the Standards Act.

## **SABS National Norm:2018**

Edition 1

### **Introduction** *(concluded)*

#### **0.2 Aims and benefits of standardisation**

**0.2.1** The main aims and benefits of standardisation can be summarised as follows:

- a) to improve the quality (fitness for purpose) of goods and services;
- b) to maintain and improve the quality of life of society, by paying attention to such matters as safety, health and protection of the environment, and to provide a basis for the legislation required in the protection of the public;
- c) to utilise resources more efficiently through better (i.e. standardised) communication, through simplification of manufacturing, product identification and purchasing by means of variety control, as well as through cost savings as a result of, for example, economies of scale and reductions in wastage; and
- d) to provide a framework within which to facilitate and encourage trade among willing partners, contracts based on standards, to eliminate trade barriers, and to promote service excellence, and fair and efficient trade at all levels.

**0.2.2** Standardisation involves the following:

- a) the development, establishment and publication of standards;
- b) conformity assessment including inspection, testing and certification of products and processes for compliance with standards;
- c) accreditation of test laboratories, certification bodies and accreditation bodies;
- d) administrative functions related to, amongst others, the maintenance of the national standards database; and
- e) the promotion of efforts to facilitate the correct application of standards through, for example, training.

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