

Nemko News in Brief for November 2021 (Finalized)

Dear Reader

The global headlines were also in November mainly focused on the climate, the pandemic and local tragedies, e.g.

- World leaders, except from China and Russia, met at 'COP26' in Glasgow, UK, to decide on plans to save the global climate, followed by their experts reaching a fragile agreement.
- Solving of the climate crisis may force comeback for major investment in nuclear power.
- The big fourth Corona wave hits Europe, though with relatively little serious outcome in areas with high vaccination rate. But a new mutation of the virus discovered in South Africa causes concern.
- Panic surge during pop-concert with 50 000 spectators in Houston, USA, killed 8 people and hurting many.
- Migration crisis with Middle East refugees at the Belarus-Polish border causes escalating friction between the EU and Belarus/Russia.
- Humanitarian crisis developing in Ethiopia in the wake of war actions between governmental forces and several insurgent groups.
- Man drives into a holiday parade in a small town in USA, killing 6 and hurting many.
- Severe flooding on the East and West coasts of Canada shut down major transportation arteries.
- Tragically, 27 migrants drowned in the English Channel, and now causes tension between France and the UK.

A piece of good news was the web-meeting on 15 Nov. between the US and Chinese presidents for improved relations and cooperation.

But this newsletter is otherwise focusing on the less dramatic yet important topics below:

- **USB-C charging likely to become the norm in Europe**
- **Update on regulations for radio equipment in Vietnam**
- **Cyber security becomes a mandatory CE marking requirement for wireless equipment**
- **Role of standards and conformity assessment for saving the global climate**
- **New European harmonized standard for satisfying RoHS requirements**
- **Coming events**

Best regards

[T.Sollie](#)

Editor

P.S. If you know of colleagues or others you think should get this monthly newsletter, please refer to [this link](#) for registration.

USB-C charging likely to become the norm in Europe



The Commission of the European Union (EU) has proposed the adoption of uniform charging capabilities in smartphones, tablets, and other consumer electronics. This may clearly have significant consequences for developers, manufacturers, and suppliers of a wide range of portable electronic devices.

The proposal only covers cabled devices, not wireless chargers which *"there is plenty of room for innovation of"*, as a Commission representative stated in a recent press conference.

The proposal is partly about reducing consumer inconvenience but is apparently foremost a part of the European Commission's overall effort to reduce the electronic waste created by using different and incompatible charging technologies for electronic devices. It is estimated that the average consumer owns three mobile phone chargers to ensure reliable access to compatible charging technologies, and that disposed chargers constitute 11,000 metric tons of e-waste every year.

The formal proposal entails amendment of the European Radio Equipment Directive, RED (2014/53/EU) to harmonize charging technologies by standardizing the use of USB-C charging ports. The proposal would also harmonize supported speeds of charging devices and unbundle the sale of chargers from the sale of electronic devices.

The formal approval process requires adoption by the European Parliament and the Council.

Assuming that the proposal is accepted, it is expected that manufacturers will have a transition period of 24 months to take the steps necessary to comply with the amended RED requirements.

The full plan for this as of published by the European Commission can be seen [here](#)

Update on regulations for radio equipment in Vietnam (Based on internal announcement on Yammer by Vanessa Wen)



MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The Vietnam Ministry of Information and Communications ([MIC](#)) has issued 3 new Circulars.

The first Circular (No.08/2021/TT-BTTTT), which is effective from 28 November this year, includes a new list of radio equipment exempted from the license for use of radio frequencies, technical conditions, and enclosed exploitation. This Circular is replacing *No.46/TT-BTTTT* (from 2016), and *No.18/2018/TT-BTTTT* (from 2019). Radio equipment already in use which meet the old Circular requirements, shall be allowed to continue in use if not causing harmful interference to licensed RF equipment or approved electrical equipment.

The official Circular in Vietnamese is available at this link: https://www.mic.gov.vn/Upload_Moi/VanBan/08TT.PDF

The second Circular (No.09/2021/TT-BTTTT), which shall be effective from 1 July 2022, announces issue of the new standard QCVN124: 2021/BTTTT 'National technical regulation on radar equipment operating in the 76 GHz to 77 GHz frequency band for ground transport vehicles'. This is equivalent to the European standard ETSI EN 301 091-1 V2.1.1 (2017-01).

The official Circular in Vietnamese is available at this link: https://www.mic.gov.vn/Upload_Moi/VanBan/09-TT.PDF

The third Circular (No.06/2021/TT-BTTTT), which shall be effective from 1 March 2022, announces issue of the new standard QCVN 127:2021/BTTTT 'National technical regulation on Standalone 5G User Equipment - Radio Access'. The technical requirements are equivalent those in the following European standards: ETSI TS 138 101-1 V16.4.0 (2020-07), ETSI TS 138 101-2 V16.4.0 (2020-07), ETSI TS 138.521-1 v16.5.0p (2020-12) and ETSI TS 138.521-2 v16.5.0p (2020-11).

The official Circular in Vietnamese is available at this link: https://www.mic.gov.vn/Upload_Moi/Van-Ban/06TT14092021_143321.PDF .

Cyber security becomes a mandatory CE marking requirement for wireless equipment

(Based on internal announcement on Yammer by Vina Karai)



As wireless devices, such as mobile phones, smartwatches, fitness trackers and wireless toys are more and more present in our everyday life, cyber threats pose a growing risk for every consumer. Also, the Corona pandemic has dramatically increased the use of wireless equipment for both professional and personal purposes. In view of this, the European Commission has taken action to improve the cybersecurity of wireless devices available on the European market.

The legal instrument used is a so called [Delegated Regulation](#), which is supplementing the [Radio Equipment Directive 2014/52/EU](#) activating Articles 3(3)(d), (e) and (f) of the Directive for certain categories of radio equipment to increase the level of cybersecurity, personal data protection and privacy for the users.

The new requirements shall help to ensure that wireless devices are secure before being sold in Europe, as regards:

Network resilience: Features to avoid harming communication networks and prevent the possibility that the devices are used to disrupt website or other services functionality.

Protection of privacy: Features to guarantee the protection of personal data, including new measures to prevent unauthorized access or transmission of personal data.

Reduced risk of monetary fraud: Features to minimize the risk of fraud when making electronic payments, e.g. ensure better authentication control of the user.

If the EU Council or Parliament do not raise any objections during a two-month scrutiny period (from 1 November), the new act will be approved.

Then comes a transition period of 30 months to give the industry sufficient time to adapt relevant products before the new requirements become applicable, probably mid-2024.

The Commission will also support the manufacturers to comply with the new requirements by asking the European Standardisation Organisations to develop relevant standards. Alternatively, manufacturers will be able to prove the conformity of their products by ensuring their assessment by relevant Notified Bodies, such as Nemko. The Commission's full announcement may be seen [here](#) .

Role of standards and conformity assessment for saving the global climate



The main outcome of the recent [G20](#) meeting in Rome, Italy, was the [Rome Declaration of the G20 Leaders](#). Paragraph 46 of this declaration emphasizes the importance of consensus-based international standards for economic development going forward.

In this connection it was also arranged a *Summit* conference denoted *International Standards for People, Planet & Prosperity*, organized jointly by the international standardization organizations [IEC](#), [ISO](#), [ITU](#) together with G20. This culminated in a *Call to Action* concerning digital technologies for ensuring a sustainable, equitable and prosperous future and pointing out that international standards offer powerful solutions for this purpose, helping policymakers to enact policy goals in support of climate action at speed and scale.

Case studies have shown how international standards positively impact climate mitigation policy objectives. This was shared with the [UNFCCC](#) and duly accounted for at their [COP26 conference](#) in Glasgow, during the first two weeks of November. The key message conveyed was that international standards and conformity assessment work is needed for “*supporting global efforts to build a more peaceful, sustainable, and fairer future*”.

In Glasgow, however, it came to light that industry, rather than governments and regulators, will take the lead in finding solutions to the climate crisis as it surely will become more and more a competitive business issue. For this, international standards will be instrumental for the progress and conformity assessment needed for verifying the claims of environmental benefits.

It is realized therefore that international standard bodies like IEC should raise the ambitions from having a supporting role to become forefront builders of a sustainable world.

The IEC Climate action [website](#) includes a set of individual country case studies, as well as a downloadable version of the entire Climate action kit.

New European harmonized standard for satisfying RoHS requirements (Based on internal announcement on

Yammer by Jon Ivar Tidemann)



In May 2020 the European Commission published the Decision (EU) 2020/659 on adopting a new harmonized standard for the technical documentation required for assessing materials, components and electrical and electronic equipment with respect to the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances according to the RoHS Directive (2011/65/EU).

Within the EU/EEA member states, products complying with the latest harmonized European standard (EN) shall be presumed to comply with the requirements of the Directive.

The new applicable standard is EN IEC 63000:2018 which is based on the existing international standard IEC 63000:2016, which itself is based on the old harmonized European standard EN 50581:2012. This standard has been withdrawn on 18 November this year.

The EN IEC 63000:2018 specifies the technical documentation that the manufacturer/supplier now needs to compile to declare compliance with the regulatory chemical restrictions.

The content in this new version is not much different from the former version but aims to address various applicable chemical restrictions worldwide. It also updates the normative references and means that the documentation provided by manufacturers/suppliers needs to be updated to demonstrate compliance with the new standard, i.e. as basis for their *Declaration of Conformity* to claim presumption of conformity with the RoHS Directive.

The abovementioned Decision of the European Commission may be seen in full [here](#)

For further information, please contact JonIvar.Tidemann@nemko.com

Coming events

20 January - Nemko North America live webinar: Product certification requirements for US and Canada

For information and registration, please click [here](#)

21 January - Nemko Italy webinar: Automotive E-mark certification' (In Italian)

For information, please click [here](#) and for registration [here](#)

IEC Academy courses and webinars

Information may be seen [here](#).

GSO courses in the Arabic Gulf Region

Information about themes, places and times may be seen [here](#)

Receive invitations to Nemko webinars on current compliance matters

The webinars will be conducted in English, and one will be able to access the recordings afterwards, for own use and sharing with others.

Please [register here](#).

