1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics describe the business environment of the industry sector, products, materials, disciplines or practices related to the scope of this CEN/TC, and they may significantly influence how the relevant standards development processes are conducted and the content of the resulting standards:

Today’s market is global. Relatively few European manufacturers are covering the market where the typical buyers and end users are municipalities of various sizes as well as private energy suppliers. Most standards from TC 107 are de facto standards in the market - also the market outside Europe. The standards have been translated into Russian and Chinese and distributed on these markets. There is a substantial cross border trade inside Western Europe, to the CEE- and CIS-countries and further. At the present there are no significant barriers to trade, which is partly due to the relatively early availability of the European Standards and their wide dissemination.

District heating is a long established and widely utilized technology for the rational use of energy and the reduction of environmental impacts, which are general political goals. The use of the standards has secured a necessary minimum quality level and a reasonable cost level. It is also a major reason for the increase in quality and lifetime of the systems and it has thus contributed to a significant reduction in energy consumption.

The early acceptance of the standards by the market has reduced the production costs and resulted in highly extended use of the product. Also for the user the standards have had a positive economic influence, making district heating a competitive environmentally friendly and flexible form of heating.

District cooling is an environmentally optimized cooling solution, using local, natural resources to produce cooling where and when it is needed. At the same time district cooling help to build a sustainable future and to achieve the CO2 savings in Europe’s key urban centers.

There are no legal implications today. The market has - with the standards - developed in such a way that regulations have been deemed unnecessary. This is mainly due to the fact, that the product is used by customers (heat and cooling suppliers) with generally high technical skills.

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC

The standards reflect at any time the result of an intensive dialog between the manufacturers, the users, the designing engineers and the entrepreneurs installing the pipe systems.
The result of the work is and will be an agreed high level of quality of the product and an agreed, up to date way of designing the systems.

The overall results of this are substantial energy savings and reduced installation and maintenance costs.

3 PARTICIPATION IN THE CEN/TC

All the CEN national members are entitled to nominate delegates to CEN Technical Committees and experts to Working Groups, ensuring a balance of all interested parties. Participation as observers of recognized European or international organizations are also possible under certain conditions. To participate in the activities of this CEN/TC, please contact the national standards organization in your country.

4 OBJECTIVES OF THE CEN/TC AND STRATEGIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT

4.1 Defined objectives of the CEN/TC

The objective for the future is to maintain the standards, keeping them up to the state of the art and taking into consideration the technical, political and social development over the time.

One further objective is to develop new standards within the scope of the TC – e.g. standards for flexible pipes using different materials.

Another objective is to develop new standards for prefabricated district cooling pipe systems or alternatively to adapt the present standards for prefabricated district heating pipe systems also to the requirements of district cooling.

4.2 Identified strategies to achieve the CEN/TC’s defined objectives.

The strategy for obtaining the objective is to maintain and strengthen the interest from the market and thus be able to maintain a strong, well-functioning TC with working groups with a very high level of technical expertise, capable of maintaining and revising the standards in the very best way. CEN/TC 107’s organization includes representatives from manufacturers, end users, design companies and research institutes, forming a number of WG's. Some groups are R & D groups; others are directly responsible for drafting of specific standards. The WG 1 is the editing group and the WG 2 is the group which is (also) responsible for technical editing and general considerations, thus ensuring a proper and coherent terminology throughout the standards complex.

4.2.1 Liaisons

Liaison with CEN/TC 155, Plastics piping systems and ducting systems

The WG 12 is a joint working group with CEN/TC155 with a view to develop a CEN/TS
Based on the CEN/TC 107 decision, the scope of WG 12 has been extended to include all polymer service pipe materials used for flexible pipes systems for district heating.

Liaison with CEN/TC 267, Industrial piping and pipelines

A liaison with Euro Heat & Power, the International Association for Combined heat and Power, Heat Producers and Distributors is also established.

4.3 Environmental aspects

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics describe the business environment of the industry sector, products, materials, disciplines or practices related to the scope of this CEN/TC, and they may significantly influence how the relevant standards development processes are conducted and the content of the resulting standards:

- There is a general political will to be environmentally responsible and one way is to reduce the use of energy.

- District heating and cooling is an energy reducing technology in general and the standards will support the expansion and development of the technology.

- Efficient use of material

  Based on the type and technical characteristics of the applied material (e.g. steel, polyurethane, polyethylene, etc.) product standards specify for pipes test methods, design factors and procedures to allow determination of the most efficient product regarding strength and insulation.

  Fitness for purpose of the products during product life time

  The design of prefabricated district heating pipe and cooling systems is based on a minimum 30 year rating time to establish long term properties and product designs. It is to this minimum 30 year rating point that design factors are applied.

- The standardization in this area will contribute to the development of cost efficient solutions, which is essential in a deregulated market.

- The documents from CEN/TC 107 will also support the Directive 2006/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5th. April 2006 on energy end-use efficiency and energy services. According to the Directive 2006/32/EC the member states shall adopt and aim to achieve an overall national indicative energy savings target of 9 % for the ninth year of application of the Directive, to be reached by way of energy services and other energy
efficiency improvement measures. Member states shall take cost-effective, practicable and reasonable measures designed to contribute towards achieving this target.

- These aims will be supported by the standardization work in CEN/TC 107.

5 FACTORS AFFECTING COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CEN/TC WORK PROGRAM

There seems to be no particular risks for the future work of TC 107. It is however vital for the TC that the technology gap between R&D results in the actual technical fields and the standards is kept as small as possible. The challenge may be expressed in terms of not allowing the best to become the enemy of the good.