



DEUTSCHER
TEXTILREINIGUNGS
VERBAND



Power to the SMEs

Standards knowledge as a key success factor

Laundries and drycleaners

Service industry with complex products and machinery

- **200-300 standards** relevant for textile care industry (textiles, machinery, detergents, hygiene, water quality, protective equipment, medical devices ...) and still increasing!



DTV – SME organisation



- DTV is the German association for laundries and drycleaners – 800 members, 95% of them SMEs – member of SBS (Small Business Standards aisbl)
- Purpose of the organisation:
 - to represent economical, social and technical interests
 - to support innovation and research for SMEs
 - to support members with legislation, technical guidance
 - to develop vocational curricula for the industry (bachelor professional and apprenticeships)



Vocational education in for standards

Increasing expertise and knowledge of standards



- DTV is a certified educational institution (AZAV)
- Our initiatives for access to information and education in standards:
 - **vocational training course** to prepare for the Bachelor Professional (Meister) in textile care (European Qualifications Framework: 6); curriculum includes teaching units on standards and regulations
 - **access to the 200 most important standards** for textile care industry (online portal developed together with DIN)
 - **regular information** about new or revised standards; DTV working group of standards experts;
 - in cooperation with SBS: **4 experts in ISO/CEN WGs**
 - **networking for standards experts** and next gen standards experts



Teaching technical standards

Why is it so important?



- SMEs need to have knowledge about standards for
 - the **implementation of legislation**: some products fall under EU regulations (e.g. harmonized standards for PPE or medical devices)
 - the **production, quality control, hygiene management**, e.g. for textile product standards, machines, digital standards, management standards
 - the **cooperation in supply chains**: products and precursors which SMEs apply for their products and services

Product and test standards should be tailor-made for the practical application in businesses – not an academic construct. Education in vocational training and the inclusion of SMEs is therefore essential.

Key units of education in standards

Why standards? How are standards made? What standards?

- What do we teach about standards?
 - the **correlation between legislation and technical standards** – develop knowledge on how standards help to comply with legislation
 - relevance of **harmonised standards** – for PPE, medical devices etc.
 - the **international, European and national standardisation system** and how standards are developed
 - why **standards are relevant** in their own SME processes and products
 - the **contents of important sector standards** relevant for their business
 - how standards can help with **processes** and **product testing**

We need to contextualise standards and regulations for the daily processes. If they are lost with standards, businesses will struggle to adapt to technical, digital and innovative change!



Curriculum for standards in DTV

Theoretical AND practical – in line with their specific business



Content of the unit Standards and Regulations (8-12 hours)

- General introduction: **regulations and (harmonised) standards** (European and national)
- **Economic implications** of standards for businesses
- Current **regulations with a high relevance** for businesses in our industry
- **Important standards and certifications** for the textile care industry (e.g. CE marking, product standards for PPE/medical devices, standards for washing and cleaning processes, machine standards, textile labelling standards, hygiene standards etc.)
- **Implementation** of standards into business processes: product testing, sources for standards, managing standards, adjusting processes
- **General standards for businesses**: environmental standards, health and safety standards, management standards

SMEs need standards experts

No education – no experts!



SME inclusion in standardisation work is key

- **develop and support SME experts** for the standardisation work (SBS) (inclusion of SMEs in EU Regulation 1025/2012)
- **ongoing education** on most recent technical standards for all industries essential
- **transfer of standards knowledge** from experienced experts to next gen experts
- **development of SME-friendly standards**: SMEs need to have knowledge about standards and how they are developed

Proposals

How to implement standardisation in vocational training?



- Standards need to be implemented in **curricula for vocational training** as well as in continuing education programmes!
- An **early start for standards in the education system** with information on the importance and relevance of standards!
- We need to develop **standardisation training programmes** for SME experts – and teachers with practical experience from the industry!
- Free **access to standards** during the vocational education period (e.g. DIN is working on a tool together with providers of vocational education)
- Cooperation between **SME organisations, NSOs and educational institutions**



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Many thanks!

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