



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Brussels, 23 January 2012**

### **CEN eBIZ Workshop to develop eBusiness solutions for Europe's fashion industry**

**The new CEN Workshop eBIZ will provide a framework for stakeholders and experts to develop solutions for boosting the use of eBusiness and improving the interoperability of B2B (Business-to-Business) data exchange through the supply chain of the fashion industry – including textiles, clothing and footwear.**

The CEN Workshop eBIZ is an initiative of EURATEX (the European apparel and textile confederation), ENEA (Italian National Agency for new technologies, energy and sustainable economic development) and partners of the eBIZ-TCF project.

Launched by the European Commission, the eBIZ-TCF project (2008-2010), has proved the benefits of interoperability in digital communications along the supply chain, particularly in terms of reducing costs, improving efficiency, facilitating the introduction of new services and reducing the time-to-market for fashion goods.

In the framework of CEN (the European Committee for Standardization), the eBIZ Workshop will provide in the next 18 months a forum for all concerned stakeholders to reach agreement on the future of e-Business communications in the fashion industry, including interoperable e-Business communication protocols and data exchange formats.

Interested organisations are invited to attend the kick-off meeting for the CEN Workshop eBIZ, which will take place in Brussels on **29 March 2012**.

More information about the eBIZ Workshop can be found on the CEN website:

<http://www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/ISSS/Workshops/Pages/EBIZ-TCF.aspx>

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**Please see page 2 for notes and contact details**

## **About CEN**

The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) is one of the three officially recognised European Standards Organisations (ESOs) (alongside CENELEC and ETSI).

CEN brings together the National Standards Bodies of 32 countries (all of the EU member states, plus Croatia, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey). More than 60,000 technical experts as well as business federations, consumer and other societal interest organisations are involved in the CEN network.

CEN provides a platform for the development of voluntary European Standards (ENs) for products and services in a wide range of different sectors. These standards may be used to improve performance, enhance safety, protect consumers and the environment, and facilitate compliance with EU legislation. Standards contribute to reducing costs and promoting trade, thereby helping businesses to grow.

For further information, please see: [www.cen.eu](http://www.cen.eu)

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## **About EURATEX**

EURATEX is the official organization promoting the interests of the European Textile and Apparel Industry.

As the voice of the sector, EURATEX's main objectives are to: Promote the interests of the industry; Act on its behalf with European and International institutions; Coordinate strategies to support the industry's performance in all relevant areas including innovation and sustainability; Promote the image of a dynamic and forward-looking industry towards public institutions, media and economic decision-makers.

EURATEX's ultimate objective is to strengthen the international competitiveness of the Textile and Apparel industry.

For further information, please see: [www.euratex.eu](http://www.euratex.eu)

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## **About the eBIZ project**

The eBIZ project (full name eBIZ-TCF) is a 2-year European cooperation project launched by the European Commission in January 2008 to boost e-business processes in the fashion Industry (Textile, Clothing and Footwear). Working with over 150 companies across Europe, the project has proved the benefits of interoperability and digital communication in the supply chain and it has delivered the eBIZ Reference Architecture for e-Business.

For more information see: <http://ebiz-tcf.eu>

eBIZ-TCF on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DePJTVrQfpA>