



As experts in fire safety and security,  
we continue to contribute to a safer and more secure Europe

# Annual Report 2020

**euralarm**



# A Europe fit for the digital age

Parallel to Euralarm’s document, the European Commission also has its Priorities 2019 - 2024. The widely discussed Green Deal is one of them. But the European Commission has also made digital technology a priority. A Europe fit for the digital age is what the Commission strives for.

Digital technology is changing people’s lives. The EU’s digital strategy aims to make this transformation work for people and businesses, while helping to achieve its target of a climate-neutral Europe by 2050. The Commission is determined to make this Europe’s “Digital Decade”. Europe must now strengthen its digital sovereignty and set standards, rather than following those of others – with a clear focus on data, technology, and infrastructure. Therefore the Commission has defined 9 actions.

- Artificial Intelligence
- European data strategy
- European industrial strategy
- Connectivity
- Digital markets act
- Digital Services Act
- Cybersecurity
- Digital skills
- High Performing Computing (HPC)

These actions will also affect our industry to a greater or lesser extent. Therefore they are presented throughout the Annual Report.

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# Our mission

**Euralarm represents the fire safety and security industry, providing leadership and expertise for industry, market, policy makers and standards bodies.**

It endeavours to protect people, property and the environment and aims at enhancing the continuity of societal life, businesses and institutions through systems and services for fire detection and extinguishing, intrusion detection, access control, video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centres..

Euralarm members within the geography of Europe include national trade associations, industry members, companies and institutes or associations being active in research, education or science. Euralarm is also open for associate members coming from or outside of Europe.

# President's letter

Dear reader,

If the past year has made something clear to us, it is that, despite all the preparations, major, unexpected events can be faced. Last year, around this time of year, we thought that contact with members and stakeholders might be possible in the last quarter of 2020, but it soon turned out to be false hope.



The 50th anniversary of Euralarm was to be the crown on the vital and useful work of all the Euralarm members. But instead of a crown it turned out to be Corona. Even worse are the tragic consequences that so many people experienced from COVID-19. Catastrophes like these appear to have their own agenda.

Last year has been a year of many changes. 'Online' has become increasingly important and nowadays is the standard for the working life of many of us. The trend towards online itself underlines how fast digitalisation and digital technologies can be converted into opportunities and challenges. Although we have

missed the physical contact and networking events with our members, the online world has allowed us to communicate in new ways and more frequently. Not only with members but also with representatives of the European government, companies, organizations and others whose ambition it is to create and build a safer future. Since its foundation, Euralarm has been a strong advocate of a strong single market for quality products and services. In recent years, this goal has been overshadowed by the discussions on the Brexit. Last year will undoubtedly be remembered as the year in which the United Kingdom and Europe agreed on 'living apart together'. Both Europe and the UK will continue to build a level playing field allowing both to develop and market quality products

In the context of European and single market reinforcement I'd also like to mention the Green Deal. Last year, European citizens experienced what it means to be confined to one's home all day. With around 250 million homes across the EU that need energy renovation, now more than ever, it is time for the EU to invest in renovating



## Excellence and trust in artificial intelligence

Trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI) can bring many benefits, such as better healthcare, safer and cleaner transport, more efficient manufacturing, and cheaper and more sustainable energy. The EU's approach to AI will give people the confidence to embrace these technologies while encouraging businesses to develop.

Data and artificial intelligence (AI) can help find solutions to many of society's problems, from health to farming, from security to manufacturing. This can only be achieved if technology is developed and used in ways that earns peoples' trust. Therefore, an EU strategic framework based on fundamental values will give citizens the confidence to accept AI-based solutions, while encouraging businesses to develop them.

homes, offices, schools and other private and public buildings. The Renovation Wave as part of the Green Deal is a unique opportunity to introduce a holistic approach towards fire safety and security when renovating buildings. Safe and secure buildings will contribute to the new European economy as well as the future European ecology.

Last year I opened the President's Letter with the announcement that we would celebrate our 50th anniversary. This year I conclude with the announcement that we will have that festive event later this year. Euralarm itself may be 50 + 1, but the beautiful memories and achievements and the incessant contributions of our members for a safer Europe deserve appreciation. For more than 50 years Euralarm has been proactively contributing to standardisation processes, providing guidance

in the digitalisation of the fire safety and security industry, raising the standards for training and qualifications to address society's need for safety and security. We will continue to do so. Please join us later this year in our anniversary and build together a safer and more secure Europe.

Sincerely,

Martin Harvey  
Euralarm Chairman

# General Director's letter

## **The Story of 2020**

When we will read our history books in the future they will definitely mention 2020 as the year of COVID-19. It has been discussed on so many events and meetings and it has changed the way we live, work and communicate with each other. COVID-19 also had a big impact on businesses in our industry and just like many other industries it will take time before we fully recover from this pandemic.

## **Lessons for the future**

With light at the end of the tunnel it is good to look back and see what we can learn from this pandemic and decide what is important for our future. A good example of what the pandemic has learned us, is the importance of remote services to ensure the continuity of businesses in general and of safety or security systems in particular. These services ensured that people could continue to work at the office and had access to their workplace. Intelligent video systems are not only used for crowd control but also supported public authorities to monitor and enforce the restrictions during the lockdown.

## **New European Commission**

**W**ith the pandemic on the frontpage of the news we might almost forget that 2020 was also an important year in other areas. Next to the installment of the new European Commission and Brexit completion, Europe launched its digital age program while the Green deal laid the groundworks for a sustainable future for Europe. International trade was impacted as well by the pandemic as by newly introduced trade barriers.



Just like COVID19 these events will define our future.

## **Expand our presence**

For Euralarm 2020 was also an important year. We extended our professional team giving us the opportunity to be more present and proactively participate in projects and meetings from the Commission, CEN, CCMC and Orgalim. This positive step forward has also been noticed by key stakeholders from the different organisations. We plan to continue to expand our presence in those areas which are important for our members and ensure our voice is heard.

### **Working close together on standardisation**

On the standardisation side the challenges with the harmonised standards remain. Euralarm is involved on different levels to keep a close eye on the developments and contribute to a solution where possible. The update and introduction from standards on the security side will help to keep the standards relevant for the security industry.

In 2021 we will continue to extend our activities in areas that are of importance for our members. We will work closely together

with the different sections and committees to stay tuned with their needs, challenges and priorities. I also welcome the new members in the different sections, a broad representation from the industry will help us to contribute to make Europe a safer place to live, work and travel.

Paul van der Zanden  
Euralarm General Director



## **The Digital Services Act** *Ensuring a safe and accountable online environment*

For the first time a common set of rules on intermediaries' obligations and accountability across the single market will open up new opportunities to provide digital services across borders, while ensuring a high level of protection to all users, no matter where they live in the EU. The new rules are proportionate, foster innovation, growth and competitiveness, and facilitate the scaling up of smaller platforms, SMEs and start-ups. The responsibilities of users, platforms, and public authorities are rebalanced according to European values, placing citizens at the centre.





# Last year at a glance



# Who we are

Euralarm represents the fire safety, extinguishing and security industry, providing leadership and expertise for industry, market, policy makers and standards bodies. Our members make society safer and more secure through systems and services for fire detection, access control, video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centres.

Founded in 1970, Euralarm represents over 5000 companies within the fire safety and security industry valued at 67 billion Euros. Euralarm members are national associations and individual companies from across Europe.

# Our strategy

Euralarm continually looks to expand its membership of the fire safety, security and extinguishing industry both in terms of geographic coverage as well as its representation into adjacent areas, in line with its outlined goals and strategic objectives. We strive for a professional, innovative and transparent market for the members to deliver products, systems and services with a high level of quality, performance and lifetime dependability, for the benefit of society.

Euralarm monitors the major influencing factors and trends in European and global markets, informs its members and promotes action where appropriate. We strive to be the partner of choice for all authorities having jurisdiction, policy makers, relevant private partners, research and educational bodies, as well as other organisations dealing with fire safety and security. As such anyone involved in fire safety, security and extinguishing at the European and international level will think of Euralarm.

# Welcoming new members

One of Euralarm's objectives is to provide an open, transparent and equal platform for members of all sizes, including monitoring trends in European and global markets, informing members and promoting action where appropriate. Additionally, Euralarm uses professional advocacy, when appropriate, to achieve its goals, including building close relations and constructive dialogue with related industries, associations, standardisation, testing and certification bodies, and political authorities (including relevant directorates-general of the European Commission).

Companies that join Euralarm gain expertise into 'political' issues impacting the Industry and its markets and have an opportunity to influence the Industry by having a say directly into Brussels.

**T**his year we can welcome Vanderbilt, Verisure, Kiwa, Open Security & Safety Alliance (OSSA) and Innohome.



## European data strategy

The European data strategy aims to make the EU a leader in a data-driven society. Creating a single market for data will allow it to flow freely within the EU and across sectors for the benefit of businesses, researchers and public administrations.

People, businesses and organisations should be empowered to make better decisions based on insights from non-personal data, which should be available to all.



### **Vanderbilt**

Vanderbilt is a global provider of high-performance security systems across access control and intrusion detection. Vanderbilt is recognized for its future-proof, innovative, and easy-to-use portfolio that contains award-winning products such as access control solutions ACT365 and ACT Enterprise and intrusion solutions SPC and SPC Connect. An advocate of open platforms and integrations, Vanderbilt understands the issues customers face and provides multiple solutions that are designed to meet these needs. Vanderbilt is an ACRE brand.



### **Verisure**

Verisure is the leading European provider of professionally monitored security systems with 24/7 response services. It protects more than 3.5 million customers in 16 countries in Europe and Latin America. In late 2019 Arlo Europe also became part of Verisure. The Company's mission is to bring peace of mind to families and small business owners by providing them with the best security solutions and services. Verisure is known for category-creating marketing, sales excellence, innovative products and services and customer-centricity.



### **Kiwa**

With its certification, inspection, testing, training and consultancy services, Kiwa creates trust in the products, services, processes, (management) systems and employees of its customers. Kiwa is active in a wide variety of markets segments, ranging from construction and energy supply to drinking water, healthcare and farming. Areas of expertise include management systems, corporate social responsibility and lab testing. With over 4.800 employees in more than 40 countries, Kiwa serves clients in all kind of industries, (business) services, public and private utilities, governments and international institutions.



### **Open Security & Safety Alliance (OSSA)**

The Open Security & Safety Alliance is a collaboration initiative that brings together like-minded organisations in order to create a framework providing standards and specifications for common components including an operating system, IoT infrastructure, collective approach for data security and privacy, and a drive for improved levels of performance for security and safety solutions. This will help the market and parties involved to focus on the aspects that really add value for their customers and open up new application possibilities, even beyond security and safety.



### **Innohome**

Innohome is a Finnish company making smart, preventive fire safety products such as Stoveguards and Smart Smoke Alarms. Unattended cooking/stove fires is in many countries the biggest single reason for home fires. In Norway the Stove guards are already mandatory to all new homes. The simple idea behind the two products is to detect a fire hazard, alarm about it and to cut the electricity supply to the stove or other electrical device before a fire can start. Innohome's latest products, EV chargers for homes, are also tackling a fire safety issue since too many people charge their vehicle directly from a normal socket causing a risk of fire.



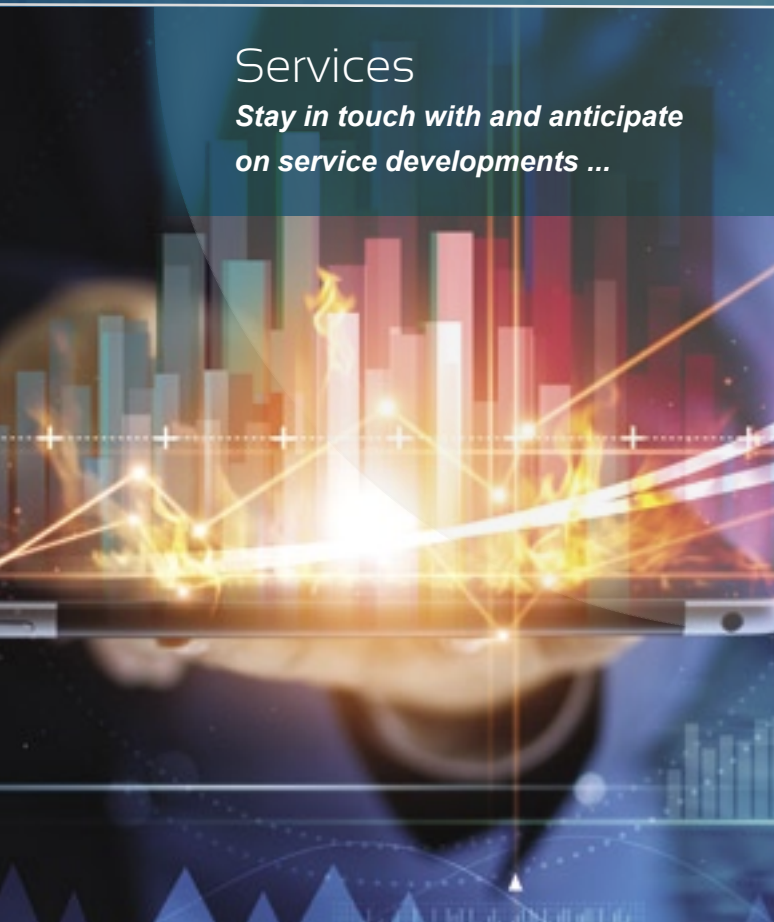
## Security

*Helping shape tomorrow's  
standardisation ...*



## Fire

*Development of and access to  
markets as guiding principles ...*



## Services

*Stay in touch with and anticipate  
on service developments ...*



## Extinguishing

*Going from strength to strength ...*

# Section Security

**The past year was an eventful one that, for many, was almost entirely dominated by COVID-19. Although the virus disrupted much of society and association life, there are also highlights to report. For starters, we can report three new members. With Vanderbilt, Verisure and OSSA our section was significantly strengthened. Strengthening has also come in the form of Technical Managers, giving the Section more capacity and expertise to use on behalf of its members.**

With three new members onboard the Security Section's position with regard to policy, legislation, regulations and other issues affecting our industry is even more explicitly brought to the attention of the European Commission. With this voice and through our partnerships and cooperations, we are giving an important boost to the security industry ranging from intrusion detection and access control to video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centers.

## **Fundamental discussion**

For many years EN 50131-1 has been the basis for quality standards for security and hold-up systems and as new technologies and applications are brought to market the regulation needs to be updated to be in line with new technologies and market needs. At this moment the EN 50131-1 is open for revision and Euralarm is working with its members and other stakeholders from the security industry to include these new technologies into the standard. It will ensure that going forwards the EN 50131-1 will stay relevant for end-users, alarm response and insurance companies and with that also for our industry.

**T**he Security Section therefore organised a successful roundtable discussion on the EN 50131-1. The Section also follows and contributes to the discussions moving forward within WG1 and

is proud to read that the New Work Item request sent out by WG1 for officially initiating the revision explicitly refers to the Euralarm contribution.

A fundamental discussion on the respective roles of both EN 50131-1 and TS 50131-7 regarding the risk analysis, the operational requirements and the processes (e.g. for ensuring cybersecurity as a holistic process) has started and the Security section will contribute to the debate and collaborate with the Services section.

## **Remote access to alarm systems**

The remote access to the alarm system and the related cybersecurity measures is a hot topic at standardisation level. TS 50136-10 has been drafted by CLC/TC 79 WG5 in order to lay down the requirements for a secure remote connection. The Security section is of the opinion that this document is expected to play a central role in this playground and wants to ensure that it will therefore be fit for purpose. The content of this TS is needed to complement EN 50710 on remote services and to support the revision of EN 50131-1 and EN 50131-3.

For this reason, an ad-hoc group has worked on possible comments to be addressed during the enquiry phase of this technical specification. These suggestions have been shared with all the Euralarm members in order to feed their discussion when

elaborating their own comments with the national mirror committees.

### **Push forward Euralarm's involvement**

Euralarm has the opportunity to have a liaison officer sitting in the CLC/TC 79 plenary meeting and uses this opportunity to push forward the involvement of Euralarm members and professional team in the standardization system and to bring their important messages to this community. In this context, the Security section has contributed to the messages to be broadcast, while taking consideration of the concerns from the Services and the Fire sections. The main messages to TC 79 during the October plenary meeting were

- (i) to highlight Euralarm's contribution to the revision of EN 50131-1,
- (ii) to encourage for an active collaboration between the WG's dealing with the topic of remote access (WG1, WG3, WG5, AHG Cybersecurity and JTC4 WG1) in order to end up with a coherent and understandable set of documents for the coming years and
- (iii) to not start the revision of the EMC standard for alarm components before having duly assessed the reasons for revising and for extending some test requirements.

Regarding the latter, the Security section has also endorsed a position paper initiated by the Technical Group on Fire Standards encouraging the Euralarm members to contribute to CLC/TC 79 WG9 and to ensure proportionate requirements for the next version of EN 50130-4.

### **New systems to interoperate in European data ecosystem**

Inspired by the proposal from OSSA of an integrated open platform presented to Euralarm in February,

on one side, and the initiative of the new European Commission for a European data ecosystem where data can be shared within a trustworthy framework and supported by the GAIA-X project, on the other side, the Security section has expressed the wish to set up a Task Force in order to think on possible new systems that would interoperate in this ecosystem in order to develop new services.

The Services section would be invited to contribute to this Task Force. In particular, applications in video surveillance could be envisaged due to the large amount of data generated by such application. In this perspective, the work initiated at IEC/TC 79 WG12 on interoperability profiles for video management systems and systems for video surveillance as a service for safe cities and law enforcement, based on the ONVIF industry standard, is welcome.

The quarterly Security section meetings have also been the opportunity to exchange on diverse topics of interest and possibly impacting the members. These have been the drafting of the prEN 50710 on remote services, the reflexions by the Services section on possible improvement to the services standard (EN 16763), the inputs by the Euralarm Technical Group on Cyber Security and the TC 79 ad-hoc group on cybersecurity, how the possible delegated act under the Radio Equipment Directive (RED) can impact the CE marking of wireless security products and the actions made by Euralarm in order to promote a proportionate approach, the initiatives from the European Commission on a legal framework on Artificial Intelligence and also information about the access to the UK market after Brexit have been exchanged.



## Cybersecurity Initiatives

The European Union works on various fronts to promote cyber resilience, safeguarding our communication and data and keeping online society and economy secure.

The European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy presented a new EU Cybersecurity Strategy at the end of 2020. The Strategy covers the security of essential services such as hospitals, energy grids and railways. It also covers the security of the ever-increasing number of connected objects in our homes, offices and factories, building collective capabilities to respond to major cyberattacks and working with partners around the world to ensure international security and stability in cyberspace. The Strategy outlines how a Joint Cyber Unit can ensure the most effective response to cyber threats using the collective resources and expertise available to the EU and Member States.

# Section Fire

**Although many of the activities of the Section Fire were carried out online last year, the fire safety industry represented by Euralarm kept its focus on driving the formation of our industry's future. By staying focused and committed to our Strategic Program 2020+ we were able to draft project agreements for the strategic topics Digitisation, Standardisation & Regulation and Testing, Certification & Quality Marks.**

As a new, virtual way of working became the standard, we realised that by working online a phenomenal amount of information is missing. Without facial expressions and voices our work may be more efficient but in the meantime isn't getting better. The new virtual reality has brought interesting challenges. The information exchange between members became more pro-active and although the meeting preparation load has increased substantially, we showed that understanding each other and working together to reach common goals is also possible without face-to-face contact between members. Being in the fortunate position that our Section has many members, the support from our Technical Manager Michael Scharnowsky is of great value; both in the preparation and follow-up on meetings.

Looking back on last year there are a number of topics that stand out in the many activities of our section's members. Allow me to outline some of the highlights of 2020 and provide an outlook of what the team in the Section Fire is working towards.

## **Towards an holistic approach**

Too often fire safety is presented as a one dimensional topic. This does not do justice to the scope of our profession. That is why the Section Fire advocates a holistic approach to fire safety. A subject that is inextricably linked to efficiency, effectiveness, reliability, availability and, last but not least, life

safety. A good example is the work of the Task Group False Alarms. Following last years' decision to extend the study on measures to further reduce false alarms, the Task Group worked on presenting a new Fact Sheet explaining how to increase fire safety, by understanding the phenomenon. The Fact Sheet clearly shows the multi-facetted importance of this topic. We now will continue to call industry to participate; doing nothing is not an option.

Last year the Task Group Voice Alarm Systems adopted the document of Euralarm member ZVEI on adaptive escape routes. The document shows how various technical systems can be further developed into adaptive system technology by intelligently linking hazard detection, alarming and evacuation. This allows the adaptation of escape routing to changing developments in the hazard situation, for example with regard to fire.

The work of the Task Group Fire Standards has been seriously hindered by the fact that standards didn't get cited. Without citation in the EU Official Journal the work of our Task Group can't continue. Despite the efforts and energy that the Task Group has shown, an effective solution for the challenges posed by the CPR wasn't found. The Section Fire presented its position on the CPR in a briefing last year stating that the time calls for new measures and innovative approaches since the fire safety industry cannot wait until the CPR is revised.



### Outlook: broaden focus

The existing, well established standardisation processes must continue to be defined by the stakeholders in association with the European standards organization CEN. Although a revision of the CPR is necessary, the need for a solution for the publication of new and revised standards under the current CPR is even more crucial. When revising the CPR, distinctions between construction products must be considered. In close cooperation between chair and vice chair of our Section we need to keep explaining our position in order to engage as many stakeholders in the discussion and to create widely shared insights in the CPR challenges. Following up on these challenges the Section Fire has kicked-off a new Project Team for the Task Group NLF (New Legislative Framework). Meanwhile we keep on contributing on the future of standardisation by discussion and working closely together with the CCMC (CEN Cenelec Management Center) and the European Commission.

With CPR as focal point of last years' activities the Section Fire will broaden its focus back to the Strategy 2020+. The CPR efforts will continue but we also need to work for the broader future. That future embraces topics like emerging technologies, standardisation and regulation, testing, certification and quality marks.

**W**hat does Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cyber security and BIM mean for the Section Fire? Pro-actively we will work on turning these emerging technologies into business opportunities for the fire safety industry. Our industry fully needs to understand what digitisation means for the industry. By understanding the possibilities and limitations, we are also better able to give direction to the developments in this field.



## European industrial strategy

Europe is embarking on a transition towards climate neutrality and digital leadership. The European industrial strategy aims to ensure that European industry can lead the way as we enter this new age. Three drivers will transform our industry, support our small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and keep Europe sustainable and competitive. They are the Green transition, the Digital transition and competitiveness on the global stage, where Europe must leverage the impact of its single market to set global standards.

# Section Services

**The past year has been a year of change. First of all, a year with new members joining the Section Services team. A year also in which the world adopted a new way of working due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19. This new way of working not only created a completely new dynamic within our section but is also a special prelude to remote working methods and associated services**

## **Investing in Remote Services**

Last year we continued our work in the field of Remote Services for prEN 50710. After specifying the minimum requirements for the provision of secure remote services via a remote access infrastructure carried out either at site or off-site in 2019, an Enquiry Phase started in the spring of 2020. The overall feedback was positive. However, whilst many countries voted for the document, there were comments from several countries to be reviewed. After updating the document, it was sent in for a Formal Vote by the beginning of 2021. With the acceptance as a European Norm, it should be ready for implementation early in 2022. The completion of prEN 50710 will guarantee more certainty for a future in which remote services play an increasingly important role. With the requirements for the provision of secure remote services via a remote access infrastructure being specified, both end-users and service providers will benefit from it. Both will also be able to take advantage of the technological developments within fire safety systems and/or security systems (FSSS) and the remote access infrastructure.

## **Qualification and certification**

Last year I reported that further work on the EN 16763 - Services for fire safety systems and security systems, should be high on the agenda. The European Qualifications project that we started, meant to document the qualification framework

across European countries for Fire Safety and Security Services, did not really deliver the anticipated conclusion. The differences between the countries turned out to be too fundamental. Without common values and commitment on qualification and certification realising any short to medium term changes will not be able. Since the norm will be up for revisions in 2022 the question is what can be done to address this. The Services Section has taken the initiative to organise a roundtable on the EN 16763 to discuss this question. Looking towards the future it is important to get the EN 16763 fully working. I hope this discussion will bring more clarity whether we want to amend it or leave it as is.

I am happy to announce that Benoît Stockbroeckx joined the team as Technical manager for the Services and Security Section. Having a dedicated Technical Manager on board allows us to follow subjects in much more detail, but more importantly to add more subjects to our work program. Not only topics like Artificial Intelligence and the EC Initiative on Data Spaces could be followed more closely, it allowed us also to focus on the EN50131-1 Revision and its effects on Services and prTS 50136-10 Secure Remote Access. Combined with a closer involvement in the work of TC79 we already invested in avoiding future contradictions between the work of both stakeholders.



## Digital skills and jobs

The European Commission is determined to tackle the digital skills gap and promote projects and strategies to improve the level of digital skills in Europe. All Europeans need digital skills to study, work, communicate, access online public services and find trustworthy information. However, many Europeans do not have adequate digital skills. The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) shows that four out of ten adults and every third person who works in Europe lack basic digital skills. There is also low representation of women in tech-related professions and studies, with only one in six ICT specialists and one in three STEM graduates being women. The European Commission has set targets in the European Skills Agenda and the Digital Education Action Plan to ensure that 70% of adults have basic digital skills by 2025 and that the level of 13-14 year olds who underperform in computing and digital literacy is reduced from 30% (2019) to 15% in 2030.

### Emerging technologies

With the growth of our section, our scope will also broaden further. More than ever, the section is ready to launch new initiatives, for example in the field of new technology. We see the possibilities of this reflected, for example, in residential and commercial emergency services. With the introduction of new technology, better use can also be made of the available facilities in those environments. This creates the basis for the integration of new services, such as home automation and e-health, and for new business models, for example around the ownership of installations.

For the Services Section, it is important to focus on the future in addition to today's developments. On which points must the regulations be adapted to meet the needs of the market?

Finally, the Section Services has been involved last year in work on emerging technologies. Following the

activities carried out with CoESS on Cybersecurity, we concluded that there is no demand to provide more details than already provided by the current brochure. We will be following ENISA's certification schema under CSA as well as CEN CENELEC JTC13 and TC79 AHG Cybersecurity.

With new members on board, it is important for the Section to keep its finger on the pulse with all members. Over the past year, we have proactively organised sessions around a variety of themes to ensure that our activities match those of our members and other stakeholders in the fire safety and security services industry. Moreover, we ensured service interests are considered and consistent across standards such as 50710, 50131-1 and cyber security, as they touch Fire, Extinguishing and Security. By exchanging knowledge and combining expertise we stay in the forefront of the industry.

# Section Extinguishing

**The Extinguishing Section goes from strength to strength and as it has matured, has fully embraced and integrated the Technical Manager as a shared resource with the Fire Section. The Section continues to talk with other potential members and despite the inability of those organizations to join face to face meetings and feel the warmth of the welcome open to them, the further expansion of its membership in the coming year is likely.**

Perhaps the greatest single success of the past year is the completion of the Approved Systems Guidance paper. The paper examines the important differences and the distinction between the component parts of a Extinguishing system and draws attention to the critical fact that simply having a group of approved components that are assembled to build a system, does not constitute an 'approved system'.

The paper is available in 10 languages and its success and relevance has been demonstrated by almost 2,500 official downloads that have happened since publication. The paper was presented during the Euralarm Industry event in late October, attracting a large audience of members and non-members, from both inside and outside of Europe.

**T**he next Guidance paper being developed by the Section will cover fire protection for Lithium Ion Batteries. At the time of writing the scope has been defined and a task group formed to develop the content. The paper will discuss the types of battery technology, the fire risks, detection, fire protection options and the role of battery management systems. Further subjects under consideration for future papers include the Maintenance of Systems/ Equipment and Flow Calculation software. Additional subjects where papers are currently being prepared include: Maintenance of Systems/Equipment, Flow Calculation Software and Fill Stations.

Currently regulatory matters that are of interest to the Section include the proposal for a restriction on PFAS, which could potentially extend the already existing restrictions on PFOS/PFOA impacting firefighting foams, to include fluorinated products used in gaseous fire extinguishing systems and applications.

We also anticipate that the review of the F Gas Regulation (used as gas extinguishing systems) will start in the coming year. The challenges faced in connection with the CPR (Construction Product Regulations) remain a significant concern and alongside the Fire Section, the Extinguishing Section continues to contribute to the Euralarm position on this subject.

Due to many shared goals, the Section has established a liaison with the European Fire Sprinkler Network (EFSN) and continues to exchange share details of each organizations activities.

**W**ith the increasing engagement of the Membership, the Extinguishing Section will increase its ability to monitor, report and represent the membership on a number of other fronts, such as ensuring that new standards being developed or revised are in focus, that we continue to educate the market on key subjects and ensure that strategies are developed to ensure that the best possible representation is made at all levels in Europe.



## Connectivity

Advanced connectivity is the fundamental building block of the digital transformation and the enabler of a sustainable future. Fixed and wireless networks contribute significantly to providing affordable and accessible services and bridging the digital divide.

Today connectivity determines our lives. The Commission is working closely with EU countries, administrations and businesses to bring reliable Internet and innovative connections to everyone across the EU.



## Horizontal Compliance Committee

Euralarm's Committee on Horizontal Compliance ensures the follow up of the European legal landscape for products and services on topics interesting more than one section. The initiatives from the European Commission are taken at the early stage ...



## Advocacy Committee

It is essential for the success of Euralarm to interact with external stakeholders. The Advocacy Committee has the mandate to establish and maintain communication with these stakeholders. Euralarm continues to be a trusted advisor and distinguished partner ...



## Marketing Committee

Part of Euralarm's permanent organisational structure is a Marketing Committee, ensuring flawless communications towards key audiences: our Members, potential Members and European stakeholders which we need to engage as part of the advocacy services we offer our Members ...

# Horizontal Compliance Committee

**For the Euralarm' Horizontal Compliance Committee the focus for 2020 has been on the many initiatives from the new European Commission for legislative proposals. The HC Committee scrutinised and answered not less than 9 initiatives and doing so we have ensured that the views from the fire safety and security industry are taken into account.**

Answers to roadmaps, targeted consultations and public consultations have been prepared and submitted on the following topics: reconfigurable radio systems (RRS), upload of software on radio equipment, evaluation of the Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) directive, revision of the Blue Guide, evaluation of the New Legal Framework (NLF), European strategy for data, ethical and legal requirements for Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications and evaluation of the European standardisation policy. The constant approach has been to understand the goals of the legislator and the issues to be solved and to constructively suggest improvements and refinements going towards a proportionate approach targeting these goals and avoiding ineffective burden for the fire safety and security industry.

Other horizontal standardisation topics have been discussed for example the opportunities and risks of revising the electromagnetic compatibility immunity standard for alarm components (EN 50130-4). This happened during a long-lasting difficult period for the harmonisation system of standards supporting the European legislation for products (NLF). This made the process uncertain for the manufacturers, especially for those who make products available on the market under the Construction Product Regulation (CPR). Regarding the technical aspects of this EMC standard revision,

Euralarm has pushed for and contributed to an evidence-based approach of the future version of the standard. HC Committee has supported a position paper initiated by the Euralarm Technical Group on Fire standards encouraging participation of the members to the activities of the CENELEC working group, challenging provisions not supported by an evidence-based approach and welcoming new provisions and tests proved to increase the robustness of the products against identified new threats.

Information has been shared among the members on other horizontal compliance topics, such as the process set in place by the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) for the notification of substances of very high concern in the SCIP database that became mandatory since January 2021 according to the Waste Framework Directive. Other topics were the UKCA mark put in place by the United Kingdom as a consequence of the Brexit, the sustainable products initiative, the revision of the battery directive and the possible phase-out of non-rechargeable batteries as well as the GAIA-X project for a common European framework for data sharing.

The activities of the Technical Group on Cybersecurity are more and more seen as horizontal topics. The first outcomes from ENISA activities on drafting certification schemes under the Cyber



## High-Performance Computing

High performance computing (HPC), also known as supercomputing, refers to computing systems with extremely high computational power that are able to solve hugely complex and demanding problems. In the digital era, HPC is at the core of major advances and innovation, and a strategic resource for Europe's future. HPC is one of the key digital domains where the EU's investment is due to significantly increase in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (2021-2027). Moreover, supercomputing will play a key role in Europe's path towards recovery, as it has been identified a strategic investment priority.

Security Act (CSA) have been discussed. The standardisation activities on cybersecurity within CEN-CENELEC/JTC 13, ETSI TC CYBER and CENELEC/TC 79 have been followed. Members shared their experience like the BSIA Cybersecurity Code of Practice. In particular, TG Cybersecurity and HC Committee actively participated to the works within the Expert Group on radio equipment managed by DG GROW (European Commission) where intensive debates have been seen about the way how to address cyberthreats on consumer connected wireless products. Euralarm and other industry associations pushed for a horizontal legislation on cybersecurity under the NLF while the European Commission, under high pressure from the Member States and consumer organisations, pushed for a fast route using a delegated act under the existing Radio Equipment Directive (RED).

**A**t the time of writing this article, the route via the RED is still inflexible so that Euralarm is pushing for a proportionate impact in the enforcement of additional requirements from this Directive and the proposals have found some fruitful echo. The constant efforts have been put in explaining to the Commission how a too broad scope and too vague essential requirements can lead to a large

disproportion in applicability of the delegated act and finally ineffective burden for the manufacturer.

All these activities were possible thanks to the increased representation and active contribution and participation of the members at the HC Committee and TG Cybersecurity meetings.

**F**inally, a comprehensive communication of information regarding changes in the European legislative landscape have been communicated via the quarterly Compliance Newsletter. This periodical release is based on contents received from Orgalim and complementary information from the Euralarm professional team. These newsletters systematically provide a legislative update on Internal market, Environment, Industrial policies and Digitalisation.

The work programme for 2021 is already well furnished with legislative and standardisation topics like the expected public consultation on the evaluation of the New Legal Framework, the Data Governance Act and other digital market related initiatives, the Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP) and the revision of the standard for alarm transmission.



# Advocacy Committee

**Last year marked Euralarm's 50th anniversary. Half a century in which Euralarm has been proactively contributing to standardisation processes, providing guidance in the digitalisation of our industry, raising the standards for training and qualifications to address society's needs for safety and security and partnering with research institutions. This has made Euralarm a trusted partner and expert in fire safety and security for so many stakeholders and partners like CEN CENELEC and Orgalim. We will intensify the work that we do together with these partners.**

Where we had hoped to celebrate our 50th anniversary event with these partners, representatives of the European government and other stakeholders, the event had to be postponed due to the restrictions resulting from Covid-19. The breakfast meeting with representatives of the European Parliament that was planned ahead of the anniversary festivities also had to be postponed. It turned out to be the start of a year full of digital events instead of live networking.

The Advocacy Committee took the initiative to organise two online Policy Events. The first online debate focused on the topic 'Making Europe safer: fire safety & security industries in the Digital Age'. This debate gathered key institutional, industry and consumer stakeholders for an interactive discussion under Chatham House rule.

**T**he second event focused on the road to the EU Recovery, with key notes from Stefan Moser, Head of Unit Energy Efficiency of Buildings and Products and Martin Pioch, Senior Manager European Affairs at ZVEI. The Renovation Wave for Europe focuses on greening our buildings, creating jobs and improving lives. But apart from making our society healthier, more environmentally friendly and more energy efficient it's also important to realise a safer society. Every year, EU countries experience major fires in residential, commercial and industrial buildings, taking lives of thousands of European

citizens and creating considerable environmental damage. The Renovation Wave offers a unique opportunity to increase the security of renovated buildings and to strengthen the cohesion of the European Union. This is an unique opportunity to introduce a holistic approach towards fire safety and security in renovated buildings. It will result in better performing buildings meaning safer and more secure buildings. With a renovation wave ahead of us, all renovated buildings should be fitted with the latest technologies in terms of fire safety and security, thus creating a safer and more secure Europe.

The success of these online events is a great stepping stone towards this year and coming years, when these types of virtual events will be used more often. In addition, of course, preparations have started to organize our familiar industry seminar live again at the end of November. Hopefully, by that time the vaccination rate will have reached a level where physical contact and networking will again become possible. And of course we will continue to intensify our co-operation with partners goes and other stakeholders to establish more direct contacts with policy makers, MEPs and other policy makers. I invite you to join forces with me in the Advocacy Committee to work together on a safer and more secure Europe!

# Marketing Committee

In a year where much was dominated by online meetings and conferences, the Marketing Committee also took some important online steps. For starters, the members' area of our website was thoroughly revamped. Although the adjustments were necessary for technical reasons, several new functions were added. Among these functions are a forum, extended member info and helpdesk contact. The indexing of documents also changed, making documents easier to find. In addition, the layout has been adapted and given a modern look and with that the Look & Feel of the member area changed from informative to dialogue-based.

## Website improvements

Now that the Members' area has been completely redesigned, it is also time to revamp the public website. The first steps in that direction have been taken with the development of a new structure. Here too, a transition is being made from an environment that primarily presents information about our association to a website that expressly seeks dialogue with the user and answers the question of what Euralarm can do for the visitor. Based on our strategic marketing program the objectives set out in the Priorities & Challenges document will be the foundation of our new website.

## Other online initiatives

Another online improvement is our new electronic newsletter that now appears once every two months. We have chosen a new structure and design that presents news from the various sections that is associated to trends and developments in our industry. I invite anyone who is interested in the fire safety and security industry to subscribe to our newsletter. This will ensure that you are always the first to hear the latest news from our industry.

Also new are the webinars we started last year. This initiative is part of the strategic marketing plan and makes important developments in the fire

safety and security industry accessible to a large group of interested parties and stakeholders. The first webinar we organised was hosted by the Extinguishing section with the Guidance document on Approved Systems as topic. The interest in this turned out to be great and presents a nice challenge for follow-up webinars.

## Media coverage

In line with the online activities and continuous improvements on our website we also saw that our social media strategy is paying off. Via LinkedIn and Twitter we not only actively bring the opinion and position of Euralarm to the attention of the key audiences but also share insights into activities that Euralarm undertakes. This resulted in a significant increase in the number of followers on our social channels last year. I hereby invite you to follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter.

Next to the social media channels we also intensified our activities towards the trade press; both online and offline. We successfully improved our media coverage and reached out to more than 35 million European professionals to have our message heard.



## The Digital Markets Act: ensuring fair and open digital markets

Some large online platforms act as “gatekeepers” in digital markets. The Digital Markets Act aims to ensure that these platforms behave in a fair way online. Together with the Digital Services Act, the Digital Markets Act is one of the centrepieces of the European digital strategy. The Digital Markets Act (DMA) establishes a set of narrowly defined objective criteria for qualifying a large online platform as a so-called “gatekeeper”. This allows the DMA to remain well targeted to the problem that it aims to tackle as regards large, systemic online platforms.

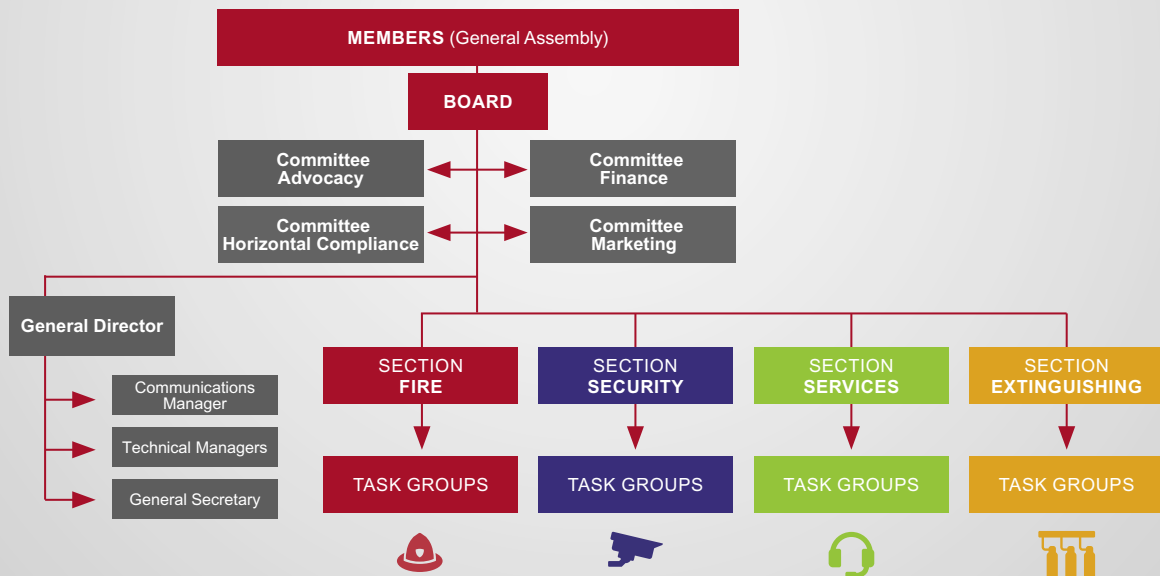


# About us

# Governance



The Euralarm Board consists of: the President of Euralarm, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Euralarm Sections, as well as the Chair of the Committees. The Association is composed of four Sections: Fire, Extinguishing, Security and Services Section. Euralarm's Committees cover Marketing internal and external, Advocacy, Legal, Finance and Remuneration and Horizontal compliance.



The EU **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** replaces the Data Protection Directive 95/46/EC and was designed to harmonise data privacy laws across Europe, to protect and empower all EU citizens data privacy and to reshape the way organisations across the region approach data privacy.

As a user and holder of membership data Euralarm has fulfilled its security obligations arising from European Data Protection legislation. In general terms, this means that it has to have appropriate organisational and technical security measures in place to protect this data. Therefore, it has requested all those who have access to the data to observe the relevant laws. Members of Euralarm, of the Management Team and other persons who provide or have access to such data have to be made aware of and observe the Data Protection Terms & Conditions.

# Euralarm Board



From left to right:

**Lance Ruetimann**, Vice President Fire Section, **Robert Thilthorpe**, Chair Committee Horizontal Compliance, **Paul van der Zanden**, Euralarm General Manager, **Petra Riesterer**, Vice Chair Section Fire, **Julie Hanson**, Euralarm General Secretary, **Jon Könz**, Vice President Services Section, **Derek Harrington**, Chair Finance Committee, **Torbjorn Laursen**, Vice Chair Extinguishing Section, **Alan Elder**, Vice President Extinguishing Section, **Martin Harvey**, Euralarm President.

Not on photo:

**Joakim Söderström**, Vice President Security Section, **Milan Ceeh**, Vice Chair Security Section, **Philippe Lecuyer**, Vice Chair Services Section, **Dominique Taudin**, Chair Advocacy Committee, **Daxa Patel**, Chair Marketing Committee.

# Members

## **AUSTRIA**

VBÖ Austroalarm  
VSÖ

## **BELGIUM**

3M  
ALIA Security  
UTC Fire & Security EMEA BVBA

## **BULGARIA**

NAFOTS  
Teletek Electronics YSC

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

AGA  
UTC

## **DENMARK**

SikkerhedsBranchen

## **FINLAND**

Innohome  
Schneider Electric Fire & Security Oy

## **FRANCE**

Carrier  
COFRAS  
DEF  
European Systems Integration  
FFMI  
GESI  
GPMSE

## **GERMANY**

BHE  
Bosch Sicherheitssysteme GmbH  
EUSAS  
Hekatron Vertriebs GmbH  
Wagner Group GmbH  
ZVEI / FV Sicherheit

## **GREECE**

G4S

## **ITALY**

ANIE Sicurezza

## **NETHERLANDS**

Federatie Veilig Nederland  
Kiwa FSS Products

## **NORWAY**

Autronica Fire and Security AS  
NORALARM

## **PORTUGAL**

APSEI

## **ROMANIA**

ARTS

## **SPAIN**

AES  
TECNIFUEGO-AESPI  
Verisure

## **SWEDEN**

SäkerhetsBranchen

## **SWITZERLAND**

Securiton AG  
SES  
Siemens  
Swiss Securitas Group

## **UNITED KINGDOM**

BSIA  
Drax Technology  
Eaton Electrical Products Limited  
FIA  
Halma plc  
Honeywell Security (UK) Ltd  
Johnson Controls Industries (JCI)  
Vanderbilt



Euralarm represents the fire safety and security industry, providing leadership and expertise for industry, market, policy makers and standards bodies.

Our members make society safer and secure through systems and services for fire detection, extinguishing, intrusion detection, access control, video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centres.

**euralarm**



[www.euralarm.org](http://www.euralarm.org)