

# **The BSI guide to standardization**

## **Section 3: British Standards standardization policies**

### **Part 5: Inclusion of small and medium sized enterprises**

#### **STANDARDIZATION POLICY STATEMENT**

##### **INCLUSION OF SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES**

###### **1. POLICY STATEMENT**

In developing new British Standards, Technical Committees shall consider the applicability of the standard to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Without undermining the performance, safety or other intended outcomes of the standard, standards shall not include clauses that (inadvertently or otherwise) discriminate against competent SMEs, active in the field of application of the standard, such that the size of an organization alone is a barrier to the standard's effective implementation.

Draft standards that are shown not to meet these policy requirements shall be subject to special approval by BSI Senior Management, in consultation with SPSC and/or the SPSC SME Policy Committee. British Standards and the British Electrotechnical Committee shall actively seek adoption of this policy and approach by international and European standards bodies and their Technical Committees and other groups.

###### **2. BACKGROUND AND GUIDANCE**

In line with EU and UK policies and strategies, it is appropriate for BSI and its committees to promote inclusive and accessible standardization.

Technical committees and other groups developing standards and similar documents are encouraged, therefore, to apply the policy as broadly as possible for this reason.