

## 05. COMING STANDARDS FOR TATTOO HYGIENE AND PRACTICES ACCORDING TO CEN

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In 2014, the European Committee for Standardization (C.E.N) established a European committee for tattooing services following an initiative of the German tattooist organization Deutsche organisierte Tätowierer (D.O.T) .

The scope of the committee is standardization of requirements and recommendations for the provision of safe tattooing services with a main emphasis on hygienic practice. Currently a comprehensive working draft has been produced. Later in 2017, a public enquiry phase is expected to be launched. In this phase, national committees may allow non-committee members to view and comment on the draft.

The current draft includes requirements for information to customers, i.e. informed consent, hygienic performance of tattooing, including knowledge and training, infection control, vaccination, suitable facilities as well as requirements for cleaning, disinfection and sterilization, management of waste, necessary documentation and aftercare information. In the past 24 months, national committees with diverse expertise have contributed to the future standard. In this way, the document developed into a confluence of public health, dermatological and professional tattooists interest.

The project is scheduled to complete in 2018 when national committees and member states will decide whether to adopt the standard in national practice. This will hopefully lead to having one uniform European guideline for safe tattooing practice, resulting in safer tattooing practice throughout Europe.