

## **DIN and DKE cooperate with South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) Cooperation and exchange of knowledge are to be strengthened**

**Berlin/Frankfurt, March 18, 2021** DIN and DKE have signed a memorandum of understanding with the South African standards organization SABS. The three parties hope to strengthen their close collaboration in standardization even further, and so to promote economic exchange.

### **Close economic relations**

South Africa is a promising market for German companies, as well as a gateway to other African markets in the region. In turn, Germany is a key bilateral trading partner for South Africa. “International standards are an important basis for the successful economic cooperation between our countries because they make it much easier for both German and South African companies to access the market for products and services,” explains Christoph Winterhalter, Chairman of the Executive Board at DIN.

### **Identifying technology fields**

“Together with SABS, we initially plan to identify technology fields where we want to cooperate even more closely on the development of standards,” explains Michael Teigeler, Managing Director of DKE. “That will allow us to specifically address topics about international standardization, to represent Germany’s interests and, at the same time, to further improve the economic relationship between our countries.” To this end, the organizations also plan to cooperate on research projects – the results could then pave the way for norms and standardization on the market.

### **Focus on sharing knowledge**

The cooperation agreement also includes even stronger efforts to exchange knowledge and best practices between the participating organizations. This applies to both international standardization projects and issues relating to education and training in the field of standardization, for example. As part of this initiative, DIN and DKE will also provide training measures within the development cooperation framework in order to improve the quality infrastructure in South Africa.

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### **About DIN**

The German Institute for Standardization (DIN) is the independent platform for norms and standardization in Germany and worldwide. As a partner for industry, research and society, DIN makes a major contribution to supporting the commercial viability of innovative solutions through standardization – either in topics relating to the digitalization of business and society or in the context of research projects. Around 36,000 experts from industry and research institutions, from the consumer side and the public sector contribute their expertise to the standardization process, which DIN oversees as a privately organized project manager. The results are market-oriented norms and standards that promote global trade and promote rationalization, quality assurance, the protection of society and the environment, as well as safety and understanding. For more information, visit [www.din.de](http://www.din.de).

### **About VDE DKE**

The VDE-supported DKE German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (VDE DKE) is the platform used by approximately 9,000 experts from industry, science and administration to develop norms, standards and safety regulations for electrical engineering, electronics and information technology. The goals of standards include supporting global trade and also promoting the safety, interoperability and functionality of products and plants. As a competence center for electrotechnical standardization, DKE represents the interests of German industry in European (CENELEC, ETSI) and international standards organizations (IEC). DKE also provides comprehensive services relating to standardization and the rules and regulations of VDE. For more information, visit [www.dke.de/en](http://www.dke.de/en).