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The Importance of Standardization

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Standardization plays a very essential role as it affects all spheres of human life and ensures the efficiency of economic, financial and production processes.

The history of standardization began a long time ago. Even in ancient Egypt, bricks of the same size were used in construction; at the same time, special people were engaged in controlling the size of the bricks. In the Middle Ages, with the development of crafts, standardization methods were used more and more often. In 1891, in England, and then in other countries, the standard inch thread was introduced, later it was replaced by the metric thread. In 1870, standard sizes of bricks were established in European countries.

The units of measurement were set randomly: for example, the "elbow" corresponded to the length of the scepter of Henry I; the "foot" unit of length, widely used in many countries, corresponded to the length of the foot of Charlemagne. The search for more reasonable units of measurement began long ago. In 1790, in France, a unit of length "meter" was created, equal to the ten-millionth part of a quarter of the length of the earth's meridian. However, it took 85 years before the first 17 States that took part in the International Metric Convention in 1875 in Paris agreed to adopt the meter as the unit of measurement of length.

In 1901, the Standards Committee was established in England, whose main task was to promote the strengthening of the economy by developing and implementing standards

for raw materials, industrial products, and military equipment. With the development of monopoly capitalism, standardization began to develop on an international scale. The constant expansion of international trade and the need for closer cooperation in science and technology led to the founding of the International Association for Standardization. In 1946, the International Organization for Standardization was founded in London, which included 33 countries. Currently is one of the largest international technical organizations (its members are 91 countries) [1].

In Belarus, the Law "About technical regulation and standardization" which regulates relations arising from the development, the adoption and application of technical requirements for products and processes development, production, operation, and so one. The Document is aimed at providing a unified state policy in the field of technical regulation and standardization. Such documents include technical regulations, technical codes of established practice, standards and technical conditions, and other legal acts. According to the law, the standards are divided into state (national) and standards of organizations. As for state standards, they set product requirements, implementation rules, and characteristics of production processes and other life cycle stages of making products. In addition, they determine the methods of acceptance and control, compatibility, rules for ensuring product quality, and energy efficiency. The standards may also contain requirements for terminology, symbols, packaging, labeling or labels and the rules for their application, as well as any organizational rules. Thus, the range of standardization objects is quite wide. As a result, standards are a technical language in which specialists speak and understand each other.

In the Republic of Belarus, the following standards are being developed, the type of which depends on the specifics

of the object of standardization, as well as the content of the requirements established for it. They are fundamental principles, product standards, standards for processes and standards for control methods [2].

Summing up, standardization is a tool for ensuring the quality of products and services; a guarantee of profitable, legitimate and productive relationships between economic entities. Standardization is an opportunity to save time and material resources through the use of already developed standard situations, technologies and objects; to increase the reliability, survivability of the product or the results of calculations, since the applied technical solutions have already been repeatedly tested in practice; to simplify the provision of services to the population of the state, make them of high quality and give a guarantee of safety [3].

References:

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