PROGRESSIVE

Progressive Standards around ICT for Active and Healthy Ageing

Standards play a crucial part in all our lives. They ensure that many of our products and services operate safely and properly.

But are standards that underpin products and services suitable for older people?

The question arises because more people are living longer lives.

The PROGRESSIVE Project will help make sure that standards take account of the voice of older people and contribute to the creation of environments where, as we age, we can all have better access to products and services.

Ultimately, this means older people will be more able to be active participants in our homes, our communities and our workplaces.

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Becoming older comes with challenges. These challenges can be overcome if careful attention is given to the needs of the ageing population.

This includes:

- Encouraging scientists, product managers and manufacturers to work with older people when designing their products;

- Encouraging community planners and municipal leaders to promote age-friendliness in cities, towns and villages; and

- Encouraging older people to make sure that their needs are understood when accessing services or buying products.

How will standards meet these needs in the future?

We are addressing this question in the PROGRESSIVE project by:

- **Analysing a range of standards that impact on older people.**

    ✔ Do standards contribute to 'active and healthy' ageing so that the energy, knowledge and expertise of older people are harnessed?

    ✔ Do standards reflect an understanding of older people's needs?

    ✔ How are older people involved in the standardisation process?

- **Providing on-line access to a database of standards that impact on older people including:**

  - ✔ Brief summaries and observations regarding the content of standards; and

  - ✔ How and where to obtain the standards.

- **Providing specific guides on:**

  - ✔ How standards can support age-friendly approaches (including for 'smart' homes);

  - ✔ How products and services can work better together (by being more 'interoperable'); and

  - ✔ How older people can be better involved in standardisation processes.

The PROGRESSIVE project is encouraging a new way of thinking about standards. This 'new way' takes account of older people's views and experiences. This can, through standards, help to improve the accessibility and usability of goods and services.

The PROGRESSIVE project includes a multi-stakeholder consortium with 10 partners from 6 EU member states. Four standardisation bodies are included.

- **De Montfort University (UK) Coordinator**
- **The Open University (UK)**
- **AGE Platform Europe (EU)**
- **EHTEL (EU)**
- **Telehealth Quality Group (EU)**
- **Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (IT)**
- **UNE Asociación Española de Normalización (ES)**
- **DIN German Institute for Standardisation (DE)**
- **NEN Stichting Nederlands Normalisatie Instituut (NL)**
- **UNINFO Associazione di Normazione Informatica (IT)**

Would you like to be informed or consulted about our work?

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or contact us at **info@progressivestandards.org**

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