CYBERSTAND.eu

AT DIGITAL SME SUMMIT 2024

10 DECEMBER 2024 | BRUSSELS

Author:
Text, photos and design created and compiled by Ruben Tognetti for Trust-IT Services (CYBERSTAND Communication Partner)

Shaping Europe's Cybersecurity Standards

CYBERSTAND marked its presence at the DIGITAL SME Summit 2024, demonstrating its commitment to empowering European SMEs in cybersecurity standardisation. The event, bringing together over 900 delegates from across Europe's digital ecosystem, with the convergence of policymakers, industry leaders, and SME representatives provided a strategic platform for advancing the project's mission of fostering SME participation in the development of cybersecurity standards.

The summit's focus on digital innovation and technological sovereignty created an ideal backdrop for CYBERSTAND's initiatives.

About CYBERSTAND

CYBERSTAND empowers European stakeholders to engage in the development of standards and conformity in relation to the Cyber Resilience Act (CRA). Through a combination of expert support and financial assistance, the project enables SMEs to actively participate in shaping the future of cybersecurity standards.

Key objectives:

- Support EU experts in standardisation efforts through funded participation
- Contribute to European values, ethics and policy in cybersecurity
- Foster the development of harmonised standards compliant with the CRA
- Deliver impactful events and publications to increase European influence in international cybersecurity standardisation

cyberstand.eu

# DIGITAL SME: Opening Session and Keynote Speeches

The summit opened with welcoming remarks followed by keynote speeches from European DIGITAL SME Alliance leadership and representatives from the European Economic and Social Committee, setting the tone for a day of discussions about Europe's digital future.

Panel Discussions and Expert Insights

The morning sessions featured discussions on strengthening Europe's standardisation expertise through education, bringing together experts from European institutions and standardisation bodies to explore key developments in digital standardisation.
The Q&A sessions that followed sparked engaging dialogues about regulatory frameworks and administrative requirements for SMEs, highlighting the balance needed between effective regulation and reducing bureaucratic burdens.

DIGITAL SME summit

welcoming remarks
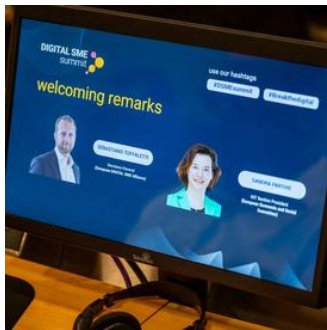
Summit Insights: A Day of Digital Innovation

The afternoon sessions addressed key issues including digital resilience and economic security. As Antonio Grasso, Public Affairs Director at European DIGITAL SME Alliance, noted during the event: "Digital Resilience and Cyber Security are core components of an overall technological leadership that can be developed by European SMEs to make Europe a digital leader globally."


Closing Remarks

Executive Vice-President Henna Virkkunen delivered an inspiring closing address, announcing €1.5 billion in investments for supercomputers and emphasising the Commission's commitment to supporting SMEs: "We are very committed to creating the best possible conditions that can boost innovations and promote trust, and also support entrepreneurship in Europe."
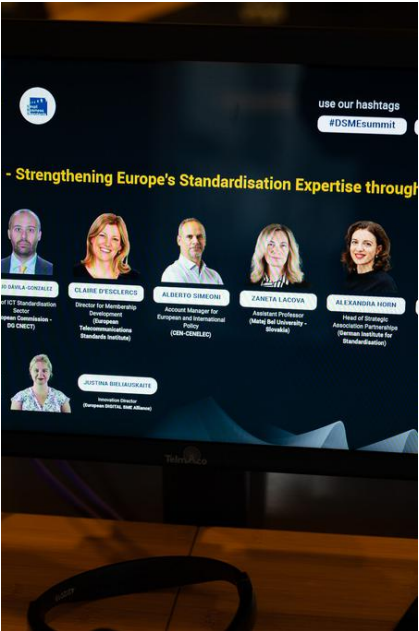
CYBERSTAND's Impact at the Summit

CYBERSTAND's presence at the summit generated significant interest from potential participants and industry experts:

- **Paolo Campegiani, Head of Innovation at Namirial,** shared insights about the long-term value of standardisation: "If you want to have a strategy that covers many years, many decades, you have to consider standardisation as a key function for your company."

- **Patricia Shields, CEO of CyberCert Labs and CYBERSTAND expert group member,** emphasised the importance of SME participation: "It's crucial that digital SMEs who are in scope for the Cyber Resilience Act get involved in the conversations about standardisation."

- **Vladlena Benson, Director of the Cybersecurity Research Innovation Center,** expressed interest in CYBERSTAND's initiatives, drawing from her extensive standardisation experience: "I've been involved with various task groups, such as with ENISA, the standard for ECSF development, the Cybersecurity Skills Framework [...] I think it would be quite a nice opportunity to join your call."

Project Showcase and Future Outlook

Throughout the DIGITAL SME Summit, CYBERSTAND's stand served as a dynamic hub of engagement, attracting interest from industry experts, SME representatives, and policymakers.
The project team actively showcased opportunities for SMEs to participate in shaping Europe's cybersecurity standards landscape through its funded expert programme.

The stand facilitated crucial conversations about standardisation challenges specific to SMEs, particularly in relation to the Cyber Resilience Act. These discussions, combined with the significant networking opportunities, have laid the groundwork for future collaborations, with several potential experts expressing interest in joining CYBERSTAND's initiatives.

As Europe moves forward with its digital transformation agenda, CYBERSTAND continues to position itself as a key enabler, ensuring that SMEs not only adapt to new cybersecurity standards but actively participate in their development.

CYBERSTAND.eu

Supporting EU experts in Cybersecurity standardisation activities

For more information
Visit cyberstand.eu

Author:

Text, photos and design created and compiled by Ruben Tognetti for Trust-IT Services (CYBERSTAND Communication Partner)

December 2024