



Regulations, Certifications and Standards

PPI Mini-training module #4



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RCS at a glance



What do we mean by it

Innovative solutions are often non-standard, do not comply with labelling or certification requirements, and sometimes also stay outside the provisions of extant legislation and regulations.

When is it important to use it

Focusing on RCS facilitates the diffusion of fully compliant products and services, thus helping to broader the market and make commercialisation prospects more sustainable. Interest in legislation and regulation is an obvious rule of behaviour for any public procurer.

Why it is important

Bearing this peculiar aspect in mind, procurers should make the best efforts (if justified by the interests at stake and the domain at hand) to reconcile tender outputs with RCS.

How it can be implemented

Standard setting bodies and labelling/certification organisms exist aplenty in all relevant domains. Whenever innovation promises to be radical, they can be contacted directly rather than only through reading their publications and then adopting their principles.



When should it be planned/implemented





Open market consultation

Tender documentation



Conducting the procedure

Monitoring and evaluating the contract performance



Managing after contract issues



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SWOT analysis



Strengths

- Framing innovative procurement within RCS gives more market prospects to its results.
- It's all about keeping informed about, monitoring and liaising with specific information sources.

Opportunities

- RCS compliance can encourage trust in the newly developed products and services.
- It can also help define/clarify the technical specifications of the envisaged solutions.

Weaknesses

- Legislation and regulation may be stringent and their provisions unavoidable.
- Certifications and standards are often esoteric topics, even for specialised experts.

Threats

- Keeping oneself updated on RCS is a time and resource consuming activity.
- In some cases they can act as straightjackets for innovation, instead of promoting it.





Consortium





















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