

# PAS 13956 project overview

A PAS is a sponsored fast-track standard that is developed through a consensus-building process facilitated by BSI Standards Limited. A PAS should not be regarded as a BS, EN or ISO standard.

<b>Identifier</b>	PAS 13956:2022
<b>Title</b>	CBD Vape Products – Product safety, quality and performance – Specification
<b>Sponsor</b>	Inter Scientific Ltd with co-sponsors, BAT, Hall Labs, Jupiter, AVID Holdings Limited, Kanabo, Labstat, Smoore, and China First Union.
<b>Project Manager</b>	Mark Jenkins ( <a href="mailto:mark.jenkins@bsigroup.com">mark.jenkins@bsigroup.com</a> )
<b>Key dates</b>	Expected date of public consultation: Aug 2022 (~4 weeks) – this date is indicative and might be subject to change
	Expected date of publication: Dec 2022 – this date is indicative and might be subject to change

## Background and aim

CBD, or cannabidiol, is the second most prevalent active ingredient in cannabis (marijuana) and can also be extracted and isolated from hemp. Market surveys show that there is a profitable, competitive, and largely unregulated CBD sector with a diverse array of retail products and strong revenue growth.

Whilst the market for tobacco-based vape products is heavily regulated, CBD vape products (CBD VP) are not subject to the same legislative requirements. For example, CBD VP can be sold to children.

In September 2019, federal and state health authorities in the USA began investigating an outbreak of a severe lung disease associated with e-cigarettes and other vaping products. The findings of the CDC in respect of the harmful effects of Vitamin E acetate in e-liquids during this outbreak have given added impetus to the development of specifications for CBD VP in the USA, the EU, and the UK.

There is a need for widely-accepted industry specifications covering the following: CBD extract and isolate methods; product purity (in relation to the levels of psychoactive THC); shelf life and storage requirements (CBD is inherently unstable); ingredients of e-liquids used in vape products; testing methods used to determine the presence and quantity of toxins; and design and manufacture of electronic vape products (e.g. e-cigarettes, vape pens, vape mods, pod mods, e-shisha, DIY e-liquid mixing kits) including the electrical circuitry implemented to protect the users from device malfunctions.

Safety requirements for vape products are only covered in the UK law by the General Product Safety Regulations 2005 (GPSR). There are no British Standards. BSI PAS Standards with scopes that include vape products are either specific to heated tobacco products (PAS 8855) or do not cover CBD vaping (PAS 54115). Given the high growth in CBD usage, this gap needs to be filled.

The PAS aims to address the quality, performance and safety issues of CBD vape products, which are excluded from the UK Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016 and are not covered by the scope of PAS 8850:2020.

Safety specifications are necessary to provide minimum expectations of producers and reassurance both to regulators and the public that product safety is maintained across batches and can be reliably demonstrated with documentary evidence.

Product quality and performance specifications are necessary to allow both regulators and the public access to test methodologies and clear acceptance criteria for CBD VP.

### **Draft Scope**

This PAS specifies performance requirements and quality specifications for CBD vape products inclusive of formulations and devices. The PAS covers:

- quality systems for CBD vape producers;
- raw materials and quality standards;
- electrical safety and basic performance;
- vape product quality and analysis;
- labelling and packaging; and
- vigilance and event reporting.

This PAS establishes qualitative and quantitative criteria for CBD vape products and is intended for CBD vape product manufacturers and those involved in the supply chain of such products.

Safety and quality specifications are necessary to provide minimum expectations of producers and reassurance both to regulators and the public that product safety is maintained across batches and can be reliably demonstrated with documentary evidence.

Product performance specifications are necessary to allow both regulators and the public access to test methodologies and clear acceptance criteria for CBD vaping products.

This PAS does not cover:

- electronic cigarettes;
- the effect of vaping to public health;
- medicinal products containing CBD;
- non-tobacco containing e-cigarette products within the scope of PAS 54115; and
- heated tobacco products covered within the scope of PAS 8850.

*NOTE This PAS maintains technological neutrality through its requirements for producers. This means that products falling into the category of CBD Vape products PAS 13956 can conform, irrespective of their particular design or technology. In this way it also aims to prevent restricting innovation and emerging technologies.*

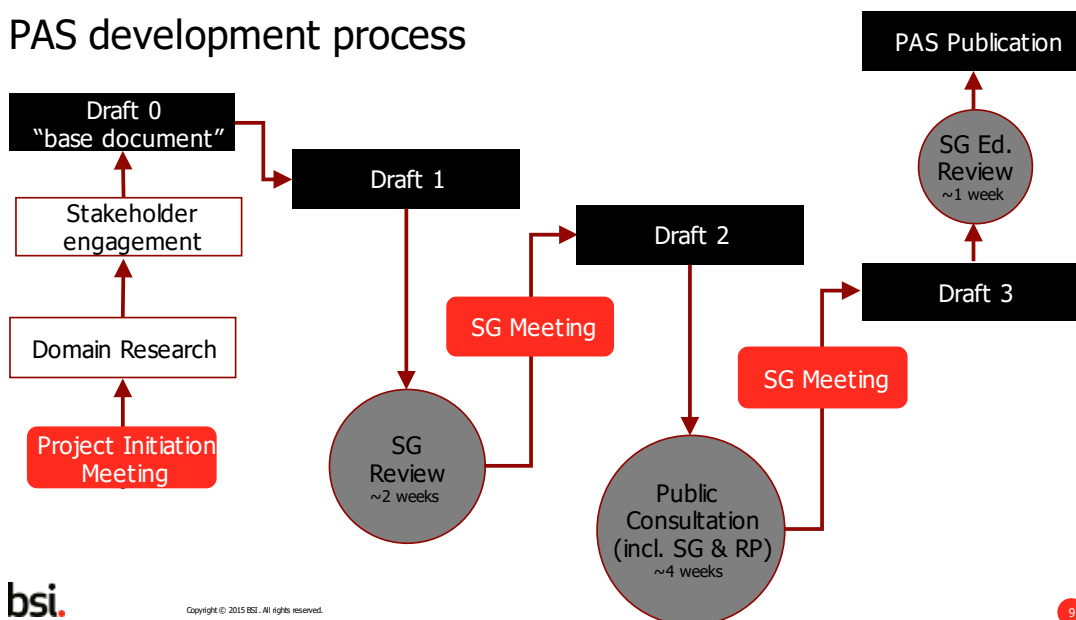
### **Responsibilities of the Review Panel (RP)**

The RP is a wide formation of organizations and individuals representing those stakeholder groups that may be affected by the implementation of a PAS, even if only peripherally affected. Consultation with the RP is vital in terms of building consensus in the development of a PAS.

RP members will be invited to submit comments electronically during a public consultation via the BSI's Standards Development Website <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/> in August 2022 (this date is indicative and might be subject to change). **There are no RP meetings.**

Due to the time constraints of the project, comments received after the deadline or in any format other than online via BSI's Standards Development Website cannot be considered.

### PAS development process



<b>SG</b>	steering group (8 to 15 stakeholders)
<b>RP</b>	review panel (including targeted stakeholders)
<b>SG Review</b>	draft is made available to SG only, for technical review
<b>Public consultation</b>	draft is made publicly available for technical review through BSI's Standards Development Website <a href="https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/">https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/</a>
<b>SG Ed. Review</b>	draft is made available to SG only, for final (editorial) review
<b>SG Meeting</b>	meeting where comments are resolved by the steering group members