

Topic: Construction Products Regulation - Review

Brief description and main aims:

The Construction Products Regulation (CPR) 305/2011 regulates the placing on the EU market of construction products. Amongst other things, CE Marking is applied to products in the framework of harmonised standards and a Declaration of Performance is required to accompany the product.

A revision of the CPR was already envisaged by the European Commission and this intention has been repeated in the recently published European Green Deal with some more detail in the new Circular Economy Action Plan (see separate fact sheet).

Why FIEC is dealing with this topic:

The CE Mark in the context of the CPR is widely misunderstood and contractors need more information than is provided in the accompanying Declaration of Performance. Over the years, FIEC has been lobbying for improvements to protect contractors from the legal uncertainty that exists and there have been discussions regarding a possible revision of the CPR. The form that this might take has been the subject of many meetings and several studies have been undertaken. Another one has been announced for 2020. Latest information indicates that the timescale for revision is too long to solve the problems that contractors are experiencing with the existing CPR and therefore, FIEC is working with other relevant federations on a proposal for interim technical solutions.

Actions and key dates (most recent):

28/06/2019 – FIEC-EBC-SBS-CPE Joint Declaration on Standardisation

October 2019 - Survey among Member States and CPR Review Technical Platform Members

Ongoing – Bi-annual meetings of Standing Committee on Construction

December 2019 - Commission “non-paper”- containing unofficial proposals for way forward

April 2020 – joint technical proposal for interim solutions from FIEC, European Builders Confederation, Small Business Standards and Construction Products Europe.

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CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS REGULATION (CPR): ENSURE THAT IT WORKS IN PRACTICE

WHY?

- CPR does not achieve legal certainty for contractors, because there are **regulatory gaps** increasing contractors' liability risks.
- More than **100 harmonised European standards** under the CPR have been **blocked for citation in the Official Journal** of the European Union by the European Commission. This is creating major problems for users.

OUR MESSAGES AND REQUESTS TO THE EU INSTITUTIONS

- The Commission, together with the Member States in the Standing Committee on Construction must ensure that **regulatory gaps are compensated for**, if necessary by national rules.
- The Commission needs to find rapid solutions to **eliminate the backlog of uncited standards** so that they can be relied upon, ensuring **legal certainty**.