



CE MARKING - DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE



All manufacturers selling construction products in the European Economic Area (the EU and EFTA but excluding Switzerland) must demonstrate that their products comply with the requirements of the Construction Products Directive. In most countries CE marking is the only way to demonstrate compliance. In some countries (see box) it is possible to demonstrate national compliance in other ways, but for most companies it will still be easier to demonstrate compliance through the CE mark. The CE mark is the 'passport' to enable a product to be sold in all EEA countries.

From October 2002 CE marking for geotextile or geotextile related products was mandatory in most of the EEA. CE marking will become mandatory for geosynthetic barrier products in most of the EEA. All construction products will eventually be covered by the directive. Please contact us for more details.

WHAT IS IT, AND WHY DO I HAVE TO DO IT?

CE Marking is not mandatory in the following countries: U.K., Finland, Sweden, Portugal and the Republic of Ireland.

BUT:

Manufacturers must show compliance with the Construction Products Directive by other means.

The responsibilities of Manufacturers and Notified Bodies vary according to the product group (Mandate) under consideration. The text to the right applies to geotextiles and geosynthetics. Please contact us for details of the requirements for other product groups

What do I have to do?

The manufacturer is responsible for affixing the CE mark. In order to be CE Marked a product must have the Manufacturers Declaration of Conformity and a Certificate of Factory Production Control.

Manufacturer Declaration of Conformity: This document contains the value of the performance characteristics together with the tolerance levels. It is the manufacturer's responsibility to test (with or without the use of an external laboratory) and declare these values.

Certificate of Factory Production Control: The factory production and control system is established and maintained by the manufacturer but audited and inspected by an external Notified Body such as BTTG. Once the FPC system has been audited a Certificate of Factory Production Control is issued for each product manufactured under the approved system. Routine surveillance will also be necessary.

What tests do I have to perform?

The tests (and hence characteristic values) are determined by the relevant Harmonised European Standards (hEN) or European Technical Approvals for the product to be tested. National standards apply where there are no harmonised standards or ETAs. Please contact us for details. We are willing to assist customers with the process.

Does CE Marking replace all other Quality Marks?

No. The CE mark is not a quality mark. It signifies that the product complies with the requirements of the Construction Products Directive, but it does not define the performance level that can be expected from the product.

OK. Where do I start?

Contact us for further assistance.



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HIGH PERFORMANCE MATERIALS

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