

Specific Certification Rules for Construction Products (CPR)



Scientific and technical centre of the Belgian Textile Industry

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1 Introduction

The European Construction Products Regulation (CPR) declares that CE-marking is mandatory for a number of textile products used in construction. With the CE-marking, the manufacturer attests that the product is in conformity with the applicable technical harmonized specifications. The conditions to which these products must comply are described in the corresponding harmonized standards. There are several attestation systems:

- 1: Product certification with type examination, initial and follow-up audits
- 3: Type examination
- 4: Declaration by the manufacturer

For system 1, the intervention of a notified body is required to issue a certificate of constancy of performance. Centexbel is notified body number 0493.

2 Definitions

See general certification rules

3 Certification procedure

3.1 Initial type examination

Tests shall be performed on samples that are part of the defined product families and that can be defined as the extremities of the product family. The sampling shall be carried out by CENTEXBEL / CENTEXBEL Services. When the test results comply with the technical requirements described in the standard, the product certifier shall decide to proceed to an initial FPC audit.

3.2 Initial FPC audit

After consulting the applicant, the initial FPC audit is performed. An FPC checklist serves as guidance for the audit and is based on the directives defined by the Group of Notified Bodies for the Construction Products Regulation **305/2011** 'Check list for inspection and surveillance of FPC'.

The FPC auditor drafts an initial audit report and submits it to the applicant and to the product certifier.

If no immediate corrective actions are required, the product certifier shall submit a proposal of decision concerning the envisaged product families to the certification manager of CENTEXBEL.

In the event of missing pieces, the product certifier shall request the applicant to provide them. For this, CENTEXBEL applies a maximum period of 6 months. If CENTEXBEL has not received the missing pieces within 6 months, the files shall automatically be put on hold and the reopening of the file after these 6 months will lead to a new certification cost (ISO 17065 \$7.4). Only when a favourable response is given, the product certifier will draft a proposal to issue the certificate of type examination which he will submit to the certification manager.

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3.3 FPC Follow-up audit

Every year following the initial audit, CENTEXBEL/CENTEXBEL Services shall contact the certificate holder to carry out a FPC follow-up audit to monitor the production process regarding the quality of the product families. An FPC checklist serves as guidance for the audit and is based on the directives defined by the Group of Notified Bodies for the Construction Products Regulation 305/2011 'Check list for inspection and surveillance of FPC'.

The FPC auditor drafts an initial audit report and submits it to the applicant and to the product certifier.

During the audit, it is verified which reports are no long valid, whether the product family has been extended or whether any changes have been made to the products. In these cases, samples are required by the auditor for testing. For these samples, an application form for a renewed verification is filled in. The samples shall be registered to perform testing by the burning behaviour lab of Centexbel or any other ISO 17025 lab.

If the renewed verification shows that the envisaged fire class for the product family is obtained, the product certifier shall draft a proposal to reissue the certificate of constancy of performance including any modifications to the description of the product family as will be indicated during the FPC follow-up audit. The certification manager will take the certification decision and sign.

If the renewed verification shows that the requested quality does not comply with the set criteria of the certificate of constancy of performance, the applicant will be notified thereof by telephone and in writing and requested to take a number of measures. Depending on the nature of non-conformity, a time span shall be communicated during which the non-conformity shall be solved.

In the event of modifications to a product family, it shall be verified whether the test results of a full test on the extremities of the product families are available. In this case, the modification of the product family can be carried out without performing extra tests. During the annual verifications, it is preferential to also test one of the new products. In the event of an extension of the product family, the new extremities shall be fully tested prior to the issuing of a certificate for the extended product family.

3.4 Certification report

On demand of the client, a certification report can be issued. This document displays the following information of a certain product family:

- Description of the product family
- Obtained class
- Trade names within the product family
- Test reports on which the classification is based

This is not an official type examination report.