



Guidance Document

July 2013

## **C E MARKING – ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS**

### **Q1 Do MCRMA member companies comply with the Construction Products Regulations?**

Member companies within the Metal Cladding and Roofing Manufacturers Association (MCRMA) recognise and understand the requirements set out in the Construction Products Regulations 2011 (CPR) and where applicable issue or affix a CE mark to all individual products or component parts that form part of a recognised system

### **Q2 Do all construction products have to carry a CE mark?**

No, only products subject to a harmonised European standard known as a hEN are obliged to carry a CE mark.

### **Q3 If a product carries a CE mark will it be more expensive than the same category of product without a CE mark?**

If the product category is covered by a harmonised European Standard then all products in that category must carry a CE mark and therefore affixing a CE mark will not add any differential cost to the product

### **Q4 If a construction product doesn't carry a CE mark does it mean that the product is inferior?**

No, it generally means that there isn't a harmonised European standard or ETA available for the product. In most cases the product will conform to a national standard and the manufacturing company will have detailed QA records. However, you must ensure that the product is fit for purpose.

### **Q5 Is a CE mark product specific?**

Yes, the hEN will describe the product, set out the performance standards which it has to meet including any testing and evaluation and also detail the information which has to be issued with the product as part of the CE mark.

### **Q6 Can a CE mark be applied to a product through any other approval system?**

Yes, a CE mark can be applied to a product if the manufacturer or distributor has obtained a European Technical Approval (ETA) based on a Common Understanding and Assessment Procedure (CUAP).

**Q7 If a manufacturer or distributor has an ETA for a product based on a CUAP does he have to apply a CE mark to the product?**

Yes, if the manufacturer or distributor has an ETA in place for a product covered by a CUAP then a CE mark has to be affixed to the product.

**Q8 If a manufacturer or distributor does not have an ETA in place for a product can he affix a CE mark to the product?**

No, if an ETA is not in place for the product then the manufacturer or distributor may not affix a CE mark to the product because the process is not obligatory.

**Q9 Is it mandatory for a manufacturer or distributor to obtain an ETA for a product covered by a CUAP?**

No, obtaining an ETA against a CUAP is voluntary.

**Q10 Does a composite panel have to comply with a hEN?**

Yes a composite panel is covered by EN 14509.

**Q11 Do roofing and/or cladding sheets have to comply with a hEN?**

Yes, roofing and/or cladding sheets are covered by EN14782.

**Q12 Are the other components which are associated with composite panels and twin skin systems such as fasteners, sealant, rooflights etc covered by EN14509 or EN14782?**

No, the associated products may be covered by their own hEN or ETA or in some cases they are not covered at all and therefore cannot be CE marked.

**Q13 How can I establish if products used within roofing and cladding assembly require a CE mark?**

Contact the manufacturer or distributor for the product via the MCRMA web site or contact the MCRMA directly for advice.

**Q14 Where is the most likely place for me to find a CE mark on a roofing or cladding product?**

It depends upon the product. For small items it could be affixed to the box or packaging and for large item it may be affixed directly to the product. However, it is most likely to be included or attached to the delivery note. In some cases there may be a need to follow the instructions accompanying the delivery note which will lead you to the information on the company web site.

**Q15 Who should I contact if I suspect that a construction product should have a CE mark but I cannot find evidence of the mark?**

Trading Standards administer the Construction Products Regulations and the affixing of a CE mark to the product. Details of your local trading Standards office can be found at <http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/advice/index.cfm>

**Q16 Will a CE mark provide me with a guarantee?**

A CE mark indicates that the product meets with a recognised and regulated European standard or assessment process; it does not offer any additional guarantee.

**Q17 Who should I contact if I suspect that a construction product is carrying a CE mark that is not correct or false?**

Trading Standards administer the Construction Products Regulations and the affixing of a CE mark to the product. Details of your local Trading Standards office can be found at <http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/advice/index.cfm>

**Q18 Should I only specify construction products which carry a CE mark?**

If a product is covered by a hEN then the manufacturer is obliged to affix a CE mark. However, it generally means that there isn't a harmonised European standard or ETA available for the product. In most cases the product will conform to a national standard and the manufacturing company will have detailed QA records. However, you must ensure that the product is fit for purpose.

**Q19 Does a rooflight have to comply with a harmonised standard?**

In plane rooflights should comply with EN 1013 after the standard is published. Barrel rooflights are dealt with in BS EN 14963:2006 and dome rooflights are dealt with in BS EN 1873.

**Q20 Are fasteners for composite panels and twin skin cladding systems dealt with in the same harmonised standard?**

No, fasteners for composite panels are covered within CUAP 06.02/12 and fasteners for twin skin cladding systems are covered within CUAP 06.02/07.

**Q21 I have been informed that a composite panel is the only roofing and cladding system that can be CE marked. Is this true?**

No, this is not true. The CE marking of a composite panel is covered by BS EN 14509 but the associated products which make up the total system, such as the fasteners and rooflights, are dealt with by their own harmonised product standard or CUAP.

As for the sealants used to weatherproof the joints between panels during the construction phase, these cannot be CE marked because currently there is no harmonised standard or specialist CUAP for the product.

**Q22 I have been informed that twin skin roofing or cladding systems cannot be CE marked. Is this true?**

A twin skin roofing and cladding system is made up of many different component parts and the nature of the system is such that specialist CUAPs or harmonised standards have been developed for the individual components to ensure that they meet their specific needs.

Roof and wall cladding sheets are covered by BS EN 14782; in plane rooflights are covered by EN1013; fasteners are dealt with in CUAP 06.02/07 and spacers are addressed in CUAP 04.01/12. In addition, insulation is dealt with in EN 13162:2008 and, as with composite panels; there is no harmonised standard or specialist CUAP for sealant.

### **Q23 Where can I get more information about CE marking?**

Information is available from the European Organisation for Technical Approvals (EOTA) at <http://www.eota.be/en-gb/content/what-is-eota/2/>

A useful guide to CPR is available from the Construction Products Association which can be downloaded at <http://www.constructionproducts.org.uk/publications/industry-affairs/display/view/construction-products-regulation/>

### **Q24 Where can I find more information about current hEN's and the products they cover?**

All current hEN's are listed in the Official Journal of the European Union which can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/european-standards/harmonised-standards/construction-products/>

## **GLOSSARY**

CPR	Construction Products Regulation
CUAP	Common Understanding of Assessment Procedures
hEN	harmonised European Standard
ETA	European Technical Assessment
DoP	Declaration of Performance

## **FURTHER GUIDANCE**

If you cannot find the answer to your question here, please contact MCRMA on 01633 895633 or via the technical hotline on the MCRMA web site at <http://www.mcrma.co.uk/contact.htm>

## **MCRMA DISCLAIMER**

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