

## CE Marking

The concept behind CE marking is to allow a product to be produced that can be sold anywhere in the European Union and the European Free Trade Association states:

The 28 members of the EU

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Republic of (EIRE), Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

The 5 members of the EFTA

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, and Turkey



At the top level of the CE marking regulations are nearly 30 directives, the directives are all mandatory and they refer to various underlying standards. The standards themselves have been developed by standards agencies themselves made up from industry experts in the area to which the standard refers. The result is a standard which has been written to harmonise the various national standards, creating a single standard which is acceptable to all concerned, thus allowing easier approval of any product across the entire EU marketplace.

With many countries having already adopted the CE marking system and with other countries waiting to join the system the resulting purchasing power is immense. There are in excess of 504 million potential customers for any product approved to the CE standard, this number of potential customers by far exceeds the 320 million potential number if the product were approved to the equivalent US standard.

## Construction Product Regulation

Between the 1st July 2013 and the 1st July 2014 the EU Construction Products Regulations came into effect.



A product with a CE mark ensures that the product has met the safety, health and environment requirements for a product of its type. In order to do so for construction products using EN1090 as an example:

- A Factory Production Control Certificate must be issued by a Notified Body.
- A Welding Certificate must be issued by a Notified Body.
- A EC Declaration of Conformity (DoP) must be issued by the manufacturer.
- The product must have CE marking applied to it.

The Construction Products Regulation **EU 305/2011** covers the requirements for manufacturers, importers and distributors of such products:

### **Notified Body**

To be able to apply CE marking to construction products a Notified body must be involved. The notified body will:

Conduct an initial inspection of the factory production control system to the applicable standard. This will normally involve a qualified person visiting the production facility and verifying that a robust system is in place to ensure that all product will meet the standards applicable.

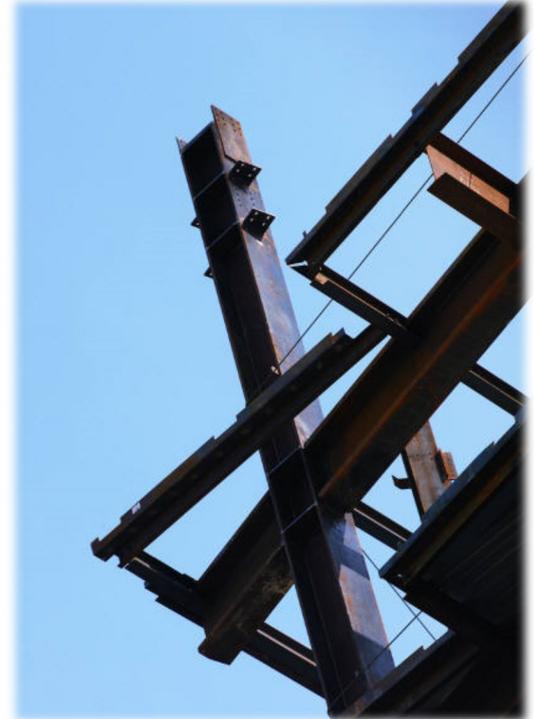
Carry out continuous surveillance of the factory production control system. Normally by ongoing yearly visits to ensure that the systems initially witnessed remain in place, are not significantly altered, are being adhered to, and remain effective.

The notified body will issue a Factory Production Control Certificate all being well.

### **Manufacturer**

To meet the requirements of the Construction Product Regulations a manufacturer must:

- Identify and interpret the applicable standards.
- Establish and maintain a production control system to the applicable standards, and the requirement of the CPR
- Carry out testing / have testing done (if required)
- Select a competent notified body to carry out an appropriate conformity assessment
- Prepare technical information as evidence of product compliance to the directives
- Issue a declaration of performance



### **Assistance CEM can provide to manufacturers**

- Identification and interpretation of the applicable standards
- Provide gap analysis
- Conduct a pre factory production control system assessment
- Review of technical information
- Conduct a factory production control assessment
- Provide training on the standard
- Assist in any other way possible.