

This document has not been adopted or endorsed by the European Commission. It may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the Commission and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Summary of the third Technical Platform, 14.03.2017

Information flows and needs within the supply chain

The CPR Technical Platforms are a series of meetings organised as a follow-up to the Report on the implementation of the CPR adopted on 07.07.2016 ([COM/2016/0445 final](#)).

They are organised by the services of the EU Commission (DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, Directorate Industrial Transformation and Advanced Value Chains - Unit Clean Technologies and Products).

The CPR Technical Platforms aim at providing an opportunity for interested stakeholders to present their views and have informal discussions on specific issues relating to the CPR implementation and the legislative framework applicable to construction products.

The discussion focused on the information system and common technical language at the core of the CPR system. The following questions were considered in particular: is the necessary information available? Is the manner of delivery compatible with the recipients' ways of using this data? Is the information provided timely and in the appropriate contexts? Are the users of the system overcrowded by unnecessary data / documentation?

The discussion considered the perspective of various stakeholders concerned as well as the costs and burdens incurred by the information system. It first related to current information needs before considering potential steps forward.

Views expressed by stakeholders:

1. Current information needs

- Information is not only needed about products but also about their use, i.e. their installation (for which the info needs to reflect the test conditions) as well as on environmental implications.
- Is the problem the quality of the manufacturers' instructions or in the way those are (not) read by installers? It was suggested to consider the problem at educational level.
- A requirement to produce more information is a burden for small manufacturers and should be avoided. At the same time, contractors who do not find information on installation also bear additional costs through delays; regarding the educational side of the problem, how could this be mitigated? Is there a forum to involve contractors in installation issues?
- The industry would be happy to produce data if they knew someone would use it, but often there is simply no interest in the information.
- National approaches are not necessarily seen as barriers to trade.

- The discussion shows that the CPR is too much subject to interpretation and that clarifications are needed.
- Regarding Building Information Modelling (BIM), present work so far has been too much based on ISO standards, which are not necessarily favourable to European interests.

2. Potentials steps forward

- Under the CPR, the provision of information on installation is the responsibility of the manufacturers, for which the Declaration of performance (DoP) and accompanying documents should suffice. Information on test conditions is detailed in the testing standards. Wider information systems could be useful for authorities but should not become a burden for manufacturers and a barrier to trade.
- EOTA stated its intention to expand the scope of their activities to additional product aspects to reply to the needs for additional information.
- In the views of EOTA, installation guidance could be an optional additional document to ETA. It could also concern either a product family or be tailor-made for a specific product.
- A digital platform is under development in EOTA, including translation and open access to any user.
- In the field of construction products, harmonisation is already there through the common technical language, the only challenge is to go digital, contrarily to other sectors which have already taken that step but are not harmonised. There could be many possible ways to convert DoPs into digital format and create IT systems for construction products. The test phase for "smart CE marking" focusses on a bottom-up approach using existing DoPs and is currently being finalised.
- The Commission has initiated a study, with the objective to support digitalisation in construction, including the uptake of BIM, with particular focus on SMEs and micro-enterprises.
- The EC services intend to launch a survey on information needs that will also contribute to the future evaluation and impact assessment. The Commission asked all stakeholders to provide any feedback on the proposed Survey questions in the background document (distributed in advance of the Technical Platform meeting) and to promote participation in the Survey.

Participants -----

IAPMEI - Agência para a Competitividade e Inovação, PT
FIEC - European Construction Industry Federation
Ministry of Economy and Development, EL
Deutsches Institut für Bautechnik (DIBt)
Federal office for Buildings and Logistics FBL, CH
Transport, Construction and Housing Authority, DK
Ministry of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic, SK
EMO European Mortar Industry Organisation
Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, NL
Agence Qualité Construction, FR
UEPG European Aggregates Association
PU Europe Federation of European Rigid Polyurethane Foam Associations
GNB-CPR Technical Secretariat provided by Danish Technological Institute
Boverket, Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, SE
CEBC Consortium of European Building Control
EPPA IVZW European PVC Window Profile and Related Building Products Association
Association of the European Adhesive & Sealant Industry (FEICA)
Ministry of Economy, BE
EOTA
Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing, CZ
NEN Normalisatie en normen, NL
COBATY International
Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, EE
BMWFW Bundesministerium für Wissenschaft, Forschung und Wirtschaft, AT
EOTA / DIBt
Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, SI
EuroWindow AISBL
EuPC European Plastic Converters
Ministry of Industry and Trade, CZ
German Confederation of Skilled Crafts / German Construction Confederation
Efectis France (GNB CPR)
Ministry of the Environment, FI
Comité Européen de l'Outillage e.V. (CEO)
Transport and Construction Agency, DK
European Association for Passive Fire Protection
Austrian Institute of Construction Engineering (OIB)
CPE Construction Products Europe
Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, SE
Norwegian Building Authority, NO
Eurogypsum
EBC/SBS
Ministero Interno, IT
Ministry of the Interior, NL
Ministry of infrastructure and construction, PL
EC CEN Consultant
Ministry of Regional Development and Public Work, BG
Instytut Techniki Budowlanej
Industrieverband Klebstoffe e.V.
BRE