



Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 (CPR) and its mechanisms and potential consequences on environmental and sustainability tools in the construction sector

57th LCA Discussion Forum

2 December 2014

**Andreas J. Bossenmayer, Dep. Head of Unit Construction Products,
Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics, Fellerstrasse 21, 3003 Bern**



Contents

- 1. Provisions of the CPR (Regulation (EU) No 305/2011)**
- 2. MRA**
- 3. Essential characteristics of products and Basic Requirements for construction works**
- 4. Basic Works Requirements (BWR)**
- 5. CE marking**
- 6. Declaration of Performance (DoP)**
- 7. Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) and European Technical Assessments (ETAs)**
- 8. Essential characteristics related to BWR3 and BWR7 in hENs ?**



Provisions of the CPR (Regulation (EU) No 305/2011, Construction Products Regulation) (1)

The CPR lays down conditions for the placing or making available on the market of construction products by establishing harmonised rules

- on how to express the performance of those products in relation to their essential characteristics
- and on the use of CE marking on the products.



Provisions of the CPR (2)

The CPR does not apply to Switzerland,

- **but equivalent legislation on construction products in Switzerland since 1 October 2014**
- **Its operation and tools are in principle the same.**



MRA

Bilateral Agreement with the EU

- Chapter on the mutual recognition of conformity assessment (MRA): construction products were incorporated into the MRA in March 2008.
- Provisions of the chapter are to be adjusted to the revised legislation on construction products in the EU (CPR) and Switzerland.



Essential characteristics of products and Basic Requirements for construction works

- The **essential characteristics of products** and the methods for assessing their performance
 - shall be related to the Basic Requirements for construction works set out in Annex I of the CPR
 - shall be laid down in harmonised technical specifications (harmonised European standards (hEN) and European Assessment Documents (EAD)).
- The **Basic Requirements for construction works** constitute the basis for the preparation of hENs and EADs.



Basic Works Requirements (BWR)

1. **Mechanical resistance and stability**
2. **Safety in case of fire**
3. **Hygiene, health and the environment**
4. **Safety and accessibility in use**
5. **Protection against noise**
6. **Energy economy and heat retention**

NEW:

7. **Sustainable use of natural resources**



CE Marking

- **CE marking has to be affixed to those construction products for which the manufacturer has drawn up a Declaration of Performance (DoP).** But also: CE marking only for products with a DoP (Art. 8 (2) CPR).
- By affixing the CE marking, the manufacturer takes responsibility for the conformity of the product with the declared performance and all other requirements laid down in the CPR and other relevant EU legislation (Art. 8 (2) CPR).
- **CE marking shall be the only marking** which attests conformity of the product with the declared performance in relation to the essential characteristics covered by the relevant hEN or ETA (Art. 8 (3) CPR).
- CE marking is not mandatory for Swiss market.



Declaration of Performance (DoP) (1)

- **If a construction product is covered by a harmonised standard or conforms to a European Technical Assessment (ETA), the manufacturer has to draw up a DoP when the product is placed on the market (Art. 4 (1) CPR).**
- In the “harmonised sphere” (covered by hEN or ETA), **information** in any form about the performance of the construction product in relation to its essential characteristics, as defined in the applicable harmonised technical specification, **may be provided only if included and specified in the declaration of performance** (Art. 4 (2) CPR).



Declaration of Performance (DoP) (2)

- As a consequence, information about the performance of the construction product in relation to its essential characteristics which relate to BWR3 and BWR7 also has to be provided in the DoP.
- Concerning environmental and sustainability essential characteristics relating to BWR3 and BWR7, the existing hENs are to be completed by establishing harmonised rules on how to express the performance in order to enable manufacturers to declare the respective performances in a DoP.
- In the meantime: Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) and ETAs can be established.



Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) and ETAs

- Recital 56 CPR: “For the assessment of the sustainable use of resources and of the impact of construction works on the environment Environmental Product Declarations should be used when available.”
- EPDs are non-mandatory tools as well as ETAs.
- A manufacturer may also request an ETA to cover BWR3 and BWR7 essential requirements. In this case, the performances are to be declared in a DoP (Art. 4 CPR).



Essential characteristics related to BWR3 and BWR7 in hENs ?

- Under discussion in Europe: Amendments of hEN mandates to CEN in order to extend the rules of the product standards to BWR7.
- EN 15804 provides a framework for calculating the environmental impacts for a core set of indicators along the different stages in the construction product's life cycle.
- If harmonised rules on how to express the performance of construction products in relation to their essential characteristics related to BWR3 and BWR7 can be established, i.e. by integrating product related indicators of EN 15804 in the existing hENs, the product performances will have to be declared in a DoP.



Thank you !





Contact

Andreas Bossenmayer

Attorney at Law, Administration Scientist (Intern. Affairs)
Dep. Head of Unit Construction Products
Federal Department of Finance FDF
Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics FBL
Construction Products Unit

Fellerstrasse 21, CH-3003 Bern

Phone: +41-(0)58-46 28 160

Mail: andreasj.bossenmayer@bbl.admin.ch

Web: <http://www.bbl.admin.ch/themen/03309>