

One of a series of short briefings on timber technology produced by the towards Adhesive-Free Timber Buildings (AFTB) research project. The project is co-funded by Interreg NWE, 2016-2020. The purpose of this report is to summarize the administrative process that should be followed by a manufacturer when marketing new adhesive-free timber products.

Construction Products Regulation

The *Construction Products Regulation (CPR, Regulation (EU) No 305/2011)* governs the marketing and guarantees the free movement of construction products in the European Economic Area by establishing harmonized rules. The Regulation provides a common technical language to assess the performance of construction products. It ensures that reliable information is available to professionals, public authorities, and consumers, and that the products enable construction works to meet a number of essential basic requirements.

Basic Requirements for Construction Works

1. Mechanical resistance and stability
2. Safety in case of fire
3. Hygiene, health and environment
4. Security in use
5. Protection against noise
6. Energy saving and thermal insulation
7. Sustainable use of natural resources

Whether a product meets these requirements is stated as its 'declared performance'.

CE Marking

The CE marking indicates that a product is in conformity with its declared performance. Affixing this CE marking on all marketed construction products is mandatory and thus a manufacturer is obliged to draw up a *Declaration of Performance (DoP)* for each product. This can be done following one of these two ways:

- ✓ The product is assessed according to a *harmonised European standard (hEN)*, if the construction product is covered by such a standard.

More information about the harmonised European standards can be found on the European website : https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/construction/product-regulation/harmonised-standards_en

- ✓ If it is not (or insufficiently) covered by an *hEN*, a *European Technical Assessment (ETA)* is issued for the construction product.

The Adhesive Free Engineered Wood Products (*AF EWP*) are not covered by any harmonised European Standard and so a European Technical Assessment will necessarily be issued for every AF EWP placed on the market.



European Technical Assessment

The *European Technical Assessment (ETA)* is a documented assessment of the performance of a construction product, in relation to its essential characteristics.

This document is issued by a *Technical Assessment Body (TAB)*, at the request of a manufacturer and is based on a *European Assessment Document (EAD)*.



Example of an ETA

More information about the ETA can be found here : <https://www.eota.eu/en-GB/content/do-you-want-to-ce-mark-your-construction-product/18/>

European Assessment Document

An *EAD* is the documentation of the methods and criteria accepted as being acceptable for the assessment of the performance of a construction product.

It contains, at least :

- ✓ A general description of the construction product and its intended use
- ✓ The list of essential characteristics
- ✓ Methods and criteria for assessing the performance of the product
- ✓ Principles for the applicable factory production control

More information about the EAD can be found here : <https://www.eota.eu/en-GB/content/what-is-an-ead/30/>

Technical Assessment Body

TABs are designated in accordance with the Construction Products Regulation by an EU country to assess the conformity of certain products before being placed on the market.

The European Commission published a list of all these notified bodies : <https://www.eota.eu/en-GB/content/how-to-find-a-tab/55/>

Costs

The costs related to the issued *ETA* will be supported by the manufacturer that ordered the document. For example, in Belgium, the price of an *ETA* can vary between 8000 and 30000EUR depending if a similar *ETA* is already in existence.

A key aim of the project is to engage with businesses, regulators and other interested parties. Adhesive-free timber building technology could be of interest to your business. Please get in touch via the e-mail addresses below:

For more information please visit the Adhesive Free Timber Buildings (AFTB) project website <http://www.nweurope.eu/AFTB> or use the contacts.



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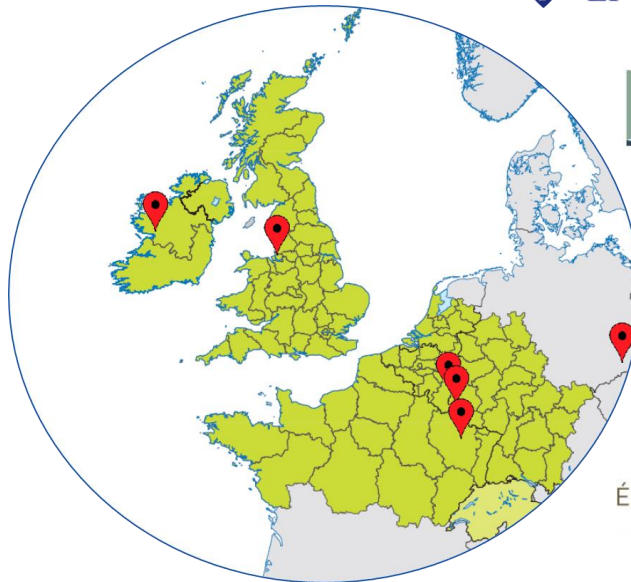
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