

TECHNICAL UPDATE 30TH JANUARY 2003

1. BSI – CEN

1.1. CE Marks

- 1.1.1. It is looking more likely that the UK will lose the argument that CE marking is voluntary and so CE marking will become mandatory.
- 1.1.2. This will mean that if there is a CE mark for a product, then only products with a CE mark will be allowed on the market.
- 1.1.3. There is more information on this on the RICS web site http://www.rics.org/building_control/ce_marking.html
- 1.1.4. DTI, BSI & CBI have initiated the development of the National Standardization Strategic Framework. Their paper is out for consultation with feedback required by 4th March 2003. I have a copy if required.

1.2. British / European Standards out for consultation

- 1.2.1. EN 492 – Fibre-Cement slates and fittings – product specification and test methods – out for UAP
- 1.2.2. EN 49- Fibre-Cement profiled sheets and fittings – product specification and test methods – out for UAP
- 1.2.3. EN 12467 - Fibre-Cement flat sheets – product specification and test methods – out for UAP
- 1.2.4. EN 12326-1: Slate and stone products for discontinuous roofing and cladding – product specification –out for UAP
- 1.2.5. EN 12326-2: Slate and stone products for discontinuous roofing and cladding – Part 2: Methods of test– out for UAP

1.3. New British Standards and Harmonised European Standards

- 1.3.1. A new BS EN 1263-2:2002 Safety Nets 'Part 2: Safety Requirements for the Positioning Limits'
- 1.3.2. BS 5250 – Code of Practice for the Control of Condensation in Buildings was published in November 2002 and can be obtained from the BSI
- 1.3.3. EN 12620:2002 - Aggregates for concrete – takes effect 01/07/03
- 1.3.4. EN 1344:2002 - Clay pavers - Requirements and test methods – takes effect 01/01/2003
- 1.3.5. EN 13502:2002 - Chimneys - Requirements and test methods for clay/ceramic flue terminals – takes effect 01/08/2003
- 1.3.6. EN 13564-1:2002 - Anti-flooding devices for buildings - Part 1 : Requirements – takes effect 01/05/2003
- 1.3.7. EN 13813:2002 - Screed material and floor screeds - Screed materials - Properties and requirements – takes effect 01/05/2003
- 1.3.8. EN 1917:2002 – Concrete manholes and inspection chambers, unreinforced, steel fibre and reinforced – takes effect 01/08/2003
- 1.3.9. EN54-3:2001/A1:2002 – Fire detection and fire Alarm systems – part 3: Fire alarm devices – Sounders– takes effect 01/04/2003
- 1.3.10. EN54-5:2000/A1:2002 - Fire detection and fire Alarm systems – part 5: Heat detectors – point detectors– 01/04/2003
- 1.3.11. EN54-7:2000/A1:2002 – Fire detection and fire alarm systems – Part 7 Smoke detectors – Point detectors using scattered light, transmitted light or ionisation – takes effect 01/04/2003

- 1.4. It is probable that that the Construction Product Directive will be revised in 2003, effective in 2004, we are advised that it should not affect industry's work at the moment. The aim is to make it easier to understand.

2. New European Directives

- 2.1. 2002/91/EC Directive on the energy performance of buildings – to be implemented by member states by January 2006

3. Building Regulations

- 3.1. Part B Fire Safety Amendments published 20/12/2002 to take effect from 1st July 2003
- 3.2. Part E Resistance to the passage of sound published 18th December 2002 to take effect 1st March 2003
- 3.3. Part C: Site preparation and resistance to contaminates and moisture – this now covers the roof and in particular roof ventilation and is out for consultation – responses required by 10th March
- 3.4. Part A Expected September 2003 – Euro Code problems
- 3.5. The ODPM has issued a new explanatory booklet on the Building Regulations, which can be downloaded from www.safety.odpm.gov.uk/bregs/brpub/br-booklet/whole.htm

- 3.6. IstructE, ICE & ODPM have launched a consultation paper on 'A scheme for Approved Persons certifying compliance with structural requirements of the Building Regulations – Details available from www.istructe.org.uk/Technical/index.asp?page=108. The closing date is 31st March

4. Health and safety

4.1. General Product Safety Directive

- 4.1.1. Out for comment soon.
- 4.1.2. If a consumer can buy a product, that product will be covered
- 4.1.3. Probably duty of merchant to pass info on to the consumer.
- 4.1.4. There is a recall clause but may be difficult to enforce on a product that has been incorporated in a building.

4.2. Proposed EU proposal on Safety of Services

- 4.2.1. Advice from Merchants may be covered.
- 4.2.2. Advice from Manufacturers about their products probably will not be covered.
- 4.2.3. Advise from consultants, designers etc, will certainly be covered.

4.3. The HSE is having a blitz on occupational health in 2003, with the main areas of concern listed below:

- 4.3.1. All Sites to have welfare facilities that comply with Reg. 22 CHSW regs.
- 4.3.2. Management arrangements to control exposure to wet cement include health surveillance where workers are exposed to cement.
- 4.3.3. Eliminate unnecessary use of hand held vibrating tools. Where not practicable risk reduction measures in place incl. Health surveillance
- 4.3.4. Introduce practical measures to avoid manual handling e.g. use mechanical handling aids in HSG 149 –'Backs For The Future'
- 4.3.5. Eliminate noise risk by design
- 4.3.6. Management controls where noise not eliminated
- 4.3.7. Asbestos Survey before starting all demolition and refurb jobs.
- 4.3.8. HSG61 lists all the occupational health advice

4.4. The CDM regulations are going to be amended next year.

- 4.4.1. Expect consultation papers in the middle of the year.

4.5. Revitalising Health and Safety in Construction

- 4.5.1. Incidence of fatal injury in construction 6X the 'all industry average'
- 4.5.2. Construction 1/3 of GB's workplace fatalities.
- 4.5.3. 900 workers and 50 members of the public killed in 10 years.
- 4.5.4. 10000 reported 'over 3-day' injuries per year.
- 4.5.5. In the Building industry 56% maintenance/ refurbishment, 14% new build.
- 4.5.6. The Ten point strategy
 - 4.5.6.1. Promote better working environments
 - 4.5.6.2. Complement a competitive knowledge driven economy
 - 4.5.6.3. Have occupational health as a priority
 - 4.5.6.4. Engage and help small firms
 - 4.5.6.5. Motivate employers
 - 4.5.6.6. Engrain a culture of self regulation
 - 4.5.6.7. Build effective partnerships
 - 4.5.6.8. Include the government leading by example
 - 4.5.6.9. Recognise the importance of education
 - 4.5.6.10. Ensure that health and safety is 'designed in'
 - 4.5.6.11. The RDBA Construction Group has passed comment.

4.6. A new HSE document has been printed 'Inspecting fall Arrest Equipment'

4.7. A new HSE document 'Use of Contractors a joint responsibility'

4.8. There will be new 'Working at Heights Regulations SI 2003 Draft' out for comment in the near future.

- 4.8.1. It will cover all industries not just construction

4.9. 'ACR[CP]001:2001 – Code of Practice for working on Roofs' This will be the recommended practice for working on large element profiled sheeted roofs and should be published in the next few months.

4.10. The Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002

- 4.10.1. The part of the legislation that covers the changes to how asbestos containing products should be handled comes into force from the 21st November 2002.
- 4.10.2. The responsibility to survey buildings comes in to force from 21st May 2004

4.11. ACOP L27 'Work with asbestos which does not normally require a license' This was published in December and can be purchased from HSE Books

4.12. ACOP L28 'Work with asbestos insulation, asbestos coating and asbestos insulating board' This was published in December and can be purchased from HSE Books

4.13. ACOP L127 "The management of asbestos in non-domestic premises" This was published in December and can be purchased from HSE Books

4.14. 'A short guide to Managing Asbestos in Premises – INDG223(rev3)' was issued on the 16th December and is available on the HSE web site.

4.15. Amendment to the control of substances hazardous to health regulations and the control of lead at work regulations - Was issued in January 2003

4.16. Cement – Construction information sheet no 26 (revision 2) was published in January 2003

4.17. INDG244 – Work place health, safety & welfare a short guide for managers – Published January 2003.

4.18. Noise at work – advice for employers - HSE, 2002. (INDG362) Replaces four existing noise leaflets,

- bringing all the generic information on noise together Available from the HSE web site.
- 4.19. Cement. Construction information sheet no.26 (revision2) HSE, 2002 published 4.12.02 - Free from HSE Books.
 - 4.20. Control of Lead at Work Regulations 2002. Approved Code of Practice and Guidance. Third edition, Published 6.12.02
 - 4.21. The Control of Substances hazardous to Health Regulations 2002. Approved Code of Practice and Guidance. Fourth edition, HSE Books, 2002. Published 6.12.02

5. Environment

- 5.1. Environmental Product Declarations (EPD): The Task Group of ISO/TC 59/SC3/WG12 is now very active.
- 5.2. . Environmental impact of buildings: This Task Group of ISO/TC 59/SC3/WG12 is also now very active.
- 5.3. Other aspects of Sustainable building: Three other standards are also being developed by ISO/TC59/SC3/WG12
 - 5.3.1. Buildings and constructed assets - Sustainable building - General principles of sustainability
 - 5.3.2. Buildings and constructed assets - Sustainable building - Terminology related to sustainability
 - 5.3.3. Buildings and constructed assets - Sustainable buildings – sustainability indicators
- 5.4. Consultation has started on Preparing an Animal Health and Welfare Strategy for Great Britain – consultation ends 3rd April 2002
- 5.5. Consultation has started on Protection of Countryside Boundary Features and Amendment of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997
 - 5.5.1. Response required by 18th April 2003
- 5.6. The ODPM has published - – it can be down loaded from their web site.
- 5.7. The ODPM has issued - Planning information: for consultation, replies required by 23/05/03 – this can be down loaded from their web site.

6. General

- 6.1. The NFRC has issued advice on 'Performance standard for butyl strip sealants in metal clad buildings.
- 6.2. The NFRC has issued advice on 'Metal Roof Systems for Slating and Tiling'