

The new Construction Products Regulation (CPR 305/2011)

As of July 1, 2013, the new Construction Products Regulation (CPR) will completely replace the Construction Products Directive (CPD) that has been in force since 1989. As a European regulation, the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) is immediately applicable in all Member States. Transposition into national law is not required. The CPR regulates the conditions concerning the marketing and provision of harmonized construction products

on the market and specifies requirements for the Declaration of Performance and the CE marking.

Construction products that have been placed on the market since July 1, 2013 must comply with the CPR. The term "marketing" is to be understood as the first market introduction of a construction product on the European market by the manufacturer, his authorized representative or the importer.

The CPR is especially distinguished from the former CPD by the Declaration of Performance, the CE marking and the assessment and verification of its constancy of performance.

The CE marking shall be affixed based on a Declaration of Performance, which describes the performance of the construction product regarding its key characteristics. Exactly which characteristics of a construction product are essential is a result

of the harmonized technical specifications and can be traced back to the legal requirements which are defined by the Member States and fulfil the basic requirements for construction. Therefore, the compressive strength of radiators, for example, can be a key feature that fulfills the basic requirements and thus protects an object and its users. Characteristics of a construction product that are not based on a legal requirement (e.g. color) are also not an integral part of the Declaration of Performance and the CE marking.

The CRP changes the meaning of the CE marking. In the future, the manufacturer can use it to document his responsibility for the construction product's conformity with the performance specified in the Declaration of Performance and compliance with all relevant European legislation. All construction products for which the manufacturer has drawn up a Declaration of Performance must be CE marked. Where possible, the CE marking must be attached on the construction product itself, a product label or the packaging.