

Concerning: CE marking for construction products

In 1988 the European Parliament first issued directive 89/106/EEG, better known as the Construction Products Directive (CPD). CE-labeling, as such, serves as a means of demonstrating that a marketed (construction) product meets European legislation and standards and can hence be traded freely across the European Union.

However the CPD was only a 'Directive', meaning it allowed for country specific adaptations and depended upon the national governments to implement and execute. This meant implementation was slow and incomplete. In order to resolve these issues, the Construction Products Directive was replaced by the **Construction Products Regulation (CPR)**, voted and approved on the 9th of March 2011 and was published in the OJEU in April 2013. A Regulation like this is directly binding for every member state. As of the 1st of July 2013, the CPR will become effective for many construction products. For sealants a co-existence period shall be valid from 1 July, 2013 to 1 July, 2014.

CE-labeling will become necessary across all the member states of the **European Economic Area (EEA)**: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, The Czech Republic, The United Kingdom and Sweden. With addition of Switzerland and Turkey.

The CPR stipulates that every construction product, with a CE-label, has to be accompanied by a **Declaration of Performance (DoP)**. This DoP is provided to the customer, digitally or on paper, by the manufacturer in the language of the targeted market and has to be saved for up to 10 years. Its content is specified in the CPR and contains the essential characteristics of the indicated product, as demanded in the standards.

Which construction products have to be labeled with the CE-mark?

Every construction product:

- Within the scope of a **harmonized European Standard**, and for which **the co-existence period has ended**. (e.g. the co-existence period for sealants under hEN 15651 will end July 1, 2014)

OR:

- carrying a **European Technical Approval** (e.g. chemical anchor & the Soudal fire rated products).

What products will NOT carry a CE mark as of July 1, 2013?

- All construction products outside the scope of a European harmonized standard or ETA (e.g. primers, cleaners, tapes and window installation membranes)
- ALL **(PU-) foams** (since no harmonized standard exists), with exception of the fire-resistant foams.
- All adhesives for which no harmonized standard exists. (e.g. wood,- and construction adhesives)
- All products not destined for 'construction' (e.g. Carbond 940FC, Soudaseal 260 CC, Gasketseal...)
- All sealants out of the scope of the European harmonized standard (hEN 15651):
 - a. Oil based product (e.g. Butyrub)
 - b. Non-elastic glazing sealants (e.g. Putty, Silirub,- and Soudaseal Tradition).
 - c. All fillers (e.g. Soudafill light, Calofer,)
 - d. All sealants in non-paste shape. (e.g. Soudaseal SL)

The Soudal CE-marked product range

1. Tile adhesives have been affixed with CE-labels since 2005. They fall within the scope of the harmonized European standard: hEN 12004. As of 1st of July 2013 a declaration of performance will be made available.
2. Certain types of chemical anchor, within the scope of a specific European Technical Approval have already been CE-labeled, a Declaration of Performance will be provided as of July 1, 2013.
3. For sealants a harmonized standard has only recently been approved. It consists of 5 parts (hEN 15651-1 to hEN 15651-5) and allocates sealants in 4 distinct categories according to field of application. Because this harmonized standard is new, the CPR allows for a co-existence period of 1 year to certify, adapt and market products according to the updated standard. This co-existence period starts the 1st of July 2013 and, ends one year later on the July 1, 2014. All sealants that fall within the scope of one of these 4 categories (Façade, Glazing, Sanitary joints & Pedestrian Walkways) will be CE-labeled and provided with a Declaration of Performance, in the course of co-existence period, and ultimately by July 1, 2014.
4. For the fire range a harmonized standard is also in the making. But until its completion the Soudal Fire-resistant products, are subject to the ETAG 026 and will thus be CE-labeled as well as delivered with a Declaration of Performance upon reception of the ETA-documents.
5. Some PVC piping-adhesives (Soudal 42A) have also been affixed with CE-labels since 2007. They are covered by the European harmonized standards: hEN 14680:2006 and hEN 14814:2007. As of the 1st of July 2013, a declaration of performance will be made available.

Soudal responsibilities towards our distributors

Soudal, as a manufacturer, shall mark the necessary Soudal-products with the correct CE-label and prepare the respective Declaration of Performance. This DoP will be made available on the Soudal website in due time, or be provided upon request.

Is a distributor allowed to sell sealants without CE marking after July 2014?

YES. The distributor is allowed to sell the remaining stock of Soudal-products, he received prior to the end of the co-existence period. For each delivery after the co-existence period, the distributor needs to ask the manufacturer to apply the necessary CE label and to supply the DoP.

For further questions the Soudal team is at your disposal!