

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 5 December 1997

on the procedure for attesting the conformity of construction products pursuant to Article 20(2) of Council Directive 89/106/EEC as regards non load-bearing permanent shuttering kits/systems based on hollow blocks or panels of insulating materials and, sometimes, concrete

(Text with EEA relevance)

(98/279/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 89/106/EEC of 21 December 1988 on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to construction products⁽¹⁾, as amended by Directive 93/68/EEC⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13(4) thereof,

Whereas the Commission is required to select, as between the two procedures under Article 13(3) of Directive 89/106/EEC for attesting the conformity of a product, the 'least onerous possible procedure consistent with safety'; whereas this means that it is necessary to decide whether, for a given product or family of products, the existence of a factory production control system under the responsibility of the manufacturer is a necessary and sufficient condition for an attestation of conformity, or whether, for reasons related to compliance with the criteria mentioned in Article 13(4), the intervention of an approved certification body is therefore required;

Whereas Article 13(4) requires that the procedure thus determined must be indicated in the mandates and in the technical specifications; whereas, therefore, it is desirable to define the concept of products or family of products as used in the mandates and in the technical specifications;

Whereas the two procedures provided for in Article 13(3) are described in detail in Annex III to Directive 89/106/EEC; whereas it is necessary therefore to specify clearly the methods by which the two procedures must be implemented, by reference to Annex III, for each product or family of products, since Annex III gives preference to certain systems;

Whereas the procedure referred to in point (a) of Article 13(3) corresponds to the systems set out in the first possibility, without continuous surveillance, and the second

and third possibilities of point (ii) of section 2 of Annex III, and the procedure referred to in point (b) of Article 13(3) corresponds to the systems set out in point (i) of section 2 of Annex III, and in the first possibility, with continuous surveillance, of point (ii) of section 2 of Annex III;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Construction,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The products set out in Annex I shall have their conformity attested by a procedure whereby, in addition to a factory production control system operated by the manufacturer, an approved certification body is involved in assessment and surveillance of the production control or of the product itself.

Article 2

The procedure for attesting conformity as set out in Annex II shall be indicated in mandates for European technical specifications.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 5 December 1997.

For the Commission

Martin BANGEMANN

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 40, 11. 2. 1989, p. 12.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 220, 30. 8. 1993, p. 1.

ANNEX I

Non load-bearing permanent shuttering kits/systems, to be filled with normal concrete and, where relevant, with reinforcement, based on either blocks made of an insulating material (or a combination of an insulating material and other materials) or panels made of an insulating material (or a combination of an insulating material and other materials), consisting of shuttering leaves linked by spacers, in either case materials of any reaction to fire class, to be used for the construction of external and internal walls subject to fire regulations, in buildings.

Non load-bearing permanent shuttering kits/systems, to be filled with normal concrete and, where relevant, with reinforcement, based on either hollow blocks made of an insulating material (or a combination of an insulating material and other materials) or panels made of an insulating material (or a combination of an insulating material and other materials), consisting of shuttering leaves linked by spacers in either case materials of any reaction to fire class, to be used for the construction of external and internal walls not subject to fire regulations, in buildings.

ANNEX II

PRODUCT FAMILY

NON LOAD BEARING PERMANENT SHUTTERING: KITS/SYSTEMS BASED ON HOLLOW BLOCKS OR PANELS OF INSULATING MATERIALS AND, SOMETIMES, CONCRETE (1/1)**Systems of attestation of conformity**

For the product(s) and intended use(s) listed below, EOTA is requested to specify the following system(s) of attestation of conformity in the relevant guideline for European technical approval:

Product(s)	Intended use(s)	Level(s) or class(es) (reaction to fire)	Attestation of conformity system(s)
Non load-bearing permanent shuttering kits/systems , to be filled with normal concrete and, where relevant, with reinforcement, based on either: — hollow blocks made of an insulating material (or a combination of an insulating material and other materials); or — panels made of an insulating material (or a combination of an insulating material and other materials), consisting of shuttering leaves linked by spacers.	for the construction of external and internal walls subject to fire regulations, in buildings.	A (*), B (*), C (*)	1
		A (**), B (**), C (**) A (***) D, E, F	2+
	for the construction of external and internal walls not subject to fire regulations, in buildings	any	2+

System 1: See Annex III Section 2 point (i), of Directive 89/106/EEC, without audit-testing of samples.

System 2+: See Annex III Section 2 point (ii) of Directive 89/106/EEC, first possibility, including certification of the factory production control by an approved body on the basis of initial inspection of factory and of factory production control as well as of continuous surveillance, assessment and approval of factory production control

(*) Products made with materials for which the reaction to fire performance is susceptible to change during the production process.

(**) Products made with materials for which the reaction to fire performance is not susceptible to change during the production process.

(***) Products made with materials of class A that according to the Decision 96/603/EC do not require to be tested for reaction to fire.

The specification for the system should be such that it can be implemented even where performance does not need to be determined for a certain characteristic, because at least one Member State has no legal requirement at all for such characteristic (see Article 2.1 of the CPD and, where applicable, clause 1.2.3 of the Interpretative Documents). In those cases the verification of such a characteristic must not be imposed on the manufacturer if he does not wish to declare the performance of the product in that respect.