

BUSINESS PLAN

CEN/TC 99

WALLCOVERINGS

1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC 99

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics describe the business environment of the industry sector, products, materials, disciplines or practices related to the scope of this CEN/TC, and they may significantly influence how the relevant standards development processes are conducted and the content of the resulting standards.

Wall coverings products are currently used in Europe in all kind of premises in private or public application. They are produced in highly automated factories governed by quality assurance systems during the process.

The sector consists of small and medium-sized enterprises.

All types of wallcoverings are covered by the Construction Products Regulation and are submitted to CE marking. Actually there is a distortion of the market because the Regulation does not concern some types of wallcoverings (such as paints and derivate products).

Architects, designers, and consumers have and continue to specify or purchase products that contribute to the environmental performance and sustainability of buildings for a variety of interiors including healthcare, corporate, hospitality, and peoples homes

The challenge of the industry of wallcoverings is to reconcile various needs such as high level of technical performances and the request for modern, innovative and prestigious products in home and business decorative as well as environmental requirements.

1.2 Quantitative Indicators of the Business Environment

The following list of quantitative indicators describes the business environment in order to provide adequate information to support actions of CEN/TC 99.

In 2013, approximately 100 million rolls were sold in Europe (Benelux, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, UK, Italy, Norway & Sweden) within an International market representing 650 million rolls (Europe, Belarus, China, Japan, Korea, Russia).

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF CEN/TC 99

There are many types of wallcoverings and varied processes used in their manufacture. CEN/TC 99 aims to:

- i) Provide the consumer with appropriate information to ensure satisfactory performance. It is emphasized that decorators should follow the manufacturer's recommended hanging

instructions for each particular product. Various grades of washability and colour fastness to light of finished wallcoverings are defined. These grades facilitate the selection by the user of a wallcovering appropriate to their particular needs and guide the decorator.

- ii) Continue to review the harmonized standard for wallcoverings (EN 15102) in line with revised mandates from the European commission regarding the essential characteristics contained within the Construction Product Regulation, for example safety, health and protection of the environment

3 PARTICIPATION IN THE CEN/TC 99

All the CEN national members are entitled to nominate delegates to CEN Technical Committees and experts to working groups, ensuring a balance of all interested parties. Participation as observers of recognized European or international organizations is also possible under certain conditions. To participate in the activities of this CEN/TC, please contact the national standards organization in your country.

Participation in standardization comes mainly from manufacturing industry. At a national level this is predominantly backed by the country's trade association, although individual companies also contribute. With the development of the harmonized standard, notified laboratories and notified bodies also participate in the work.

4 OBJECTIVES OF CEN/TC 99 AND STRATEGIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT

4.1 Defined objectives of CEN/TC 99

The first task of CEN/TC 99 will be to prepare an answer to Mandate M/121 as amended with regards to the emission of dangerous substances from wallcoverings.

It will also be necessary to revise EN 15102 to incorporate the test methods and frequency of tests for dangerous substances and to revise the standard in line with the requirements of the CPR.

Further revisions of the family of wallcovering standards will also be needed over the next few years in order to improve them in the light of experience.

4.2 Identified strategies to achieve CEN/TC 99's defined objectives.

CEN/TC 99 produced a harmonized standard covering all products within the scope of the committee to answer the mandate M/121. This standard EN 15102:2007 + A1:2011, currently addresses reaction to fire, including provisions for classification without further testing (CWFT), emission of dangerous substances that were relevant at the time. Subsequently, Mandate M/121 has been revised and more substances with potential to be emitted from construction products have been identified.

The strategy of TC 99 will be to consider the lists of potential substances and to identify those that may be relevant to wallcoverings, in order to include within a revised version of EN 15102, information and test methods that will assist users of the standard in CE marking their products.

The aim of CEN/TC 99 is to be the only contact for horizontal committees concerning assessment of release of dangerous substances (CEN/TC 351) and sustainability of construction works (CEN/TC 350).

5 FACTORS AFFECTING COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CEN/TC 99 WORK PROGRAMME

The industry has difficulties to make experts available because it is a sector of small and medium enterprises.

The absence of member states willing to participate in the work of CEN/TC 99 sometimes limited to 5 or 6 countries also hinders progress of the committee's work.