

BUSINESS PLAN
CEN/TC 128
ROOF COVERING PRODUCTS FOR DISCONTINUOUS LAYING
AND PRODUCTS FOR WALL CLADDING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Business Environment

The main areas of application are concrete tiles, clay tiles, fibre cement products, bitumen products, metal roofing products and accessories, rigid underlayers and insulating sandwich panels. Most of these products are manufactured by large construction industries being important in satisfying a basic need for people to live and work. Roofing contractors and manufacturers are important in providing employment.

Essential for the work in CEN/TC 128 with its extended work programme on different product families is the involvement of the relevant industry through its European associations and federations and the liaison to other CEN/TC's which are dealing with horizontal issues, affecting the work in CEN/TC 128.

Benefits

- To date, CEN/TC 128 published 39 standards, 1 technical specification and 1 technical report
- CEN/TC 128 standards intend to improve acceptance of products placed on the market by construction actors (contractors, specifiers, designers, ...)
- harmonized standards intend to provide access to the market, by removing technical barriers to trade and open markets throughout Europe

Priorities

- to elaborate standards and harmonized standards on roof covering and wall cladding products;
- to take into account the new European regulations and developments in horizontal technical committees
- to adjust the work programme to meet market needs, on the basis of consolidated technical and scientific knowledge.

1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

The products that are standardized in CEN/TC 128 are influenced by a variety of political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics that have an interaction with 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.

Roof covering and wall cladding products covered by CEN TC 128 are:

- concrete tiles
- clay tiles
- fibre cement slates, corrugated sheets and flat sheets
- bitumen shingles and corrugated bitumen sheets
- self-supporting roofing products of steel, copper, zinc, lead, aluminium and stainless steel and fully supported roofing products of copper, zinc, steel, aluminum and stainless steel
- natural slates
- prefabricated accessories for roofing: walkways and safety hooks, rooflights, translucent roofsheets and rigid underlayers
- metal and plastic gutters and gutter brackets
- double skin metal faced insulating sandwich panels.

Most of these products are manufactured by large European industries in the construction industry being important in satisfying a basic need for people to live and work.

The industry for manufacturing products for roof coverings and claddings and the roofing contractors as part of the building envelope can be used by governments to support political aims with regard to housing, infrastructure

European standardization for roofing and cladding products is being confronted with a variety of specifications, both based on regulatory and voluntary requirements.

The industry-manufacturers of the products have requested EN-standards for the products on their own to meet with product-specifications widely asked in the market. The work programme of CEN TC 128 is a response to the mandates M 121 and M122 in order to develop harmonized product standards. TC 128 has already established important results with a number of product standards. TC 128 assumes that the harmonized standards in the framework of the CPR will remove all regulated technical restrictions in relation to the products themselves.

However, consumers and contractors demand end use specifications on roof coverings and wall claddings based upon the state of the art, governed by climate, geographical situations, culture and regional architecture. Taking this into account, it is very difficult for TC 128 to address standardization work on design and installation.

The industry for roof covering and wall cladding products addresses the national markets by means of their national representation; as for the R&D of the industry, firms are organising themselves on European level internally and externally by means of networking.

Social factors

Roofing contractors and manufacturers are important in view of providing employment.

Safety at the work place

This item is of importance, as a lot of countries have established national regulations. Moreover, there is a European directive concerning Safety and Hygiene on the work place.

TC 128 has already established product standards for products such as safety hooks, walkways, etc.

Technical factors

Within the specifications for works offers, besides the product specifications, both installation and design requirements are very important. It is very difficult for TC 128 to address standardization work on design and installation, but it is interested to carry out a survey of market needs.

Legal factors

The CPR is felt as positive to widen the internal circulation of products within the EEA. However design and installation regulations continue to impose additional product related requirements that can only be met at the national level.

International trade and standardization aspects

At the moment, there are no relevant international standards covering roof coverings, thus TC 128 is not associated with any ISO/TC, except for TC 128/SC4 (roof covering and wall cladding products of fibre-cement) which has close ties to ISO/TC 71.

1.2 Quantitative Indicators of the Business Environment

It is difficult to find detailed statistics for the quantity and value of the wide variety of all the different roofing materials that are standardized within CEN TC128.

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC

Standards from CEN TC 128 are expected to support European legislation, in particular New Approach Directives. 20 of the standards that are published, and are cited in the Official Journal of the European Union under Directive 89/106/EEC. As the Construction Products Directive has been replaced by the Construction Products Regulation, the product standards are in the process of being amended to be in conformity with this Regulation.

It is expected that the publication and adoption of the TC 128 standards will remove technical barriers to trade and open markets throughout Europe.

To date, the committee has published 39 standards, 1 technical specification and 1 CEN report.

3 PARTICIPATION IN THE CEN/TC

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. CEN/TC 128 has 1 affiliate liaison with the standardization of the Republic of Belarus (BELST). Participation as observers of recognized European or international organizations is also possible under certain conditions.

CEN TC 128 is communicating with its members through the CEN Livelink platform and cooperates with the following CEN/CENELEC TC's:

CEN/TC 126 "Acoustic properties of building elements and of buildings"
CEN/TC 127 "Fire safety in buildings"
CEN/TC 133 "Copper and copper alloys"
CEN TC 246 "Natural stones"
CEN/TC 254 "Flexible sheets for waterproofing"
CEN/TC 306 "Lead and lead alloys"
CEN TC 312 "Thermal solar systems and components"
CEN/TC 33 "Doors, windows, shutters, building hardware and curtain walling"
CEN/TC 88 "Thermal insulating materials and products"
CEN/TC 89 "Thermal performance of buildings and building components"
CLC/TC 82 "Solar Photovoltaic energy systems".

Furthermore, CEN/TC 128 has technical liaison's with the following organisations:

EAA "European Aluminium Association"
EBSO "European Bitumen Shingle Organization"
EURIMA "European Insulation Manufacturers Association"
EUROLUX "European Group for Rooflights and Smoke ventilation"
PAN and PRO EUROPE "Panels and Profiles Association"
PU Europe , the European voice of the polyurethane (PUR/PIR) insulation industry"

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

4.1 Defined objectives of the CEN/TC

The objectives of the TC are:

- to elaborate standards and harmonized standards on roof coverings and wall cladding products
- to update existing TC 128 standards taking into account new regulations and developments in horizontal technical committee's
- to adjust the work programme to meet market needs
- to work in co-ordination with ISO where possible.

The above mentioned objectives will :

- contribute to eliminate trade barriers
- direct manufacturers how to meet legislation requirements in relation to areas of growing interest like safety, health and the environment (e.g. recycled material).
- give standards international recognition, thus improving the global market.

CEN/TC 128 is aware of the regulation 1025/2012 concerning the review of the European Standardisation system and takes into account the objectives of this regulation:

- the increased involvement of all the relevant stakeholders in every stage of the process;
- reinforcing the role and responsibilities of the organisations representing the small and medium-sized enterprises;
- to boost the competitiveness of enterprises by facilitating in particular innovation.

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

The work items of CEN TC 128 are grouped into product families which are covered by different Subcommittee's. CEN TC 128 has 10 Sc's (SC5 has been disbanded). SC1 is dormant and has developed the general CEN Report CR 833:1992 "General requirements for a discontinuously laid roofing covering", that gives general requirements for roof coverings and which is being used as a reference document in the sector.

Apart from that basic document, the TC used a strategy through which two types of document are established for each product:

- product specifications
- test methods.

Because of increased experience in standardization work, the effectiveness of the TC has become better in recent years. At the moment, there is no ongoing parallel work between ISO and CEN (except for SC4). The TC works in English at this annual plenary meetings. In the SC's and WG's – which consist of a smaller group of members – work is mostly done in English, by agreement.

CEN TC 128 has created a Working Group 1 "Mandates Preparation" in the past to consider the horizontal issues of the Construction Products Regulation. This Working Group is now the platform to consider all the changes and amendments for the product standards that are related with the Construction Products Directive. This WG1 is dormant for the moment. CEN/TC128 WG 2 "Pre-consideration Working Group" is tackling horizontal issues that are relevant for all the product groups in CEN/TC 128 f.r. fire, dangerous substances, epd's, Recently, the TC opened a discussion on a possible new work item on durable energy devices on the roof and created a new WG: WG 3 "Renewable Energy systems for roofs".

Essential for the work in CEN/TC 128 with its extended work programme on different product families is the involvement of the relevant industry through its European associations and federations and the liaison to other CEN/TC's which are dealing with horizontal issues, affecting the work in the specific subcommittee's.

4.3 Environmental aspects

CEN/TC 128 has agreed to consider environmental aspects during the preparation and revision of the product standards according to CEN Guide 4 "Guide for addressing environmental issues in product standards".

CEN/TC 128 is actually developing the answer to the revised mandates M/121 and M/122 concerning ER 3 from the Construction Products Directive and takes into account the work concerning this issue from CEN/TC 351 on Regulated Dangerous Substances.

CEN/TC 128 is following the work from CEN/TC 350 concerning the "Environmental Product Declarations" and is aware of the future standardization work on BWR 7 "Sustainable use of natural resources" from the Construction Product Regulation as well as the initiatives from CEN related to the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change and the CEN work on Resource Efficiency.

For those products for which this may be relevant, CEN/TC 128 is also monitoring developments in the framework of the Ecodesign directive.

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

At the moment the main challenges of the TC are:

- work on the transposition of our harmonized standards to make them in conformity with the Construction Products Regulation in collaboration with the CEN-consultant;
- the development of standardization and regulation that might interfere with the scope of CEN TC 128 (f.e. Ecodesign,...);
- the TC requires guidance for harmonization activities on the following issues: dangerous substances, the use of levels and classes, the WT/WFT procedures and the assessment of durability;
- the involvement of all the stakeholders in the standardization work.