



International Committee of the Decorative Laminates Industry

Technical Leaflet

## Guideline for CE marking

of decorative laminates (HPL) in line with the European construction products regulation (CPR) for internal and external wall and ceiling finishes, EN 438-7.

December 2013



## Preface

As of 1 July 2013, the new construction products regulation (CPR) has fully replaced the construction products directive (CPD), which had been in force since 1989. The change from the CPD to the CPR has also brought a number of changes for CE marking which are included in this new edition of this technical leaflet.

The technical leaflet is prepared for manufacturers, processing companies and retailers of decorative laminates.

It reflects the state of knowledge as of December 2013.

This document makes no claim of completion regarding listing the full details of any standards referred to in the text.

All information is based on the current state of technical knowledge, but it does not constitute any form of liability. It is the personal responsibility of the user of the products described in this information leaflet to comply with the appropriate laws and regulations.

For more than 50 years the ICDLI has been the international representative of the interests of European laminate manufacturers. Further information about the ICDLI and the data sheets published up to now can be found at [www.icdli.com](http://www.icdli.com).

This application was compiled by the International Committee of the Decorative Laminates Industry. It considers the conditions of application technology in the European countries. If you have further questions, please contact us:

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## 1. The CE label

The label consists of the letters C and E. The set typeface has to be used and can be downloaded from different websites free of charge.

(For example at: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CE\\_marking](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CE_marking))

The CE label is not a seal of quality. It is an administrative label which reflects the statements by manufacturers / retailers / importers or representatives (i.e. economic partners) marketing the product, that it conforms to relevant harmonised European standards (hEN).

The CE label acts as an unlimited permission to trade products within the European Union and is meant to simplify free goods traffic within the EU.

With the CE label, manufacturers declare that their product complies with their declaration of performance (DoP).

The declaration of performance declares the performance of the product as stated in the appropriate harmonised product standard.

## 2. Legal basis

The concept for the CE marking was passed by the EU Council of Ministers on 7 May 1985 following a proposal from the EU commission.

The construction products guideline 89/106/EEC first provided for marking construction products with the CE label.

The regulation (EU) no. 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 established harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products and repealed Council Directive 89/106/EEC.

As of 1 July 2013, the construction products regulation (CPR) has fully replaced the previously applicable construction products directive (CPD).

The CPR is a European regulation which was passed directly by the EU Commission in Brussels and must be applied in all member states immediately. Transposition into national legislation is not required.

Products not covered by the construction products regulation (e.g. semi-finished products and products without harmonised standards or European technical evaluations) may not be labelled.

### **3. Who grants the CE marking?**

**No one!**

The CE marking is applied to the construction products independently by the manufacturer. Manufacturers have to use factory production control to ensure that their products comply with the relevant harmonised European Standard.

If a product is manufactured outside the EU but marketed within the EU, the manufacturer / retailer / importer or representative must affix the CE marking.

If manufacturers / retailers / importers or representatives affix the CE marking without complying with the EU directives they are subject to a fine.

Manufacturers / retailers / importers or representatives are responsible for affixing the CE marking and guaranteeing that the marked product complies with the EU directives.

### **4. CE marking for decorative laminates**

The prerequisite for affixing the CE marking is the compliance with the declaration of performance and therefore with the harmonised European technical rules for decorative laminates.

Affixing the CE marking for decorative laminates is bound to the European harmonised product standard for decorative laminates EN 438, part 7.

EN 438, part 7, has had binding validity for Europe since 2005. The current version applies.

The CE marking has to be affixed to the product itself, to a label, on the packaging or it has to be part of the accompanying documentation.

### **5. Systems for assessment and verification of constancy of performance (AVCP)**

The following basic requirements apply to buildings:

- mechanical strength and stability
- fire protection
- hygiene, health and environmental protection (over the entire life cycle)
- safety and accessibility
- sound protection
- energy saving and thermal protection
- sustainable use of natural resources (reuse and recycling)

The following table shows the systems for verification of constancy of performance in accordance with the CPR

	Tasks	AVCP-Systems				
		1+	1	2+	3	4
<b>Manufacturer</b>	Product type verification of construction product			X		X
	Factory production control (FPC)	X	X	X	X	X
	testing according to test protocol	X	X	X		
<b>Notified body</b>	Product type verification of construction product	X			X	
	initial inspection	X	X	X		
	initial inspection + product control	X				
	Continuous surveillance	X	X	X		
	Continuous surveillance + product control	X				
	certification	X	X	X		

Under Chapter ZA.2 of EN 438-7 the procedure for the assessment and verification of constancy of performance is described for the different laminate products. It also contains information about AVCP Systems to be used.

A list of the notified bodies in Europe can be found at Nando (New Approach Notified and Designated Organisations) on the website of the European Commission at <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newapproach/nando/>.

## 6. Factory production control (FPC)

The manufacturer has to ensure compliance with the declared performance of the essential characteristics. The manufacturer is responsible for organizing the effective implementation of the FPC system in line with the content of EN 438-7. This may require designating a person who is responsible for factory production control.

The results of production control have to be documented. The documents have to be retained for at least five years.

The documentation has to include:

- identification of the product
- test methods
- date of production and testing
- test results
- signature of the person responsible for factory production control

Detailed information on factory production control (FPC) is provided in EN 438, part 7.

Before offering a construction product for sale for the first time, the performance has to be proven in the framework of a type test. Re-testing of the construction products according to the construction products regulation is not required.

The test results of the initial type testing remain valid as long as the production conditions do not change significantly.

## **7. Declaration of performance (DoP)**

The declaration of performance replaces the previous declaration of conformity.

With this declaration, the manufacturer assumes responsibility for the conformity of their products with the declared performance with regard to the essential characteristics. EN 438-7, appendix ZA.2.2, sets out these characteristics.

When conformity with the conditions set out in EN 438-7, appendix ZA.2.2, has been achieved, the notified product certification body has to issue a certificate of constancy of performance. The manufacturer has to retain this certificate which grants permission for affixing the CE marking (applies to products according to system 1).

The declaration of performance indicates that a product complies with the harmonised product standard. It is retained by the manufacturer and has to be documented over a period of 10 years.

The declaration of performance can be stored on the website as a document (pdf).

The declaration of performance is based on the manufacturer's technical documentation. These are the results of factory production control and type testing. Type calculations are also permitted.

### **The contents of the declaration of performance (DoP):**

The model of the DoP is provided in Annex III of the regulation (EU) No. 305/2011.

Number of the declaration of performance:

*This number is set by the manufacturer. It is identical to the number on the CE marking. The number has to be unique and can only exist once (e.g. 001-CPR-12345).*

1. Unique identification code of the product-type:

*This is also set by the manufacturer (e.g. compact sheets, trade name)*

2. Type, batch or serial number or any other element allowing identification of the construction product as required pursuant to Article 11(4):

*Used for further specification, if required (e.g. compact sheets, trade name)*

3. Intended use or uses of the construction product, in accordance with the applicable harmonised technical specification, as foreseen by the manufacturer:  
*(e.g. internal and external wall and ceiling finishes)*

4. Name, registered trade name or registered trade mark and contact address of the manufacturer as required pursuant to Article 11(5):

*Max Müller GmbH*

*PO box 123*

*D-60596 Frankfurt am Main, Germany*

*Phone: +49 69 123456*

*email [max@müller.de](mailto:max@müller.de)*

5. Where applicable, name and contact address of the authorised representative whose mandate covers the tasks specified in Article 12(2):

*Martin Max GmbH*

*PO box 321*

*D-10564 Berlin, Germany*

*Phone: +49 30 123456*

6. System or systems of assessment and verification of constancy of performance of the construction product as set out in Annex V:

*(e.g system 1+, 1,2+,3 or 4, see EN 438-7, appendix ZA.2)*

7. In case of the declaration of performance concerning a construction product covered by a harmonised standard:

*EN 438-7:2005*

*This indicates any actions from the notified body.*

- *name and number of the notified body*
- *test and calculation reports, if applicable*
- *note on the issuing of any certificates of constancy of performance or of conformity of factory production control*
- *description of third-party tasks (notified body)*

8. In case of the declaration of performance concerning a construction product for which a European Technical Assessment has been issued:

- *name and identification number of the technical assessment body*
- *reference number of the European technical assessment*
- *reference number of the European technical document*
- *description of third-party tasks (notified body)*



## 9. Declared performance

*Column 1 contains a list of the fundamental characteristics as set out in the harmonised technical specification for the intended use(s) according to no. 3.*

*For each essential characteristic in column 1, column 2 contains the declared performance according to the requirements of article 6, expressed as stages or classes or as a description with regard to each fundamental characteristic. The term NPD (No Performance Determined) is stated if no performance is being declared.*

*For each essential characteristic listed in column 1, column 3 contains the location and the date of the relevant harmonised standard and, if applicable, the reference number of the specific or appropriate technical documentation used.*

### Example:

<i>Fundamental characteristics</i>	<i>Performance</i>	<i>Harmonised standard</i>
<i>Fire behaviour</i>	<i>B-s2,d0</i>	<i>EN 438-7 (2005)</i>
<i>Fire resistance</i>	<i>NPD</i>	
<i>Water vapour resistance</i>	<i>NPD</i>	
<i>Screw holding force</i>	<i>1800 N</i>	
<i>Direct air noise insulation</i>	<i>NPD</i>	
<i>Adhesive strength</i>	<i>1.6 MPa</i>	
<i>Water resistance</i>	<i>NPD</i>	
<i>Pentachlorophenol content</i>	<i>&lt; 5 ppm</i>	
<i>Formaldehyde release</i>	<i>E1</i>	
<i>Sound absorption</i>	<i>NPD</i>	
<i>Permanence</i>		
- <i>quality of the bonding joint</i>	<i>rating 5</i>	
- <i>resistance to increased temperatures</i>	<i>no effects</i>	
- <i>water resistance</i>	<i>9 %</i>	

10. The performance of the product identified in points 1 and 2 is in conformity with the declared performance in point 9.

This declaration of performance is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer identified in point 4.

Signed for and on behalf of the manufacturer by:

*(name and function) / (place and date of issue) / (signature)*

### Note:

The declaration of performance shall be supplied in the language or the languages required by the Member State where the product is made available. (Article 7(4) CPR)

## 8. CE marking and labeling\*

The economic partner is responsible for affixing the CE marking. The CE marking to be affixed has to correspond to directive 93/68/EC.

The marking has to be applied to the sheet (either directly on the sheet or on an adhesive label) or the marking has to be affixed to the packaging or to the accompanying delivery documents together with the following information:

- ID number of the notified body (only for products according to system 1 and 3)
- name or ID and registered address of the manufacturer
- the last two digits of the year when the marking was affixed
- reference number of the declaration of performance
- reference to EN 438-7
- intended use
- unique product code
- list of the essential characteristics with rating or class

The table shows the essential attributes to the labeling products:

	Compact sheets/panels for internal use	HPL multi-layer composite boards/panels for internal use	Composite boards/panels for external use	HPL multi-layer composite boards/panels for external use
Tensile bond strength	X	X	X	X
Fire behaviour	X	X	X	X
Permanence	X	X	X	X
Direct air noise insulation	X	X	X	X
Fire resistance	X	X	X	X
Formaldehyde release	X	X		
Pentachlorophenol content		X		X
Adhesive strength		X		X
Sound absorption	X	X		
Resistance to temperature change			X	X
Anchoring strength of fixing devices		X	X	X
Thermal resistance/thermal conductivity	X	X	X	X
Water vapour resistance	X	X	X	X

The option NPD (No Performance Determined) must not be used if there is a limit value for the characteristic. Otherwise the option NPD can be used in as far as the characteristic is not subject to any legal requirements for a specific intended use.

\* With regard to the CE marking on the product, the manufacturers of decorative laminate sheets organised in the International Committee of the Decorative Laminates Industry (ICDLI) take the view that marking according to CPR 89/106/EEC, i.e. marking on the delivery documents, is sufficient. The delivery documents have to be retained in a safe place.

## Appendix 1

Example for a declaration of performance to be customized:

### DECLARATION OF PERFORMANCE No. (e.g. 001-CPR- ...)

1. Unique identification code of the product-type:

**Compact laminate, type CGF**

2. Type, batch or serial number or any other element allowing identification of the construction product as required under Article 11(4):

**Compact laminate, type CGF**

3. Intended use or uses of the construction product, in accordance with the applicable harmonised technical specification, as foreseen by the manufacturer:

**Compact laminate panels/sidings for interior wall and ceiling finishes (including suspended ceilings)**

4. Name, registered trade name or registered trade mark and contact address of the manufacturer as required pursuant Article 11(5):

**AnyCo SA**  
**PO Box 123**  
**B-1050 Brussels, Belgium**  
**Tel. +32 987654321**  
**Fax: +32 123456789**  
**Email: [anyco.sa@provider.be](mailto:anyco.sa@provider.be)**

5. Where applicable, name and contact address of the authorised representative whose mandate covers the tasks specified in Article 12(2):

**AnyCo Ltd.**  
**Flower Str. 24**  
**West Hamfordshire**  
**UK-589645 United Kingdom**  
**Tel. +44 987654321**  
**Fax: +44 123456789**  
**Email: [anyco.sa@provider.uk](mailto:anyco.sa@provider.uk)**

6. System or systems of assessment and verification of constancy of performance of the construction product as set out in Annex V:

**System 1**

7. In case of the declaration of performance concerning a construction product covered by a harmonised standard:

**EN 438-7: 2005**

**The notified body ...,  
identification no. ...**

**Performed: the initial inspection of the manufacturing plant and of factory production control and the continuous surveillance, assessment and evaluation of factory production control**

**under System 1**

**and issued: the certificate of conformity of the factory production control no. ...**

8. Section not relevant  
9. Declared performance

Essential characteristics	Performance	Harmonized technical specification
Reaction to fire	Euroclass B-s1,d0	EN 438-7: 2005
Fire resistance	NPD	
Water vapour permeability	NPD	
Resistance to fixings	2000 N	
Direct airborne sound insulation	NPD	
Flexural tensile strength	90 MPa	
Flexural modulus of elasticity	9000 MPa	
Thermal resistance/conductivity	NPD	
Release of formaldehyde	E1	
Sound absorption	NPD	
Durability: - Immersion in boiling water - Resistance to wet conditions - Density	pass pass ≥ 1350 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	

10. The performance of the product identified in points 1 and 2 is in conformity with the declared performance in point 9.  
This declaration of performance is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer identified in point 4.

Signed for and on behalf of the manufacturer by:


.....  
(name and function)

.....  
(place and date of issue)

.....  
(signature)

## Appendix 2

Example for the CE marking of a product under AVCP system 1

 0123	
AnyCompany AG, PO Box 21, B-1050 Brüssel 13 001-CPR- ...	
<b>EN 438-7: 2005</b> Compact laminate panel intended to be used in internal wall and ceiling	
Reaction to fire:	B-s2,d0
Fire resistance:	NPD
Water vapour permeability:	NPD
Resistance to fixings:	2000 N
Direct airborne sound insulation:	NPD
Flexural tensile strength:	120 MPa
Flexural modulus of elasticity:	9000 MPa
Thermal resistance/conductivity:	NPD
Release of formaldehyde:	E1
Sound absorption:	NPD
Durability:	
- immersion in boiling water	pass
- resistance to wet conditions	pass
- density	1350 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

CE conformity marking, consisting of the CE symbol set out in 93/68/EEC

Identification number of the product certification body (for AVCP system 1)

Name or ID and registered address of the manufacturer

The last two digits of the year when the marking was affixed

Reference number of the DoP

No. of European standard applied


Unique identification code of the product type

Intended use of the product as laid down in the European standard applied

Level or class of the performance declared

### Appendix 3:

Example for the CE marking of a product under AVCP system 3

 9876	
Any Co Ltd, PO Box 21, B-1050 Brüssel  13  001-CPR- ...	
<b>EN 438-7: 2005</b>  HPL composite panel intended to be used in internal wall and ceiling	
Reaction to fire:	D-s2,d0
Fire resistance:	NPD
Water vapour permeability:	NPD
Resistance to fixings:	1800 N
Direct airborne sound insulation:	NPD
Bonding strength:	1,6 MPa
Thermal resistance/conductivity:	NPD
Pentachlorophenol content:	< 5 ppm
Release of formaldehyde:	E1
Sound absorption:	NPD
Durability:	
- glue line quality	rating 5
- resistance to elevated temperature:	no failures
- water resistance:	9%

CE conformity marking, consisting of the CE symbol set out in 93/68/EEC

Identification number of the notified test laboratory (for AVCP system 3)

Name or ID and registered address of the manufacturer

The last two digits of the year when the marking was affixed

Reference number of the DoP

No. of European standard applied

Unique identification code of the product type

Intended use of the product as laid down in the European standard applied

Level or class of the performance declared