





## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Industrial Transformation and advanced value chains  
**Clean technologies and products**  
Head of Unit

Brussels, 16.07.2015  
GROW/C1/TM - 3365202

Email : [gascensao@cencenelec.eu](mailto:gascensao@cencenelec.eu)

---

**Subject: OJEU publication of 10 July 2015 (C 226)**

---

Dear Mr Ascensão,

First of all, I would like to thank you for the enhanced CEN collaboration in the preparations for the OJEU publication of references to harmonized standards, taking place based on Construction Products Regulation (305/2011/EU; the CPR) on 10 July 2015 (C 226; cf. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C:2015:226:FULL&from=EN>). This letter aims at presenting the justifications and specifying the conditions for the OJEU publication as regards certain harmonized standards.

### 1. Publication of reference to EN 50575:2014

The standard EN 50575:2014 concerns power, control and communication cables, which can be subject also to other EU harmonisation legislation than the CPR; nevertheless, this has not been taken into account in its contents. This could lead to the erroneous conclusion that only the CPR-related aspects would have a bearing on the affixing of the CE marking to these products. Moreover, all AVCP systems foreseen in the applicable Commission Decision (2011/284/EU) have not been dealt with as prescribed in Article 17(4) of the CPR. The shortcomings caused by these omissions and their implications for manufacturers of these products necessitate the urgent adjustment of EN 50575:2014 before its applicability as a harmonized standard under the CPR.

Therefore, the Commission considered it appropriate to publish the reference to EN 50575:2014 in the OJEU with the condition that the above shortcomings would be eliminated by amending this standard before the beginning of its co-existence period. This resulted in publishing this reference with the co-existence period commencing first on 1 December 2015. If the condition in question is not fulfilled, this date could be postponed or the standard deleted from the list of references in the OJEU. The applicability of EN 50575 (in an adjusted state) as a harmonized standard under the CPR can thus commence first from this date onwards.

## 2. Publication of reference to EN 16034:2014

The standard EN 16034:2014 concerns fire resistant doors. When preparing for the OJEU publication, the Commission services were informed about the CEN foresights on how this standard in reality would be applied. This information necessitated an exceptional approach to the publication of reference to it.

The scope of EN 16034:2014 has been defined to cover only the essential characteristics related to fire resisting and/or smoke control performance. This standard states that all other essential product characteristics are to be covered by the relevant product standards, i.e. EN 14351-1 [External doors and windows], EN 13241-1 [Industrial, commercial and garage doors and gates] and EN 16361 [Powered doors and gates]. This structure would thus result in the practical need to apply two of these standards together, depending on the more precise intended use of the fire resistant doors in question.

However, EN 14351-1 states explicitly that it does not apply to fire resistant doors. Statements of similar effect have been included also in EN 13241-1 and EN 16361. These clauses make it impossible to follow the approach foreseen for the simultaneous application of these standards with EN 16034:2014. At least it would be very difficult for the manufacturers and Member States authorities to understand how to apply them together so as to be able to declare the performance of fire resistant doors also in relation to other relevant essential characteristics to be found in these other standards (notably resistance to wind load and air permeability).

In these circumstances, the Commission considered it appropriate to publish the reference to EN 16034:2014 in the OJEU with the condition that the above issue of lack of coherence between the scope-related clauses of these four standards (EN 16034:2014 & respectively EN 14351-1, EN 13241-1 and EN 16361) would be solved before the beginning of the co-existence period of EN 16034:2014. This resulted in publishing this reference with the co-existence period commencing on 1 December 2015. If the condition in question is not fulfilled, this date could be postponed or the standard deleted from the list of references in the OJEU. The applicability of EN 16034:2014 as a harmonized standard under the CPR can thus commence first from this date onwards. – Furthermore, taking into account the extensive testing and certification needs of fire resisting doors, the Commission has accepted the industry's request for a co-existence period of three years for EN 16034:2014.

During this longer co-existence period the Commission expects CEN to unify the current structure of these standards, so that any product currently under the scope of both EN 16034:2014 and respectively EN 14351-1, EN 13241-1 and EN 16361 (in the future, also prEN 14351-2) is covered only by one harmonized standard, which will comprise in its Annex ZA the full list of essential characteristics for the products under its scope (including resistance to fire and smoke control).

### 3. Prolongation of the co-existence period for EN 1344:2013

The publication of the reference to EN 1344:2013 occurred in August 2014, with a co-existence period (between this standard and the superseded EN 1344:2002) set to expire on 8 August 2015. Recently a request has been made by the industry involved to prolong this period; the Standing Committee on Construction has been consulted in a written procedure about this request.

The reason for the prolongation is that the new version of the standard contains an error rendering its full application impossible in certain situations.

Section C.6.1 of EN 1344:2013 prescribes that the product performance in relation to freeze/thaw resistance reaches class FP 100, if no surface cracks appear with a crack width of 0.15 mm (Type 4) or more. This clause is similar to the contents of the superseded EN 1344:2002. In the new version, the error happened while numbering the individual damage patterns in Figure C.1. There the relevant criterion (Surface crack > 0.15 mm) is presented linked to Type 6. However, if the freeze/thaw resistance test were to be terminated at Type 4 (Superficial crack with  $\leq 0.15$  mm), the test would already end before it even began, because there are no heavy clay building materials without hair cracks.

The Commission therefore prolonged the co-existence period by one year, so as to expire on 8 August 2016. This prolongation allows for the preparations and the adoption of a corrigendum to this standard before that date.

x x x x x

We are also counting on the continuous and even enhanced co-operation between our services for dealing with the still pending product standards, so as to allow for their citation in the OJEU as soon as possible. The fluency of information and communication flows is now essential. We are content with the progress made so far, but obviously expect more progress in the foreseeable future.

Yours sincerely,

  
Marzena Rogalska

