

# A wider role for product certification?

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# What is the Construction Products Association?

- Single voice for £40bn industry
- Established in 2000 in order to:
  - 'punch weight' of construction products industry
  - add value to work of sector trade associations
- Membership – major companies and sector trade associations

## Company Members

- Aggregate Industries
- Baxi
- BSS
- Caradon
- Castle Cement
- CEMEX
- Corus
- CRH
- Etex
- Grafton Group
- Hanson
- Jeld-Wen Group
- Knauf
- Lafarge
- Marshalls
- Pilkington
- Saint-Gobain
- Tarmac
- Travis Perkins
- Wavin
- Wolseley UK
- Worcester Bosch

# Trade Association Members

- Association of Interior Specialists
- Association for Specialist Fire Protection
- Bathroom Manufacturers Association
- The British Electrotechnical & Allied Manufacturers Association
- Brick Development Association
- British Aggregate Association
- British Cement Association
- British Ceramic Confederation
- British Non Ferrous Metals Federation
- British Plastics Federation
- British Precast Concrete Federation
- British Rigid Urethane Foam Manufacturers Association
- British Woodworking Federation
- British Wood Preserving & Damp Proofing Association
- Builders Merchants Federation
- Cementitious Slag Makers Association
- Clay Pipe Development Association
- Clay Roof Tile Council
- Contract Flooring Association
- Council for Aluminium in Building
- Door & Hardware Federation
- Engineered Panels in Construction
- Eurisol-UK
- European Phenolic Foam Association
- Fire Industry Association
- Flat Glass Manufacturers Association
- Flat Roofing Alliance
- Glass & Glazing Federation
- Guild of Architectural Ironmongers
- Gypsum Products Development Association
- Hemp Lime Construction Products Association
- Lead Sheet Association
- Metal Cladding & Roofing Manufacturers Association
- National Association of Rooflight Manufacturers
- Quarry Products Association
- Single Ply Roofing Association
- Society of British Gas Industries
- Society of British Water and Wastewater Industries
- Steel Lintel Manufacturers Association
- Timber Trade Association
- UK Steel Association
- UK Timber Frame Association
- Waterheater Manufacturers Association
- Wood Panel Industries Federation

## Other Members

### Affiliates

- ACO Technologies
- Decra Roofing Systems
- Dow Construction Products
- ICI Paints
- Inatec
- Kee Klamp
- Simpson Strong-Tie
- Yorkshire Building Services

### Associates

- British Board of Agreement
- The Building Centre
- BRE
- Buildstore
- The Cavity Insulation Guarantee Agency
- CMP Information
- Emap Construct
- HSS Hire Group
- Pinsent Masons
- RIBA Enterprises
- TRADA
- Unimer

## Why product certification

- Third party can certify a number of areas such as:
  - Product sourcing e.g. FSC for timber
  - Product performance to a standard e.g. Kitemark
  - Product's use in a particular situation e.g. BBA
  
- Demand relies on:
  - Customers' lack of complete faith in the supplier
  - User's lack of knowledge on application or use
  - Regulatory requirement for some areas

## Responsible sourcing

- Where is product coming from
- What are social and environmental issues involved in supply chain
- FSC and PEFC schemes for timber
- Association working with BSI on standard for schemes covering all other materials
- BRE Global consulting on a standard
- Aim to merge into single standard which certification bodies can use



## Product performance

- Many products have European Standards which have varying levels of third party involvement in assessing conformity with the standards
- Some certification is to show higher performance than set out in standards
- Products where failure would have high impacts are often certified e.g. sprinklers and fire alarms, as is installation

## Product use

- 95% of product failures in housing are due to incorrect specification or installation
- Certification of product in certain applications is important especially for innovative products
- Certification can give third party endorsement of installation procedures

## Future of Building Control

- Offers predictability of changes in Building Regulations (3 year intervals)
- Offers long term plan setting out areas to be looked at in 2010, 2013, 2016 and 2019
- Offers holistic set of changes in Approved Documents with all related aspects being considered at same time

## What can we do

- Reduce uncertainty about how products are used in given applications
- Develop proposals with relevant partners to produce targeted one volume guidance in specific areas e.g.
  - Loft conversions
  - Small extensions
  - Low rise housing
- Seek simplified building control for following such guidance, possibly with certification or inspection of installation and workmanship

## Summary

- Product certification exists mainly due to lack of trust, knowledge or skills
- Certification can cover sourcing, production and installation
- Future of Building Control offers an opportunity to reduce the lack of knowledge for installation
- The Construction Products Association is addressing product sourcing

# Questions?

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