

Subject: New queries on the harmonised standards quoted in the OJEU

COMMENTS from the Head of the Finnish Delegation to SCC

Subject: EN 845-3:2003+A1:2008 Specification for ancillary components for masonry- Part 3: Bed joint reinforcement of steel meshwork prepared by CEN TC 125

Standard included some serious deficiencies from the point of view of a regulator. The deficiencies are the following:

- Clause 5.3.3: In truss type welded meshwork cross-sectional area should be only area of the longitudinal wires. When given formula is used, the cross-sectional area is larger than total area of longitudinal wires and cross wire (area is determined from weight).
- Clause 5.4.1.4: Shear load capacity of the welds shall be given as a characteristic load bearing capacity (confidence level 75 % and fractile 5 %).
- Clause 5.5: Rules for determining anchorage and lap length from test results of the bond test should be presented in the standard. Declared values should be given with zero pre-compression. In addition the declared values with pre-compression may be given as complementary information. The Term “bond strength” is also misleading and it should be “bond force” (unit of strength is N/mm^2 not N). The bond strength shall be given as a characteristic value (confidence level 75 % and fractile 5 %).
- Clause 8.3: More precise FPC rules are needed. For example testing frequencies for FPC characteristics shall be specified. There is no notified body position paper concerning these products.
- Table ZA.1: All the information given in the table 5 is related with the mandated characteristics. This shall be given in table ZA.1 as proxy characteristics (i.e. cross sectional area or wire size are not mentioned in table ZA.1)
- Figure ZA.1: CE-marking example needs complete rewriting

Note: Standard EN 845-3 is under review in CEN TC 125. New EN 845-3 will include improvements compared to the existing EN 845-3:2003+A1:2008 but it seems that the deficiencies presented above will not be solved.

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