

## COMMISSION DECISION

of 25 January 1999

on the procedure for attesting the conformity of construction products pursuant to Article 20(2) of Council Directive 89/106/EEC as regards membranes

*(notified under document number C(1999) 114)*

(Text with EEA relevance)

(1999/90/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 89/106/EEC of 21 December 1988 on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to construction products<sup>(1)</sup>, as amended by Directive 93/68/EEC<sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 13(4) thereof,

Whereas the Commission is required to select, as between the two procedures under Article 13(3) of Directive 89/106/EEC for attesting the conformity of a product, the 'least onerous possible procedure consistent with safety'; whereas this means that it is necessary to decide whether, for a given product or family of products, the existence of a factory-production control system under the responsibility of the manufacturer is a necessary and sufficient condition for an attestation of conformity, or whether, for reasons related to compliance with the criteria mentioned in Article 13(4), the intervention of an approved certification body is required;

Whereas Article 13(4) requires that the procedure thus determined must be indicated in the mandates and in the technical specifications; whereas, therefore, it is desirable to define the concept of products or family of products as used in the mandates and in the technical specifications;

Whereas the two procedures provided for in Article 13(3) are described in detail in Annex III to Directive 89/106/EEC; whereas it is necessary therefore to specify clearly the methods by which the two procedures must be implemented, by reference to Annex III, for each product

or family of products, since Annex III gives preference to certain systems;

Whereas the procedure referred to in point (a) of Article 13(3) corresponds to the systems set out in the first possibility, without continuous surveillance, and the second and third possibilities of point (ii) of section 2 of Annex III, and the procedure referred to in point (b) of Article 13(3) corresponds to the systems set out in point (i) of section 2 of Annex III, and in the first possibility, with continuous surveillance, of point (ii) of section 2 of Annex III;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Construction,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

The products and families of products set out in Annex I shall have their conformity attested by a procedure whereby the manufacturer has under its sole responsibility a factory-production control system ensuring that the product is in conformity with the relevant technical specifications.

*Article 2*

The products set out in Annex II shall have their conformity attested by a procedure whereby, in addition to a factory-production control system operated by the manufacturer, an approved certification body is involved in assessment and surveillance of the production control or of the product itself.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 40, 11. 2. 1989, p. 12.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 220, 30. 8. 1993, p. 1.

*Article 3*

The procedure for attesting conformity as set out in Annex III shall be indicated in mandates for guidelines for European technical approvals.

*Article 4*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 25 January 1999.

*For the Commission*  
Martin BANGEMANN  
*Member of the Commission*

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*ANNEX I***Damp proof courses:****Roof underlays:****Water vapour control layers:**

For use in buildings, excluding uses subject to reaction to fire regulations for products made of materials falling into classes A <sup>(1)</sup>, B <sup>(1)</sup>, C <sup>(1)</sup>.

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*ANNEX II***Damp proofing sheets:****Roof sheets:**

For uses in buildings

**Damp proof courses:****Roof underlays:****Water vapour control layers:**

For uses subject to reaction to fire regulations for products made of materials falling into classes A <sup>(1)</sup>, B <sup>(1)</sup>, C <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Materials for which the reaction to fire performance is susceptible to change during production (in general, those subject to chemical modification, e.g. fire retardants, or where changes of composition may lead to changes in reaction to fire performance).

## ANNEX III

*Note: for products having more than one of the intended uses specified in the following families, the tasks for the approved body, derived from the relevant systems of attestation of conformity, are cumulative.*

## PRODUCT FAMILY

## MEMBRANES (1/3)

## 1. Systems of attestation of conformity

For the product(s) and intended use(s) listed below, CEN/Cenelec are requested to specify the following system(s) of attestation of conformity in the relevant harmonised standard(s):

Product(s)	Intended use(s)	Level(s) or class(es)	Attestation of conformity system(s)
Damp proof courses Roof underlays Water vapour control layers	in buildings	—	3
Damp proofing sheets Roof sheets	in buildings	—	2+

System 2+: See Directive 89/106/EEC, Annex III(2)(ii), First possibility, including certification of the factory production control by an approved body on the basis of initial inspection of factory and of factory production control as well as of continuous surveillance assessment and approval of factory production control.

System 3: See Directive 89/106/EEC, Annex III(2)(ii), Second possibility.

The specification for the system should be such that it can be implemented even where performance does not need to be determined for a certain characteristic, because at least one Member State has no legal requirement at all for such characteristic (see Article 2(1) of Directive 89/106/EEC and, where applicable, point 1.2.3. of the Interpretative Documents). In those cases the verification of such a characteristic must not be imposed on the manufacturer if he does not wish to declare the performance of the product in that respect.

## PRODUCT FAMILY

## MEMBRANES (2/3)

## 1. Systems of attestation of conformity

For the product(s) and intended use(s) listed below, CEN/Cenelec are requested to specify the following system(s) of attestation of conformity in the relevant harmonised standard(s):

Product(s)	Intended use(s)	Level(s) or class(es) (reaction to fire)	Attestation of conformity system(s)
Damp proofing sheets Damp proof courses Roof underlays Roof sheets Water vapour control layers	for uses subject to reaction to fire regulations	A <sup>(1)</sup> , B <sup>(1)</sup> , C <sup>(1)</sup> ————— A <sup>(2)</sup> , B <sup>(2)</sup> , C <sup>(2)</sup> ————— A <sup>(3)</sup> , D, E, F	1 ————— 3 ————— 4

System 1: See Directive 89/106/EEC, Annex III(2)(i), without audit-testing of samples.

System 3: See Directive 89/106/EEC, Annex III(2)(ii), Second possibility.

System 4: See Directive 89/106/EEC, Annex III(2)(ii), Third possibility.

<sup>(1)</sup> Materials for which the reaction to fire performance is susceptible to change during production (in general, those subject to chemical modification, e.g. fire retardants, or where changes of composition may lead to changes in reaction to fire performance).

<sup>(2)</sup> Materials for which the reaction to fire performance is not susceptible to change during the production process.

<sup>(3)</sup> Materials of class A that according to the Decision 96/603/EC do not require to be tested for reaction to fire.

The specification for the system should be such that it can be implemented even where performance does not need to be determined for a certain characteristic, because at least one Member State has no legal requirement at all for such a characteristic (see Article 2.1 of Directive 89/106/EEC, and, where applicable, clause 1.2.3. of the Interpretative Documents). In those cases the verification of such a characteristic must not be imposed on the manufacturer if he does not wish to declare the performance of the product in that respect.

## PRODUCT FAMILY

## MEMBRANES (3/3)

## 1. Systems of attestation of conformity

For the product(s) and intended use(s) listed below, CEN/Cenelec are requested to specify the following system(s) of attestation of conformity in the relevant harmonised standard(s):

Product(s)	Intended use(s)	Level(s) or class(es)	Attestation of conformity system(s)
Roof underlays	for uses subject to external fire performance regulations	products requiring testing	3
Roof sheets		products 'deemed to satisfy' without testing <sup>(1)</sup>	4

System 3: See Directive 89/106/EEC, Annex III(2)(ii), Second possibility.

System 4: See Directive 89/106/EEC, Annex III(2)(ii), Third possibility.

<sup>(1)</sup> To be confirmed in discussions with the Fire Regulators Group.

The specification for the system should be such that it can be implemented even where performance does not need to be determined for a certain characteristic, because at least one Member State has no legal requirement at all for such a characteristic (see Article 2.1 of Directive 89/106/EEC, and, where applicable, point 1.2.3. of the Interpretative Documents). In those cases the verification of such a characteristic must not be imposed on the manufacturer if he does not wish to declare the performance of the product in that respect.