NB-CPR AG position paper - INFORMATIVE

What certification of an FPC system means for construction products at AVCP system 2+

1 What to expect of the manufacturer

Certification provides confidence that the manufacturer through its FPC system monitors and controls the performance of the construction product such that the declared performance is achieved. In particular, it provides confidence that the manufacturer:

A. Has established and effectively implements and operates a FPC system that is suitable for the construction products and processes, and meets with the requirements of the harmonised technical specification(s).

B. Has determined and manages the processes needed to achieve the declared performance of the construction products.

C. Has ensured the availability of resources necessary to support the operation of the processes and ensure product performance. This includes availability of human resources, workspace, buildings, process equipment, and supporting services.

D. Has carried out an assessment of the performance of the construction product in accordance with the harmonised technical specification(s) and has documented the resulting performance of the construction product.

E. Re-assesses the performance of the construction product in any cases where changes to, or modifications to the construction product, processes, FPC or technical specification and referenced test/assessment methods occur; and repeats the determination of product type where performance may be affected.

F. Is continuously monitoring and verifying the (constancy of) performance of the construction product.

G. Identifies and records any instances of nonconformity, and has processes in place to both prevent the release of construction products, which do not meet the declared performance, and to recall construction products if appropriate where nonconformities are detected after delivery.

H. Monitors the effectiveness of the FPC-system in terms of ensuring the performance of the construction products and compliance with the harmonised technical specification.

I. Informs the notified FPC certification body regarding any modification of the production process or FPC, where this is likely to have an effect on the performance of the construction product.

2 What to expect of the notified FPC certification body

The notified FPC certification body should:

A. Determine based on an initial inspection of the manufacturing plant and the FPC, whether the manufacturer has established and is implementing an effective system of FPC suitable for the construction product(s) and production processes, in accordance with the harmonised technical specification.

B. Assess on the basis of an initial inspection that the manufacturer's FPC is in accordance with the harmonised technical specification and/or ETA.

C. Conduct on-going surveillance, assessment and evaluation of the FPC in accordance with the requirements of the harmonised technical specification and relevant approved guidance of the GNB-CPR.

D. Review the certification where changes to the production process or FPC may influence the declared performance of the construction product.
E. Only issue certificates of conformity for FPC to manufacturers who have demonstrated that the FPC fulfils all applicable requirements.

F. Suspend or withdraw certificates where the manufacturer is found not to be undertaking effective corrective measures upon detection of failure to achieve the declared performance.

G. Suspend or withdraw certificates where the manufacturer does not maintain the FPC or does not comply with their defined FPC.

3 What FPC-certification does not mean

A. It does not mean that the manufacturer is providing a superior construction product, or that the construction product itself is certified as meeting any particular requirements.

B. It does not mean that the notified FPC certification body is responsible for the conduct of the assessment of performance of the product and associated AVCP tasks, such as product testing, which are carried out by the manufacturer and forms the basis for the declaration.

C. It does not mean that the notified FPC certification body has responsibility for the construction products, their performance, the declaration of performance or the marking of the construction products. (In fact the manufacturer remains solely responsible for the conformity of the construction product(s) with the Declaration of Performance (DoP)).