Construction Products Regulation (CPR) at a Glance

The EU Construction Products Regulation is a law governing the manufacturing conditions, marketing, and trading of construction products and materials. It applies to all power, control, and communication cables.

CPR is primarily concerned with the safety of construction products and lays down essential performance criteria, as well as the uniform assessment and testing methods. It also harmonises all construction products subject to regulatory controls for CE marking purposes.

1 Why is CPR needed?

The average time from ignition to full fire has been dramatically reduced. Many evacuation times are now only three minutes.

CPR aims to:
• Protect lives
• Prevent assets from being destroyed
• Limit secondary damage
• Protect the environment

The CPR assessment includes:
• Heat release
• Flame spread
• Total heat release
• Heat release rate
• Fire index growth rate

And additional subclasses:
• Smoke production
• Flaming droplets
• Acidity (of smoke and combustion byproducts)

*Aca and B1ca are very safe-but-stringent categories: no current cable using thermoplastic halogen-free materials can comply.

2 How are the products differentiated?

The fire resistance of cables is divided into classes from Aca to Fca.

The 7 Euroclasses*

Fire safety

Fca Eca Dca Cca B2ca

3 mins

3 What effect does it have on the EU market?

CPR aims to remove technical barriers to trade in the area of construction products between member states in the European Union.

Since 1st July 2017, the CE marking including the respective Euroclass of all telecommunication cables is mandatory.

4 Further information

• CPR Whitepaper
• CPR FAQ

5 Manufacturer’s responsibilities

• Provide the Declaration of Performance (DoP) for products governed by CPR
• Set up AVCP system for certification, involving a Third-Party Notified Body (NB)
• Provide supporting technical documentation (10 years)
• Place CE Label with Euroclass information on product and/or packaging

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