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Technical Note about CE marking of noise barriers used alongside road infrastructure

- The note has been drafted to address question raised by ENBF members.
- The note is made available to whom It may concern

Noise barriers are acknowledged among Noise Reducing Devices (herein NRDs), currently installed alongside road infrastructures to reduce noise emission. In this sense NRDs are “construction products” subjected to the European Regulation (CPR 305-2011).

According to the above-mentioned Regulation, construction products are covered by a “product standard” that specifies methods for evaluating their performance on the prototype. Product standard also asks the manufacturer to implement a factory production control to ensure the constancy of the performance declared.

The product standard is “harmonized” when published on the Official Journal of European Union (OJEU). The harmonized product standard is then representing the set of rules to be followed for placing the CE mark on products when introduced on the common European market.

Specifically, for NRD the harmonized product standard is the hEN 14388:2005 *Road traffic noise reducing devices – Specifications*.

Further versions of the standard have been developed by the CEN Working Group 6 within the Technical Commission 226 dealing with Road Equipment's. Nevertheless, harmonization for the most updated version is still pending because of some inconsistencies to internal CEN rules.

Manufacturers are then required to place NRDs on the market with CE marking according to EN 14388:2005.

Notified Laboratories involved in initial type testing of NRDs will exercise care and analyze whether single supporting standards mentioned in hEN14388:2005 can be used or most updated testing procedures will have to be considered.

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