

<b>GNB-CPD SG17</b>	<b>Guidance from the Group of Notified Bodies for the Construction Products Directive 89/106/EEC</b>	<b>NB-CPD/SG17/06/002</b> Issued: 21 February 2006 <b>APPROVED – GUIDANCE</b>
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## **GNB-CPD position paper from SG17 - EN 10025-1:2004**

### ***Guidance for the assessment of FPC for hot rolled structural steel products according to EN 10025***

#### **General scope, limitations and aim of this guidance for Notified Bodies (NBs)**

This position paper contains guidance for Notified Bodies (NB) assessing FPC of companies manufacturing hot rolled structural steel products according to EN 10025. The purpose is to help NBs work equivalently and come to common judgements. This guidance contains informative material (which NBs should or may follow) and normative guidance (which NBs shall follow or at least work equivalently to as circumstances demand).

This guidance is thought necessary to provide clarity and completeness for NBs so that they can work equivalently. It **supplements and makes practical for NBs** the harmonised standards EN 10025, approved AG guidance, and Standing Committee guidance in the form of GPs, which also apply - unless otherwise explicitly stated in this guidance. This position paper should **not** contradict nor extend the scope of the work and role of a NB, nor impose additional burdens on the manufacturer, beyond those laid down in the CPD and EN 10025.

This guidance should be considered valid until the relevant standards are amended to include the guidance (as thought fit by the CEN/TC); or until guidance from Commission, SCC, and AG has changed on relevant matters. Whereupon, the paper should be considered for withdrawal/revision and be replaced by new guidance as necessary.

This position paper was considered approved by SG17 and Advisory Group (AG) on 4 October 2005.

## **1 Initial type testing**

- 1.1 During the initial inspection of factory and FPC the Notified Body shall take into account the Initial Type Testing (see B.2 of EN 10025-1).
- 1.2 The manufacturer shall make available the records of the ITT (see B.2.4 EN 10025-1). The Notified Body shall check that the results of the ITT program are consistent with the scope of product types, steel grades and production lines covered.

## **2 Initial inspection and continuous surveillance**

### **2.1 General**

- 2.1.1 The FPC shall cover all the production lines, units or departments, from at least hot rolling to the finished product placed on the market, including those outsourced or operated by subcontractors. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A check-list made by the Notified Body and specific to EN 10025 and to this document is strongly recommended as a tool for the assessment.

- 2.1.2 Semi-finished products used for the manufacturing of EN 10025 products (e.g. billets, blooms or slabs) shall be regarded as raw materials.
- 2.1.3 The factory covered by a single FPC may comprise several production units, production lines and/or departments. The Notified Body shall define the scope of certification in terms of units, lines and departments in all records issued to verify that the FPC has been certified.
- 2.1.4 The testing facilities shall be included in the assessment. The capability of the laboratory shall be demonstrated to the Notified Body according to one of the following possibilities:
- direct check of the performance of the manufacturer's own laboratory within the scope of the FPC;
  - accreditation of the laboratory (manufacturer's own or external) under ISO/IEC 17025 or equivalent accreditation; the accreditation shall be specific for the tests carried out;
  - assessment of an external laboratory by the Notified Body.
- 2.1.5 After a new ITT program has been undertaken, the manufacturer shall inform the Notified Body. The Notified Body does not need to undertake a supplementary assessment visit if the method of production is covered by the existing certified FPC.
- 2.1.6 In all cases the Notified Body shall assess the FPC according to EN 10025 and this document. If the Notified Body has issued an EN ISO 9001 certificate for the quality management system of the manufacturer, any information from that certification may be used in support of the FPC.

## **2.2 Initial inspection of factory and FPC**

- 2.2.1 During the initial assessment of the factory all units, lines and departments covered by a single FPC, shall be inspected individually. This shall include those outsourced or operated by subcontractors unless their FPC is certified by a Notified Body for the scope of the work being undertaken.
- 2.2.2 The initial inspection shall check that the factory has the necessary process equipment to achieve conformity of products.
- 2.2.3 Initial visits to packaging and warehouse units shall check that the FPC used for identification and packaging ensures that products retain their traceability. Unless the product is being CE marked again under the CPD then trans-shipping storage facilities such as transport yards, rail terminals and docks are not within the scope of the certification.

## **2.3 Continuous surveillance, assessment and approval of FPC**

- 2.3.1 Surveillance visits of the FPC shall generally be undertaken at least once a year. The duration and extent of surveillance visits may be undertaken according to the usual procedures of the Notified Body, but the operation of the FPC in every unit, line and department covered by a single FPC shall be included in a surveillance visit at least once every three years.
- 2.3.2 Packaging and warehouse units, other than trans-shipping storage facilities identified in 2.2.3, used to receive and store products from one or more production units, production lines and departments shall be visited as often as the units, lines and departments that they serve.
- 2.3.3 If an FPC conforming to the requirements of EN ISO 9001 is recognised according to point 2.1.6 then, provided point 2.3.1 is respected, the extent and/or duration of the surveillance visits may be reduced but not their frequency.