



BUSINESS PLAN

CEN/TC 227 ROAD MATERIALS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Business Environment

Road materials are used for the construction of roads, airfields and other trafficked areas. Most parts of these constructions are public works.

Parties involved:

- Industries of asphalt, aggregates bituminous, concrete, cement;
- Operators of the various application sectors;
- Public authorities;
- Users/Public/Customers.

Benefits

To define the necessary standards to be used to perform the desired level of commercial interoperability in Europe considering its very significant position in the international market.

- Since 1990, more than 172 European Standards have been published,
- Confidence of consumers in respect of quality,
- The need of European governments to reinforce the identification of European citizen, due to the enlargement of the European Union,
- The need of public authorities in the Member States to fulfil the requirements of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR).

Priorities

To make European standards available related to:

- Bituminous mixtures and the relevant test methods,
- Slurry surfacing and surface dressing and the relevant test methods,
- Joint sealants and the relevant test methods,
- Concrete pavements,
- Unbound and bound mixtures,
- Surface characteristics.

1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics describe the business environment of the industry sector, products, materials, disciplines or practices related to the scope of this CEN/TC, and they may significantly influence how the relevant standards development processes are conducted and the content of the resulting standards:

Road materials are used for the construction of roads, airfields and other trafficked areas. Most parts of these constructions are public works. Road materials can be divided into asphalt, concrete and other hydraulically bound mixtures and unbound mixtures, as well as some other materials, such as joint fillers etc. Road materials came under the aegis of the "Construction Products Directive" (89/106/EEC) which was replaced by the Construction products Regulation EU 305/2011..

Aggregates, bituminous binders and cements, also used for road construction, are covered by other TCs and therefore are not in the scope of this TC.

Although road construction is still in the majority of the contracts a local activity carried out by regional contractors and/or material suppliers, it is apparent that a. o. the opening of the borders in Europe has provided a push for a more international development.

However, joint fillers and joint sealants have a wider market depending on the usual pavement in the European countries.

For road construction CEN/TC 227 on road materials is the most important TC. 90 % of all road surfacing is done with asphalt, which amounts about 300 million tonnes in Europe. Approx. 5 % of this tonnage consists of bitumen and the remaining of fine and course aggregates. There are currently over 2500 producers of asphalt in Europe and over 9500 laying contractors. The majority of the companies are SME's according to EU definitions.

As there is an increase in internationally operating road contractors also the application of certain asphalt solutions and innovations will increase throughout Europe. The delivery of asphalt itself cross border will remain limited to economical transport distances. Although in Norway transport per ship takes place over hundreds of km. Ship transport is very competitive, for domestic purposes as well as for export of aggregates for asphalt.

All of the above would benefit significantly from the development and introduction of European Standards.

Included in the 90% of roads with surface and intermediate bituminous layer, a significant amount of them have base or subbase layers bound with cement. Approximately 3% to 4% of the total amount of material in mass is cement.

The 10% of all road surfacing are made in concrete with a total consumption of cement about 4 million tons.

1.2 Quantitative Indicators of the Business Environment

The following list of quantitative indicators describes the business environment in order to provide adequate information to support actions of the CEN /TC:

See 1.1.

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC

CEN/TC 227 standards:

- Led to support cost savings through implementation of them;
- To remove technical barriers to trade and open markets throughout Europe;
- Harmonised European Standards;
- Support of other European Standards;
- Support of European legislation, in particular New Approach Directives.

3 PARTICIPATION IN THE CEN/TC

All the CEN national members are entitled to nominate delegates to CEN Technical Committees and experts to Working Groups, ensuring a balance of all interested parties. Participation as observers of recognized European or international organizations is also possible under certain conditions. To participate in the activities of this CEN/TC, please contact the national standards organization in your country.

All CEN members are on the mailing list of CEN/TC 227. From these about 70 % are actively involved in the technical work of CEN/TC 227 and its working groups.

Furthermore CEN/TC 227 keeps bilateral contacts with the following CEN/TC:

CEN/TC 154 "Aggregates",
CEN/TC 104 "Concrete and related products",
CEN/TC 189 "Geotetiles",
CEN/TC 336 "Bituminous binders",
CEN/TC 339 "Slip resistance of pedestrian surfaces – methods of evaluation",
CEN/TC 350 "Sustainability",
CEN/TC 351 "Dangerous substances",
CEN/TC 396 "Earthworks".

In addition the following European industrial associations are observing members of CEN/TC 227:

EAPA – European Asphalt Pavement Association,
ECOBA - European Coal Combustion Products Association,
EuLA - European Lime Association
EUROSLAG - The European Association representing metallurgical slags producers and processors

With respect to the number of participating bodies it can be stated that there is a great interest in the work of CEN/TC 227 and a sufficient balance of interests as well as a well-based input is ensured.

4 OBJECTIVES OF THE CEN/TC AND STRATEGIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT

4.1 Defined objectives of the CEN/TC

The objectives of CEN/TC 227 is to develop Harmonised European Standards in the field of bituminous mixtures, surface dressing, slurry surfacing, joint sealants and unbound mixtures and European Standards in the field of bound mixtures and surface characteristics.

CEN/TC 227 started its work in 1990 and created 5 working groups:

WG 1 "Bituminous mixture",
WG 2 "Surface dressing, slurry surfacing",
WG 3 "Materials for concrete roads incl joint fillers and sealants",
WG 4 "Hydraulically bound and unbound mixtures",
WG 5 "Surface characteristics".

In the beginning of the new century the aspect of the Essential Requirements (ER) 3 "Health, hygiene and environment" has become a factor of importance so that future activities will increasingly concern this issue.

In consideration of the creation of CEN/TC350 "Sustainability" and CEN/TC351 "Dangerous substances" a further

WG 6 "Sustainability" was created in 2005.

The standardization in the field of CEN/TC 227 has nearly been finalized, and 140 ENs (of 148 WIs) were published.

The activities of CEN/TC 227 now is the periodical revision of all existing European Standards (172) in consideration of the 5-years-review, starting with the 1st in the beginning of 2007 and ending up to now with the 12th in the beginning of 2014.

4.2 Identified strategies to achieve the CEN/TC.s defined objectives.

See 4.1.

4.3 Environmental aspects

See 4.1.

5 FACTORS AFFECTING COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CEN/TC WORK PROGRAMME

Product Standards prepared in WG 1, WG 2, WG 3 and WG4 (partly) are mandated and covered by the Mandates M/124 "Road construction products" and M/387 "Asphalt for Ultra-Thin Layers (AUTL).