Table of contents

Table of contents ............................................................................................................................................... 1
Inspection of nails and screws ........................................................................................................................... 2
What is CE marking of a construction product? ............................................................................................... 2
Definitions of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) .......................................................................... 3
What do instructions for nails and screws comprise? ....................................................................................... 5
Declaration of performance .......................................................................................................................... 6
Where do you find the requirements for CE marking of nails and screws? ...................................................... 6
European Technical Assessment (ETA) ......................................................................................................... 7
Determination of product type (product characteristics) ................................................................................. 8
What should designers pay attention to? ......................................................................................................... 8
What should workmen pay attention to? ......................................................................................................... 9
Enforcement measures .................................................................................................................................. 9
Inspection of nails and screws

The Danish Energy Agency will carry out inspections in August and September 2014

We check CE markings of the nails and screws you distribute, manufacture or import.

The inspections are part of the market surveillance which the Danish Energy Agency carries out in cooperation with Danish Standards. The purpose is to check if construction products marketed and sold in Denmark are safe and not detrimental to health and are traded in a market of fair competition.

We will inspect the following nails and screws:

- Fastener screws
- Coach screws
- Chipboard screws
- Wood screws
- Gypsum screws
- Common nails
- Threaded nails

Where will the inspections of nails and screws take place?
We will visit distributors/retailers (building centres, tool shops), manufacturers and importers.

We will select a representative number of enterprises that will receive an unannounced inspection. The unannounced inspections will take place in all parts of Denmark and in all segments, and will be carried out during August and September 2014.

Maybe we will come to see you!
During the inspection we will request to see the CE marking and accompanying documents.

What is CE marking of a construction product?

The CE marking requirement has been introduced to facilitate cross-border trade in construction products and to contribute to an efficient ”single market” for construction products.

You are allowed to market your construction products in all EU and EEA countries, but there is no
guarantee that the use of a specific product is permitted. This is stipulated in Danish national legislation, e.g. the Building Regulations (BR10).

If a harmonised standard or a European Technical Assessment covering the construction product exists, the product must be CE marked.

CE marking is a travel pass, which makes it possible for a construction product to cross borders without the authorities detaining it with a requirement for further tests. At the same time, the construction products can be compared so that the designer, workmen and clients can select the product that fits their building project best.

CE marking of a construction product is not an approval or a quality stamp. It can be described as product labelling which provides information on the characteristics of the construction product:

- Characteristics that have been determined according to the same method in all of the EU
- Manufacturers are subject to the same requirements for production control
- Manufacturers are subject to the same requirements for declaration of characteristics
- Manufacturers are subject to the same requirements for monitoring by a third party

The CE marking must be affixed to the product, e.g. on a label, on the packaging or on the accompanying documents, and must contain the following:

- The CE mark
- The name or the identifying mark of the manufacturer
- The last two numbers of the year in which the product was first CE marked
- The number of the standard (ex EN 14592:2008+A1:2012) or number of the ETA
- Reference to the declaration of performance

The rules of CE marking content and placement are provided in Articles 8 and 9 of the Construction Products Regulation.

It is important that the CE marking accompanies the product, and that there is conformity between the CE marking and the marketing procedures for the product.

**Definitions of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR)**

»Economic operators«: The manufacturer, importer, distributor or authorised representative.

»Manufacturer «: Any natural or legal person who manufactures a construction product or who has such a product designed or manufactured, and markets that product under his name or trademark.
importer«: Any natural or legal person established within the Union, who places a construction product from a third country on the Union market.

»distributor/retailer«: Any natural or legal person in the supply chain, other than the manufacturer or the importer, who makes a construction product available on the market.

»Authorised representative«: Any natural or legal person established within the Union who has received a written authorisation from a manufacturer to act on his behalf in relation to specified tasks.

Pay attention to the fact that special rules apply, when you as importer, distributor or authorised representative place a construction product on the market under your own name.

**As a manufacturer you are responsible for:**

- the construction product
- the determination of product type (product characteristics) – technical documentation of the CE marking
- the production control
- preparation of the declaration of performance
- CE marking of the construction product
- preparation of instructions
- assisting the authorities in connection with market surveillance.

Get more information on your responsibility in the Construction Products Regulation.

**As an importer you should make sure:**

- that the construction product is CE marked
- that a declaration of performance has been prepared
- that instructions have been prepared
- that the manufacturer has prepared the required technical documentation
- that the manufacturer carries out the appropriate production control
- that you assist the authorities in connection with market surveillance.

Get more information on the responsibilities of the importer in the Construction Products Regulation.
As a distributor/retailer you should make sure:

- that the construction product is CE marked
- that a declaration of performance has been prepared
- that instructions have been prepared
- that CE marking, a declaration of performance and instructions accompany the construction product
- that you assist the authorities in connection with market surveillance.

Get more information on the responsibilities of the distributor/retailer in the Construction Products Regulation.

**Authorised representatives** may undertake part of the tasks in connection with CE marking. The tasks they can handle must be specified in a written authorisation and must follow the rules of Article 12 of the Construction Products Regulation.

**What do instructions for nails and screws comprise?**

The Construction Products Regulation requires that all construction products are accompanied by instructions.

The instructions must contain the information required to be able to employ the construction product properly.

This information may be provided either as text or pictograms on packaging or accompanying documents.

**For screws this can for example be:**

- Application – Indoor/outdoor/wood/gypsum
- Slot type/bits size - Torx/PH/PZ.
Declaration of performance

The declaration of performance is the document in which the manufacturer declares the characteristics of the construction product according to the standard, and informs on involvement of a third party in the determination of these characteristics.

As a manufacturer you are responsible for preparing the declaration of performance.

The declaration of performance must accompany the construction product, either in hard copy or electronically.

Where do you find the requirements for CE marking of nails and screws?

As a manufacturer or importer you can find the requirements for CE marking in the harmonised standards:


CE marking according to these two standards is mandatory!

The standards describe how to determine the characteristics to be declared in connection with CE marking.

As a manufacturer you must declare the following characteristics for nails and screws for timber:

– Characteristic yield moment
– Characteristic withdrawal parameter
– Characteristic head pull-through parameter
– Characteristic tensile capacity
– Characteristic torsional ratio (only screws).

As a manufacturer you must declare the following characteristics for gypsum screws:

- Reaction to fire
- Bending properties

For the characteristics where no value has been determined by determination of the product type
(determination of product characteristics), you must specify that no performance has been declared. This is done by indicating "NPD" ("no performance determined").

If your products are not covered by one of the two mentioned standards, it is possible to have a voluntary ETA (European Technical Assessment) issued, which provides access to CE marking.

**European Technical Assessment (ETA)**

An ETA is an assessment and description of the performance of a specific product, and the ETA is the basis for preparing a declaration of performance and CE marking of construction products that are not covered by a harmonised standard. If CE marking of a wood screw has been issued based on an ETA in the period, when the harmonised standard for wood screws was inadequate, it must be examined whether the particular wood screw is covered by the harmonised standard, including Amendment (EN 14592:2008+A1:2012). In such case the CE marking must be adapted to the standard.

The ETA is a voluntary scheme and is especially aimed at innovative and/ or complex construction products or construction systems.

The ETA describes the characteristics of a specific product from a specific manufacturer for a specific application, and addresses one or more of the 7 basic requirements defined in the Construction Products Regulation. The manufacturer must specify the characteristics to be included in the ETA.

The European Technical Assessment will be prepared on the basis of European Assessment Documents (EADs) and can be issued for areas, products and constructions which are not already or will be covered, in the nearest future, by a harmonised standard. This means that ETAs are able to include new materials and areas, where development is too fast for standards to be appropriate, as well as construction systems or areas, where untraditional application of existing materials/structures takes place.

Any manufacturer, also domiciled outside of the Community or his agent acting on his behalf in the Community, may apply for a European Technical Assessment.

You can obtain more information by enquiry to ETA-Denmark (http://www.etadanmark.dk/da/).
Determination of product type (product characteristics)


As a manufacturer you are to determine the product characteristics to be declared. For nails and screws the product characteristics can be determined by tests, calculations or by table look-ups.

In Denmark, nails and screws for timber are placed in AVCP (Assessment and Verification of Constancy of Performance) system 2, while screws for gypsum plasterboards are placed in AVCP system 4.

A notified laboratory must contribute to determining the product characteristics according to AVPC 3.

As a manufacturer you must be able to submit documentation for the determination of product characteristics on request of the authorities.

What should designers pay attention to?

As a designer what should you pay attention to?

- some nails and screws must be CE marked
- the fact that several of the characteristics declared in connection with the CE marking are to be applied in the design process
- that the nails and screws specified have the correct strength
- the fact that the Danish requirements for the completed building are provided in the Danish Building Regulation (BR 10).
What should workmen pay attention to?

As a workman you are responsible for using legitimate construction products

Consequently, special attention should be paid to the following:

- what the designer has stated in the project description
- that you buy CE marked nails and screws
- that good offers and remainders must also be CE marked.

Therefore, it is a good idea to carry out an inspection on receipt, so that any faults and imperfections are discovered, before the product is built into the construction.

Enforcement measures

The Danish Energy Agency has several enforcement measures if we observe faults, lacking CE marking or documentation during the inspection

In such case, the Danish Energy Agency can order:

- withdrawal of the product, i.e. cease of sale and marketing
- recall of already sold or delivered construction products from the market
- removal of the product if it has already been built into the construction.

Moreover, if necessary, the Energy Agency can report the enterprise to the police, and publish the result of the completed inspection. In other words, the Energy Agency can choose to publish the name of construction products and enterprises that have breached the rules.

When processing the case, the Energy Agency may require that:

- the enterprise provides all relevant information
- the documentation is examined by an expert
- the construction product is tested at an approved laboratory

The above enforcement measures are thoroughly described in Executive order no. 688 of 17 June 2013 on marketing, sale and market surveillance of construction products.