



# **CENSolutions Press Cuttings**

May 2011

## Glass News (May)

# MAKING A MARK

The next big step change in legislation has been announced, compulsory CE Marking looks set to be on the way. Wayne Rogerson, Joint Managing Director of CENSolutions looks at the impact this will have on sealed unit manufacturers.

Last year you couldn't move for companies talking about the revisions being made to the Building Regulations and the impact this would have on the window industry. The revisions tightened the specification of our windows with regards to energy efficiency, but the way it was handled left everyone confused and frustrated.

We were given a reprieve with the Building Regulations as industry bodies decided to offer an 'easy' way to comply and in the wider economy things are just starting to show a tentative sign of recovery, but as things start to settle down we hear news of more new legislation on the way. This development has been in the pipeline for some time and shouldn't be a reason for concern. Yes, it means sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass processors and window and door fabricators have to adhere to another piece of legislation, but it also provides us with an opportunity to up the ante and streamline a lot of the ways we demonstrate compliance.



CE Marking is due to become mandatory in 2013.

It would be nice to think that as an industry we will embrace the benefits of this change. We so often hear from companies that are competing against less scrupulous manufacturers that claim to have all the relevant standards but don't. Companies that claim to gas fill their sealed units but don't comply with EN 1279:3, or worse still don't fill them with gas at all.

The majority of glass and window companies operating today are professional, quality outfits that want to improve the reputation of an industry that hasn't had the best standing to date. Companies that CE Mark have to prove compliance to all the relevant standards, so this change in legislation may provide us with an opportunity to drive standards up. Unfortunately since we raised the issue we have already seen individuals looking for loop holes but surely our efforts would be better spent anticipating the most likely outcome and helping sealed unit manufacturers, as well as toughened glass producers and window/door fabricators get up to speed sooner rather than later.

**Help is at hand**

**Hot topic**

## Glass News continued (May)

Whether or not CE Marking will be mandatory has been a hot topic for years now, but finally we have had confirmation. The European Construction Product Directive will be changed to the Construction Product Regulation and as a result from 1st July 2013 it will be mandatory for companies to CE Mark. CE Marking was not previously law in the UK, but compliance with the Construction Products Directive meant it was a legal requirement for companies to comply with Harmonised European Standards.

The CE Mark literally stands for 'Conformité Européene' or European Conformity and it is the manufacturer's declaration that the product complies with all essential requirements; the declaration is a legal statement, which if proved to be false could be legally challenged. What this actually means to sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass processors and window and door fabricators is that they will have to prove their compliance to all relevant legislation including EN1279, EN 12150 – EN 12600 and EN14351.

### Up to speed

Unlike the helping hand we received following the revised Building Regulations, there isn't the same option for CE Marking. This isn't something that can be done overnight at the eleventh hour and there won't be schemes that industry bodies can implement to offer a quick fix for the short term – so as an industry we will need to get up to speed sooner rather than later.

CENSolutions has been advising its customers to follow the CE Marking route for some time now and we hope, now we have the facts, that the industry can start working together to meet the next challenge we face, because 2013 will be here in no time at all!

We have eight consultants placed strategically across the UK working with over 700 customers to ensure they are not caught out by any existing or up and coming legislation. It was really interesting to see the amount of products on display at Ecobuild recently which were CE Marked against EN 14351-1:2006, EN 1279 and EN 12150 – sadly they were all products produced outside the UK. Clearly we need to ensure we compete on an equal footing, but complying with current somewhat conflicting British Standards will not enable you to CE Mark!

CENSolutions' expertise and market knowledge, as well as its friendly and plain English approach enabled it to play a huge role in helping the industry achieve the necessary standards to meet the revised Building Regulations, and it will continue to offer its support to companies who would rather get ahead of this latest development sooner rather than later.

For more information visit [www.censolutions.com](http://www.censolutions.com) or call 01785 716625



CENSolutions has been advising its customers to follow the CE Marking route for some time.



## Midland Vision (May)

### Letter To The Editor



Dear Mark

Years of Debate are over - It's official, CE Marking is here!

There has been a lot of discussion in recent months, even years, about whether or not CE Marking will be mandatory. Finally we have had confirmation. The European Construction Product Directive will be changed to the Construction Product Regulation and as a result from 1st July 2013 it will be mandatory for companies to CE Mark. At CENSOLUTIONS, we have always stated the official line in as much as the UK had opted out of CE Marking. Therefore CE Marking was not law in the UK, but compliance with the Construction Products Directive meant it was a legal requirement for companies to comply with Harmonised European Standards.

The Mark literally stands for 'Conformité Européene' or European Conformity and it is the manufacturer's declaration that the product complies with all essential requirements; the declaration is a legal statement, which if proved to be false could be legally challenged. What this actually means to sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass processors and window and door fabricators is that they will have to prove their compliance to all relevant legislation including EN1279, EN 12150 - EN 12600 and EN14351. This isn't something that can be done overnight at the eleventh hour and there won't be schemes that industry bodies can implement to offer a quick fix for the short term, as we saw with the latest revisions to the Building Regulations - so as an industry we will need to get up to speed sooner rather than later.

We have been advising our customers to follow the CE Marking route for some time now and have always been disappointed when other figure heads in the industry have suggested it hasn't ever been necessary and won't ever be mandatory. Now we have the facts, perhaps we can all start working together to meet the next challenge we face, because 2013 will be here in no time at all!

We have eight consultants placed strategically across the UK working with over 700 customers to ensure they are not caught out by any existing or up and coming legislation. Our expertise and market knowledge, as well as our friendly and plain English approach means we played a huge role in helping the industry achieve the necessary standards to meet the revised Building Regulations and will continue to offer support to companies who would rather get ahead of this latest development sooner rather than later.

Yours sincerely

Wayne Rogerson, Joint MD  
CENSOLUTIONS, Tel: 01785 716 625





## Northern Vision (May)

### Letter To The Editor

Dear Mark

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The Mark literally stands for 'Conformité Européene' or European Conformity and it is the manufacturer's declaration that the product

complies with all essential requirements; the declaration is a legal statement, which if proved to be false could be legally challenged. What this actually means to sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass processors and window and door fabricators is that they will have to prove their compliance to all relevant legislation including EN1279, EN 12150 - EN 12600 and EN14351. This isn't something that can be done overnight at the eleventh hour and there won't be schemes that industry bodies can implement to offer a quick fix for the short term, as we saw with the latest revisions to the Building Regulations - so as an industry we will need to get up to speed sooner rather than later.

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Yours sincerely

Wayne Rogerson, Joint MD  
CENSolutions, Tel: 01785 716 625

## South East Vision (May)

### Letter To The Editor



Dear Mark  
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There has been a lot of discussion in recent months, even years, about whether or not CE Marking will be mandatory. Finally we have had confirmation. The European Construction Product Directive will be changed to the Construction Product Regulation and as a result from 1st July 2013 it will be mandatory for companies to CE Mark. At CENSolutions, we have always stated the official line in as much as the UK had opted out of CE Marking. Therefore CE Marking was not law in the UK, but compliance with the Construction Products Directive meant it was a legal requirement for companies to comply with Harmonised European Standards.

The Mark literally stands for 'Conformité Européene' or European Conformity and it is the manufacturer's declaration that the product complies with all essential requirements; the declaration is a legal statement, which if proved to be false could be legally challenged. What this actually means to sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass

processors and window and door fabricators is that they will have to prove their compliance to all relevant legislation including EN1279, EN 12150 - EN 12600 and EN14351. This isn't something that can be done overnight at the eleventh hour and there won't be schemes that industry bodies can implement to offer a quick fix for the short term, as we saw with the latest revisions to the Building Regulations - so as an industry we will need to get up to speed sooner rather than later.

We have been advising our customers to follow the CE Marking route for some time now and have always been disappointed when other figure heads in the industry have suggested it hasn't ever been necessary and won't ever be mandatory. Now we have the facts, perhaps we can all start working together to meet the next challenge we face, because 2013 will be here in no time at all!

We have eight consultants placed strategically across the UK working with over 700 customers to ensure they are not caught out by any existing or up and coming legislation. Our expertise and market knowledge, as well as our friendly and plain English approach means we played a huge role in helping the industry achieve the necessary standards to meet the revised Building Regulations and will continue to offer support to companies who would rather get ahead of this latest development sooner rather than later.

Yours sincerely  
Wayne Rogerson, Joint MD  
CENSolutions, Tel: 01785 716 625



## South West Vision (May)

### Letter To The Editor



Dear Mark

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There has been a lot of discussion in recent months, even years, about whether or not CE Marking will be mandatory. Finally we have had confirmation. The European Construction Product Directive will be changed to the Construction Product Regulation and as a result from 1st July 2013 it will be mandatory for companies to CE Mark. At CENSolutions, we have always stated the official line in as much as the UK had opted out of CE Marking. Therefore CE Marking was not law in the UK, but compliance with the Construction Products Directive meant it was a legal requirement for companies to comply with Harmonised European Standards.

The Mark literally stands for 'Conformité Européene' or European Conformity and it is the manufacturer's declaration that the product complies with all essential requirements; the declaration is a legal statement, which if proved to be false could be legally challenged. What this actually means to sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass processors and window and door fabricators is that they will have to prove their compliance to all relevant legislation including EN1229, EN 12150 - EN 12600 and EN14351. This isn't something that can be done overnight at the eleventh hour and there won't be schemes that industry bodies can implement to offer a quick fix for the short term, as we saw with the latest revisions to the Building Regulations - so as an industry we will need to get up to speed sooner rather than later.

We have been advising our customers to follow the CE Marking route for some time now and have always been disappointed when other figure heads in the industry have suggested it hasn't ever been necessary and won't ever be mandatory. Now we have the facts, perhaps we can all start working together to meet the next challenge we face, because 2013 will be here in no time at all!

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Yours sincerely, Wayne Rogerson, Joint MD, CENSolutions, Tel: 01785 716 625



**Windows Active (May)**

windows **active**

**IGUs & Glazing**

# CE Marking is official!

The next big step change in legislation to affect the industry has been announced. **Wayne Rogerson** of **CENSolutions** looks at what this actually means for fabricators and sealed unit manufacturers



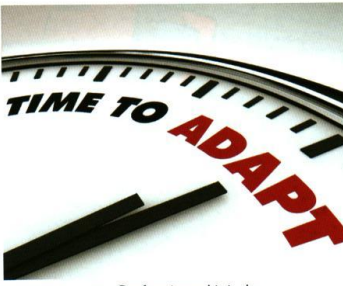
**T**he window industry has had its fair share of obstacles to overcome in the last couple of years. The revised Building

Regulations tightened the specification of our windows with regards to energy efficiency, while the recession continues to squeeze our margins. We were given a reprieve with the Building Regulations as industry bodies decided to offer an 'easy' way to comply and in the wider economy, things are just starting to show a tentative sign of recovery, but as things start to settle down we hear news of more new legislation on the way. CENSolutions has been warning the market of this development for some time and actually don't see it as a reason to be concerned. Yes, it means sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass processors and window and door fabricators have to adhere to another piece of legislation but it also provides us with an opportunity to up the ante and streamline a lot of the ways we demonstrate compliance.

**Recent discussions**

There has been a lot of discussion in recent months, even years, about whether or not CE Marking will be mandatory. Finally we have had confirmation. The European Construction Product Directive will be changed to the Construction Product Regulation and as a result from 1st July 2013 it will be mandatory for companies to CE Mark. CENSolutions has always stated the official line in as much as the UK had opted out of CE Marking. Therefore CE Marking was not law in the UK, but compliance with the Construction Products Directive meant it was a legal requirement for companies to comply with Harmonised European Standards.

The CE Mark literally stands for 'Conformité Européene' or European



**ABOVE:** As the market begins to settle down after the revised Building Regulations were introduced last October and adjusts to the double-dip recession we're still in the midst of, the next big step change in legislation has been announced.

Conformity and it is the manufacturer's declaration that the product complies with all essential requirements. The declaration is a legal statement, which if proved to be false could be legally challenged. What this actually means to sealed unit manufacturers, toughened glass processors and window and door fabricators is that they will have to prove their compliance to all relevant legislation including EN1279, EN 12150 – EN 12600 and EN14351. Unlike the helping hand we received following the revised Building Regulations, there isn't the same option for CE Marking. This isn't something that can be done overnight at the eleventh hour and there won't be schemes that industry bodies can implement to offer a quick fix for the short term – so as an industry we will need to get up to speed sooner rather than later.

Hopefully as an industry we will embrace the benefits of this change. We so often hear from companies that are competing against less scrupulous manufacturers that claim to have all the relevant standards but don't. Companies that claim to gas fill their sealed units but don't comply with EN 1279:3, or worse still don't fill them with gas at all. The majority of window companies operating today are professional, quality outfits that want to improve the reputation of an industry that hasn't had the best standing to date. Companies that CE

Mark have to prove compliance to all the relevant standards, so this change in legislation may provide us with an opportunity to drive standards up.

CENSolutions has been advising its customers to follow the CE Marking route for some time now and have always been disappointed when other figure heads in the industry have suggested it hasn't ever been necessary and won't ever be mandatory. Now we have the facts, perhaps we can all start working together to meet the next challenge we face, because 2013 will be here in no time at all!

**Strategically placed**

CENSolutions has eight consultants placed strategically across the UK working with over 700 customers to ensure they are not caught out by any existing or up-and-coming legislation. All of our clients, whether IGU manufacturers, safety glass producers or window and door fabricators, are well prepared for this already because our approach has always been to ensure our customers have future-proofed their businesses. It was really interesting to see the number of products on display at Ecobuild recently which were CE Marked against EN 14351-1:2006, EN 1279 and EN 12150 - sadly they were all products produced outside the UK. Clearly we need to ensure we compete on an equal footing, but complying with current somewhat conflicting British Standards will not enable you to CE Mark!

CENSolutions' expertise and market knowledge, as well as its friendly and plain English approach means it played a huge role in helping the industry achieve the necessary standards to meet the revised Building Regulations and it will continue to offer its support to companies who would rather get ahead of this latest development sooner rather than later.

**Tel: 01785 716625**  
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## Windows Active (May)

### Said & Done

#### **CEN SOLUTIONS**

*CENSolutions, the leading consultancy and test facility for the window, door and glazing industries, has just passed its second three yearly ISO9001:2008 strategic review for its test laboratory facility in Staffordshire. .*