



Cement Marking in view of legal requirements

Every construction product has specified criteria for introduction to trading and application in construction industry. Introduction of new legal regulations in the construction sector into Polish legal system is related to their adjustment to European standards.

The Act of 16 April 2004 concerning construction products in art. 5 point 1 states that a construction product is fit for application in construction works if it is:

- **CE-marked**, which means that it has been assessed for conformity with harmonised standard or European technical approval or national technical specification of a Member State of the EU or European Economic Area, approved by the European Commission as conforming to basic requirements, or (...)

Remark: For cement, harmonised standards are the standards with PN-EN mark.

- **marked with construction label B**, informing that it has been assessed for conformity with the Polish Standard, without the status of a withdrawn standard, or with a national technical approval.

Remark: For cement, this is PN-B-19707 standard or national technical approvals.

Systems for assessment of conformity and the terms for labelling a construction product with a **CE** mark are specified in the Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure of 11 August 2004 concerning systems for assessment of conformity, requirements to be met by notified units participating in conformity assessment, and the method for labelling construction products with **CE** mark (Polish Journal of Acts 2004 No 195, item 2011).

Cement is subject to conformity assessment system **1+**, according to which conformity certification is performed by a **notified** certification institution.

Conformity assessment systems and the terms for construction product labelling with construction mark **B** are defined by the Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure of 11 August 2004 concerning methods for declaring conformity of

construction products and the methods of their labelling with construction mark (Polish Journal of Acts 2004 No 198, item 2041)

Also in the case of the construction mark, cement is subject to conformity assessment system **1+**; in this case conformity certification is performed by an **accredited** certification institution on the basis of analogous tasks of the manufacturer and the certification body as in the case of **CE** mark.

Conformity certificate issued by a certification institution forms a basis for issuing a Conformity Declaration by the manufacturer. Conformity Declaration is kept by the manufacturer and presented to relevant control authorities on request.

CE marking of a construction product is composed of conformity mark and the identification number of the notified certification institution.



1234 – number of the notified certification institution

CE marking of cement should be accompanied by the following additional information:

- name or ID of the manufacturer,
- registered address of the manufacturer (or the name, headquarters and address of the autho-





rised representative if the manufacturer is based outside a Member State of the EEA),

- name or ID of the factory (necessary acc. to



EN 197-2, yet not compulsory),

- last two digits of the year in which the marking was made (digits of the year in the date of packing or shipment),
- number of the conformity certificate,
- number of the European standard,
- standard's marking,
- additional information (if required).

CE marking and accompanying information are placed directly on the bag. If not all, but only some information is placed on the bag, and for cement in bulk it is recommended that comple-



te information is given in the enclosed trade documents.

A product labelled with construction mark must be accompanied with information containing:

- name, headquarters and address of the manufacturer and the address of the production facility,
- data allowing for construction product identification acc. to referred technical specification,
- number and year of publication of the publication of the Polish Standard for the product or a technical approval conformity to which has been certified,
- number and date of issuing the national Conformity Declaration,
- name of the certification body,
- other data, if this results from technical specification.

The construction mark and the above accompanying information is placed on the packaging on the same terms as in the case of **CE** mark.

CE marking allows introduction of cement to trade in the EU Member States.

Labelling with construction mark **B** allows introduction of cement to trade only in Poland.

According to the Regulation of the Minister of Health of 11 July 2002 concerning the criteria and methods for classification of substances and chemical preparations (Polish Journal of Acts No 140, item 1172), cement is included in hazardous, irritating preparations, i.e. such which in the event of a short, long-term or repeated contact with skin or mucous membrane can cause their inflammation, and which require labelling with **warning sign X₁**.

Regulation of the Minister of Health of 2 September 2003 concerning labelling of hazardous substances and hazardous preparations (Polish

Journal of Acts No 173, item 1679) regulates the method for labelling hazardous substances and hazardous preparations.

Membership in the European Union obliges the Member States to respect the harmonized legal regulations applying across the Union.

One of such regulations is Directive 2003/53/EC approved by the European Commission on 19 May 2003.

In Poland, it has been reflected in par. 27 of the Regulation of the Minister of Economy and Labour of 21 February 2005 (v 39, item 372) „changing the regulation concerning limitations, ban, or terms for production, trading, or application of hazardous substances and hazardous preparations, and products containing them.”

In view of this Regulation, from 17 January 2005, it is banned to trade and apply preparations containing cement if they contain more

than 0.0002 % (2 ppm) mass dissolved chromium VI calculated per total dry mass.

As cement usually has a higher content of chromium VI, cement manufacturers will reduce this content.

The Resolution refers, however, to the necessity of chromium reduction **only for cement packed in bags** and requires that the packaging for cement or a preparation containing cement be labelled clearly and permanently with information about the date of packing, and storage conditions and period appropriate to maintain activity of reducing agents and to preserve the content of chromium VI below the level indicated in the Regulation.

