

BCA Member Companies only

1 Construction Products Regulation (CPR)

Apart from the issues reported from Task Force “CPR Implementation”, the following matters should be noted:

- a) Considerable resource is being devoted to identifying the causes of variability of test results, and hence the declaration of unexpectedly high reaction to fire classes, via the EN 50399 test. Industry is liaising strongly with the Notified Bodies. Actions in progress include:
 - Maximising the collection of data
 - Initiation (Europacable) of a targeted round-robin;
 - Detailed analysis of test chambers and equipment – a list of over 150 check points has been drawn up.
- b) An EC consultation as to any future changes to CPR has been the subject of some preliminary papers. One point that has already arisen is the possibility to include into the harmonised product standards, requirements that are outside the mandate. This is not supported within our industry, and Europacable may be invited to join a joint CEN/CENELEC WG looking at this.
- c) No further progress has been made in respect of completion of the standards work for Resistance to Fire. The matter was again discussed within ECBL policy WG CPR, but they did not record a final position pending further discussion, possibly also with EC, and the conclusion of the expected EC Delegated Act.
- d) Work to update the CENELEC Technical Specification TS 50576 (EXAP) into a full European standard (EN 50576) has begun.

2 BS 6701

It is expected that Amendment No 1 to BS 6701 will have been published before Council meets. Strenuous efforts to defer publication were not successful. It is intended to look towards improving the descriptions of the types of cable involved, and the particular installation conditions which necessitate higher reaction to fire performance.

3 BS 7671 – Wiring Regulations

The technical work, including resolution of over 400 pages of comments on the draft, has concluded. BCA's approach to inclusion of CPR matters, namely to avoid at this stage the introduction of prescriptive classes as requirements, has been accepted. There will now be an extensive period of checking and cross-checking the updated text, by both the IET secretariat and the Wiring Regulations Committee (JPEL/64). Publication as the 18th edition of BS 7671 (the Wiring Regulations) is scheduled for 1st July 2018.

4 Low Voltage Directive

The Commission has announced that the LVD will be undergoing an evaluation process. The evaluation study is expected to be launched by the end of 2017, and is unlikely to lead to major changes. ORGALIME has already given a preliminary view that the essential content needs no major attention, but the associated processes, including market surveillance and the role of consultants, need to be improved.

As regards the role of the consultants, and the recent high number of standards delayed, the EC is terminating the existing contracts that operate through CEN/CENELEC at the end of 2017. It will then arrange to re-employ the consultants directly. They hope to do this by the start of Q2 2018.

5 “BREXIT” – Technical standards work - Progress

The key issue of BSI maintaining membership of CEN, CENELEC and ETSI is being addressed. The office will participate in a BSI Webinar on the subject the day before Council, and will report any new developments.

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Previous Newsletters- Restricted to BCA members only

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- 1 May 2001 (C/2851);
- 2 September 2001 (C/2872);
- 3 February 2002 (C/2910);
- 4 June 2002 (C/2925);
- 5 September 2002 (C/2938);
- 6 March 2003 (C/2974);
- 7 July 2003 (C/3003);
- 8 November 2003 (C/3026);
- 9 March 2004 (C/3039);
- 10 September 2004 (C/3055);
- 11 February 2005 (C/3067);
- 12 May 2005 (C/3094);
- 13 October 2005 (C/3121);
- 14 February 2006 (C/3135);
- 15 May 2006 (C/3160)
- 16 October 2006 (C/3177);
- 17 Special CPD issue –December 2006 (C/3197)
- 18 March 2007 (C/3202)
- 19 June 2007 (C/3220)
- 20 October 2007 (C/3231)
- 21 March 2008 (C/3247)
- 22 May 2008 (C/3269)
- 23 September 2008 (C/3286)
- 24 January 2009 (C/3320)
- 25 June 2009 (C/3352)
- 26 Autumn 2009 (C/3396)
- 27 February 2010 (C/3407)
- 28 April 2010 (C/3420)
- 29 October 2010 (C/3468)
- Special issue – Standards – January 2011 (C/3473)
- 30 April 2011 (C/3480)
- Special issue – EN 50525 – June 2011 (C/3487)
- 31 September 2011 (C/3493)
- 32 December 2011 (C/3497)
- Special issue – IEC 60811 – June 2012 (C/3517)
- 33 September 2012 (C/3528)
- 34 Spring 2013 (C/3540)
- 35 June 2013 (C/3552)
- 36 November 2013 (C/3574)
- 37 Spring 2014 (C/3587)
- 38 Summer 2014 (C/3600)
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- 40 Summer 2015 (C/3635)
- 41 Autumn 2015 (C/3649)
- 42 March 2016 (C/3661)
- 43 June 2016 (C/3669)
- 44 Autumn 2016 (C/3687)
- 45 Autumn 2017 (C/3741)