



Technical Interview

Construction Product Regulations (CPR)

The new Construction Product Regulations (CPR) came into effect on 1 July 2013 for construction products. Tata Steel's structural hollow sections – Celsius® 355 and Hybox® 355 – are fully compliant with the regulations.

We asked Technical Advisory Engineer at Tata Steel, Kieran Butroid, to explain more about the CPR and related changes to fabrication standard EN1090.

What are the Construction Product Regulations (CPR)?

The regulations are legally binding across the European Union (EU). They replace the previous Construction Products Directive. In a nutshell, CPR imposes new legal obligations on the manufacturers, distributors and importers of construction products and materials that are covered by a harmonised European standard.

There are also legal obligations for anyone producing fabricated structures and other structural components.



What are the CPR legal obligations?

They include mandatory CE marking. It's the first time that CE marking has been made mandatory for fabricated structures.

A Declaration of Performance (DoP) and Factory Production Control (FPC) certification are also required.

What is a harmonised standard?

European standards are written in response to mandates supplied by the EU. These specify the requirements that have to be met. The standard will tell you if the product or material has to comply with European legislation such as CPR.

If compliance is required, the standard will also be listed in the CPR. This links – or 'harmonises' – the standard and the CPR legislation.

EN10219 and EN10210 are both harmonised standards.

When does CPR come into effect?

CPR applies in full from 1 July 2013 for construction products in the UK and mainland Europe. The same date applies for fabricated structures and components in mainland Europe. For fabricated structures and components in the UK, the regulations will apply from 1 July 2014.

Do Tata Steel structural hollow sections meet the CPR specified requirements?

Our Celsius 355 and Hybox 355 structural hollow sections are fully compliant. They are supplied with the CE mark. In fact, we've been supplying our products with CE marking since 2006.

What is CE marking and why is it important for structural steels?

CE marking is a way of ensuring steel quality. The CE mark proves that the product meets essential requirements specified for construction projects. For structural steel, these requirements cover the steel's properties.

What is a Declaration of Performance (DoP) and where can I get this information?

The DoP confirms the characteristics and performance of the product in accordance with the harmonised standard. The DoP information for our Celsius 355 and Hybox 355 structural hollow sections is available on our website at www.tatasteeleurope.com/dop.

What is Factory Production Control (FPC)?

The FPC is another safeguard for ensuring that the construction product is properly produced. It certifies that a plant's manufacturing management system is capable of consistent production to the relevant product standards.

At Tata Steel, we produce structural steel products at plants in the UK and Netherlands. The manufacturing systems at all of these plants have been assessed – resulting in FPC certification. The FPC proves we're able to consistently produce tubular construction products to meet EN10210 and EN10219 standards.

Distributors of our Celsius 355 and Hybox 355 products have copies of the FPC certification.

What is the significance of EN1090 when talking about CE marking and CPR?

EN1090-2 specifies the requirements for the execution of steel structures. The standard ensures adequate levels of mechanical resistance, stability, serviceability, durability and traceability. The standard was harmonised with CPR on 1 July 2013 in mainland Europe. It will apply for fabricated structures in the UK from 1 July 2014.



Are Tata Steel structural hollow sections compliant with EN1090?

Yes. We've ensured that Celsius 355 and Hybox 355 are suitable for use in the highest execution class for EN1090.

Where can I find the traceability information required in CPR and EN 1090?

All Celsius 355 and Hybox 355 products have 3.1 certification which gives you all the information required for full compliance. The certification provides a full product description, specific test results and cast number. It also shows the chemical composition of the steel.

To find out more about CPR and Tata Steel's fully-compliant Celsius 355 and Hybox 355 products, please contact Kieran at: kieran.butroid@tatasteel.com

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