



RIDBA/008

Date tbc

RIDBA JOINS FORCES WITH TRADA AND THE SCI ON CE MARKING

Steel-framed building manufacturers and fabricators bracing themselves for the introduction of costly compulsory CE marking are being offered a leg-up on the legislative ladder in a link-up between the Rural and Industrial Design and Building Association (RIDBA), TRADA Technology and the Steel Construction Institute (SCI).

The link-up will give RIDBA's 200 members, who include both steel- and timber-framed building manufacturers, preferential access to the factory production control manual and the design protocol required by fabricators for the CE marking of agricultural buildings. This will markedly reduce their costs in meeting the requirements to CE Mark their frames.

RIDBA has worked closely with BM TRADA, TRADA Technology and SCI since 2009 to ensure its members are fully prepared when CE marking becomes mandatory under the pending Construction Products Regulation (CPR) which is expected to replace the Construction Products Directive (CPD) in 2013.

[RIDBA as a Member of the NSCC took the opportunity of the NSCC Annual Dinner, addressed by The Chief Construction Advisor Paul Morrel, I to meet with David Payne of BM TRADA and sign the contract for the supply of the Factory Quality Control Manual, this was witnessed by NSCC Chief Executive Suzannah Nichol MBE](#)

CE marking is not currently compulsory in the UK but after 2013 it will become a criminal offence to supply a frame without a CE mark. This will demonstrate both compliance with the Construction Products Directive - which is mandatory - and that the buildings are fit for purpose under BS EN 1090 Part 2 '*Execution of Steel Structures and Aluminium Structures*'. There are timber- based standards in the pipeline as well.

RIDBA members supply 45% of the UK agricultural market and 11% of the total single-storey steel-framed market. They erect more than 5,500 agricultural and industrial

buildings a year and supply an area of almost 2million²m of steel-framed agricultural buildings.

The factory production control manual is expected to be ready for the Agricultural Buildings Show at Stoneleigh in the spring with the design protocol to follow.

Since CE marking is one of the biggest issues RIDBA has faced in its 54-year history, national secretary Tony Hutchinson welcomed the expertise and support BM TRADA, as a notified body for CE marking, is prepared to offer its members.

“CE marking is a complicated process but working as a group rather than a single organisation will bring cost benefits to our members and will enable us to address common issues and share experiences to make the certification assessment process as efficient as possible,” he said.

And BM TRADA has commended RIDBA’s proactive stance.

“By working with BM TRADA, TRADA Technology and SCI, RIDBA can provide a consistent and clear route for its members toward CE marking and compliance with the CPR,” said product certification manager David Payne.

ENDS

For further information on RIDBA, go to www.ridba.org.uk

For more information on CE marking contact David Payne on 01494 569600 or email dpayne@bmtrada.com; contact RIDBA on 01449 676049 or email secretary@ridba.org.uk.
(Should be ref SCI as well?)

TRADA Technology Ltd

TRADA Technology is the leading independent timber research, consultancy, testing and information provider for the construction industry in the UK. Its client base spans government and local authorities and the whole construction supply chain, from forestry and primary processing to demonstration and utilisation of timber in building and construction. It provides large and small scale structural testing, product testing and development, materials and product evaluation and design guidance, third-party certification and support, as well as condition surveys on site, expert witness services and a range of training courses. Through its specialist Building performance division, it is an acknowledged expert in timber frame construction.

As part of the BM TRADA Group, TRADA Technology provides the research and information services for TRADA, the Timber Research and Development Association.

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CCs

1. Tony Hutchinson
2. Jean Kloos

TOTAL = 20