

How does EN 1090-1 influence on galvanizing companies?

CE-marking of construction products will be mandatory from 1 July 2014. Because of that it has been some discussions about if galvanizing companies that galvanize construction products must be certified or not.

After careful review of EN 1090-1 the international hot-dip galvanizing organization EGGA (European General Galvanizers Organization) concluded that it is not possible to certify a galvanizing company according to the EN 1090-1 standard, since this is a pure manufacturing standard.

Boverket (The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning) does not either consider that a sub-process can be certified according to EN 1090-1. It is the company that finally sells the products to the construction site that is responsible for the declaration of performance and the CE-marking of the product.

Sector Group 17 (SG17), which is the certification bodies' interpretation team in Europe, including EN 1090-1, is of the same opinion. Galvanizing shall not be certified against the standard, unless the galvanizing company not is responsible for the entire manufacturing process and finally selling the finished product.

Job galvanizers, that only galvanize products that other companies have manufactured, can only take responsibility for one of the declarable properties in 1090-1, which is sustainability. This is done by certifying that the galvanizing process is performed in accordance with the standard EN ISO 1461. But all hot dip galvanizing companies in Europe is already following this very well-implemented standard, so this will not require a specific certification. For all other items in EN 1090-1 the galvanizer has to answer NPD, "No Performance Determined", which means "no value set".

According to information from the Swedish authorities, there will be a follow up on what premises subcontractors has been certified against 1090-1, since only the companies that sell the finished product has the formal right to obtain a certification under 1090-1.



Annikki Hirn / Nordic Galvanizers