

BSGA Guidance note 2014.06.2

EN1090 Fabrication and Assembly - CE Marking of Sign Structures

- Sign buyers need to be aware that the approved documents listed in Building Regulations are now Eurocodes. These regulations come under criminal law and will carry greater penalties for non-compliance.
- The Structural Eurocodes are a set of harmonized European standards for the design of buildings and civil engineering structures. The 58 parts of Eurocodes deal with 10 specific Eurocodes covering basis of design, actions, concrete, steel, composites, timber, masonry, geotechnical design, earthquake resistance and aluminium. The scope of EN1090 applies to structural steel and aluminium components that form part of structure and bear a load.
- The scope includes rail lines, beams and masts along with a long list of similar uses. It includes balcony balustrades and staircases. In the latter instance it is clear that whilst, say, an external staircase is not likely to form an integral structural support for the building it is attached to, it is still required to be a safe structure in its own right (as a load bearing fixed item).
- Therefore it would seem logical that signs that are fixed to a structure may not contribute to the strength of the structure but will themselves be required to meet the structural safety standard as a staircase must.
- Signs should be considered as civil engineering structures and will require Eurocode compliance.
- The exact definition of civil engineering structures will no doubt require clarification by the courts but it would be prudent for sign manufacturers to adhere to the Eurocodes.

The Approved Documents may be downloaded free of charge from:
www.planningportal.gov.uk/buildingregulations/approveddocuments

EN1090 is based on Eurocode compliance and details the new European legislation for the fabrication and assembly of steel and aluminium civil engineering structures.

It comes into effect on 1st July 2014.

EN1090 comprises three parts;

EN1090-1: Requirements for conformity assessment for structural components (CE-Marking)

EN1090-2: Technical requirements for the execution of steel structures

EN1090-3: Technical requirements for the execution of aluminium structures

BSGA Members are kept informed of the legislation and other requirements necessary to help keep them and their clients from falling foul of their obligations.

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