



Lightness for strong Solutions



EPAQ CERTIFICATION CODE

EPAQ decided to create a numbering system to identify all products with an EPAQ Quality Label. All products with an EPAQ Quality Label have to display this number in combination with the Quality Label. This system enables the customer to check whether a product has a Quality Label by comparing the certification code with the official numbering system on the website of EPAQ. A misuse is prevented. It is also possible to check the duration of validity, panel types for which the Quality Label is valid and of course name and location of manufacturer and plant.

The certification code has the following system:

Example: **07-02-01-02-0012**

You can find the explanation of this code at www.epaq.eu/certification.html.

AWARD OF THE FIRST EPAQ QUALITY LABELS

On March 27th, the Quality Committee for Panels awarded the first EPAQ Quality Labels for sandwich panels. In the presence of Mr Pfiel (Brucha) and Mr Pesch (Romakowski) the chairman and one independent expert of the Quality Committee and the Secretary General handed over the first Quality Certificates for the panel types

- Brucha, WP-F and FP-F with steel faces and mineral wool core material, certification number 01-01-01-02-0001
- Romakowski, P-St, M-St, D-St with steel faces and polyurethane core material, certification number 09-01-01-01-0002

On the same meeting, a third Quality Label was awarded to the company ThyssenKrupp Bausysteme. The presentation took place on a meeting of the EASIE research project. Mr Lars Pfeiffer (TKS) received the congratulations for the first Quality Label of TKS:

- ThyssenKrupp Bausysteme, isorock and isorock vario with steel faces and mineral wool core material, certification number 09-02-01-02-0003

Five more panel types are currently in the certification process. Certification of profiles will follow in summer this year. EPAQ will provide a list of certified products on the website of EPAQ at www.epaq.eu/certification.html. Here you can find the latest list of certificates, the certification code to identify the product and the time of validity of a Quality Certificate.



From the left: Antti Helenius, VTT, Klaus Berner, FH Mainz, Martin Pfiel, Brucha, Erwin Pesch, Romakowski, Ralf Podleschny, EPAQ



From the left: Klaus Berner, FH Mainz, Lars Pfeiffer, TKS Bausysteme, Ralf Podleschny, EPAQ



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EU RESEARCH PROJECT EASIE HAS BEEN STARTED

An extensive research project, funded by the European Commission under the 7th framework programme, EASIE (Ensuring Advancement in Sandwich Construction through Innovation and Exploitation), has been started. 19 project partners, amongst them EPAQ, are working on the following items:

- Improvement of thermal and structural behaviour in openings and joints
- End user-focused design strategies
- Use of sandwich technology to optimise the global resistance of buildings
- Retrofitting, durability and maintenance
- Holistic, eLearning based education on sandwich construction
- Training, skill development and dissemination

The project has been started in October 2008 and will end in September 2011 with a large congress to inform all interested people about the developments in sandwich technology.

FIRST EPAQ WORKSHOP ON THE EPAQ QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM AND THE EASIE-PROJECT

At the 5th of March the first workshop on the EPAQ Quality Assurance System and the EASIE-project was held at the sandwich panel producer Brucha in Austria. The workshop informed the technicians and the sales people of the company. Those present learned about the background of the quality assurance system of EPAQ, the technical details of EN 14509 in combination with the EPAQ system and new developments that will be expected as an outcome of the new EU research project EASIE. 20 participants, amongst them sales people of 6 countries, listened to the presentations of Prof. Klaus Berner from the University of Applied Science, Mainz and Dr. Ralf Podleschny, EPAQ. More workshops are planned for this summer. The workshops are meant to improve the knowledge on sandwich technology and the EPAQ Quality Assurance system for the producers of sandwich panels.



PUBLICATION OF EN 14509 – REVISION HAS BEEN STARTED

In December 2008, the European Commission has published the sandwich panel standard EN 14509. The coexistence period started on January 1st, 2009 and will end October 1st, 2010. Therefore sandwich panels can now be marked with a CE-mark. CE-marking will become mandatory from the October 1st of next year. After publication, the responsible standardization committee of CEN, TC128 SC11, has begun to revise the sandwich panel standard EN 14509 on February 19th and 20th, 2009. It is the first task of the group to correct editorial mistakes in the standard and to write amendments or new parts or annexes. The main issues which have been discussed are:

- Correction of a strain rate
- Proposal of linear interpolation between the tested values for intermediate thicknesses
- Proposal of a shortened test programme in case of change of core material or glue
- Discussion of the declaration of the bending resistance on the CE-mark
- Work of WG 5 of SC11 that deals with design by testing
- Work of WG 6 of SC11 that deals with perforated panels
- Work of WG 7 of SC11 that deals with curved panels.

The next meeting of SC11 is planned for the end of May.