

December 2019



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Infrastructure Forum** - Brussels 6 December
- **EU elections: the impact for CEN & CENELEC** - Online 10 December
- **Training session CEN Technical Body Officers** - Brussels 12 December
- **2020 Concrete Dialogue** - Brussels 17 March

TWEET OF THE MONTH



Thanks for the constructive talks!

— Mohammed Chahim (@MChahim)
November 18, 2019



PUBLICATION OF THE MONTH



Dutch MEP Mohammed Chahim with our board member, Niels Ruijter (NVTB), and our President, Cédric de Meeûs.

A new European Commission

On Sunday, 1 December, the new European Commission (EC) took office. Speaking at the UN climate conference (COP25) in Madrid, EC President Ursula von der Leyen explained that the announced European Green Deal will be the EU's new growth strategy and will aim at transforming the EU into the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050.

The (EC) includes three executive vice-presidents, Frans Timmermans (NL), Margrethe Vestager (DK) and Valdis Dombrovskis (LV). Frans Timmermans recently announced that increased buildings renovation rates will be one of the flagship initiatives of the new EC but he did not elaborate on the measures that would be promoted. Thierry Breton, the EC Internal Market Commissioner, highlighted digital transformation and climate change, two key topics that will be high on his agenda along with "ambitious industrial policies".

Also in the EU news, the European Parliament (EP) declared a "climate and environmental emergency" calling on the EC to make sure all legislation and budgets align with the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. This climate emergency resolution was



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drafted by Pascal Canfin, a French Member of European Parliament (MEP) and president of its Environment committee (ENVI).

On Wednesday 11th December 2019, the EC is expected to announce details of its European Green Deal. The construction industry looks forward to working with the European Institutions on this crucial EU strategy and such underlying key topics that are digitalisation, climate change and circularity.

Industry4Europe new joint-paper

As highlighted in the monthly publication, the 149 industry organisations co-signed a new joint-paper offering 'A long-term strategy for Europe's industrial future: from words to action'. The coalition contributes to the future EU industrial strategy announced by European Commission President-Elect Ursula von der Leyen through cross-sectoral recommendations, . We strongly recommend that you share it with all your political contacts, at regional, national and European level. [Read more...](#)

Joint Initiative on Standardisation action 5 closure event

Joint Initiative on Standardisation action 5 (implementation of the CPR) closing event took place yesterday with the participation of the European Commission experts who presented the short and long term strategies. During the open discussion experts insisted on the need to unblock the situation. Hopefully the documents already available in the [website of CEN](#) will facilitate the work of Technical Committees when drafting their candidate harmonised product standards.

Construction Products Europe (CPR) consolidated list of harmonised standards

After the change in the way harmonised standards are cited, only the modifications of the list were published in the Official Journal. To facilitate the work of the experts consulting this information, the EC is now publishing the consolidated list in pdf but only for information purposes and without legal value. Future updates will be published in the same [website](#).

Europacable CPR awareness campaign

Europacable, the European cable makers association, is currently running a communication campaign to raise the awareness of all professionals in the cable supply chain of both their responsibilities and benefits stemming from the CPR.

Available in 15 languages, the online campaign covers 13 EU countries plus Norway and offers a training programme called 'My CPR Coach' (upon registration and for free) together with webinars and country-specific material. [Read more...](#)

DigiPLACE

DigiPLACE launch conference took place in Bologna last 22nd of November. Our General Director, Mr Sykes and the convenor of our Task Group Digitalisation, Mr Surin presented the point of view of our industry during the event and participate in the European project. A [short video interview](#) of Mr Surin about the event is available online.

European Commission & Sustainable sourcing

On 20th November, the European Commission launched the "Due Diligence Ready!" online portal available in 7 languages. It provides businesses with guidance on how to check the sources of the metals and minerals entering their supply chains. [Read more...](#)

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