EGOLF

The European Group of Organisations for Fire Testing, Inspection and Certification

www.egolf.org.uk

Gert van den Berg
convenor EGOLF TC4
Background and Aims

• Founded in 1988 at request of the European Commission
  - 4 leading experts
  - Development of fire test standards
• A network and focus for fire testing, inspection & certification
• Ensure common understanding and use of European fire test methods
• Raise standards by promoting & facilitating harmonisation
  - a level playing field
### 60 members from 28 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Latvia</th>
<th>Spain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Czech Rep.</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>Russia</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>USA</td>
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Member requirements

• Significant involvement in fire testing, inspection or certification of materials, components or products in support of legislation

• Accreditation to EN ISO/IEC 17025 (fire testing labs.) and, where relevant ISO/IEC 17020 and EN 45011 or ISO/IEC 17065

• Belong to national fire lab. group (if no group exists, approval by other EGOLF members in same country)

• Independence from commercial, financial and other pressures
Quality – keystone of EGOLF membership

- accreditation to 17025 (or equivalent if not a lab)
- independence
- compliance with EA 08 ‘Accreditation of fire labs’
- attendance at Harmonisation Courses for all relevant tests
- attendance at course on standardization system, EXAP, AoC etc
- attendance at course on fire science
- participation in EGOLF round robins
- attendance at EGOLF meetings
Continuous improvement

- Formal set of Minimum Membership Requirements
- Quality framework – EGOLF Steps to Excellence
  - Monitored by TC4 every six months
  - Status of each lab. available to all members on private area of website
  - Targets reviewed every 12 months
  - Internal “Gold star membership”
Key activities & helpdesk items

- Harmonisation courses and workshops
- Organising round robins
  - Common views on measurement of uncertainty
- Online Helpdesk Forum
  - generates 30+ recommendations each year
- Support to product manufacturers in search of member labs. which have attended EGOLF courses
# Harmonisation courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fire resistance</th>
<th>Reaction to Fire</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1366-3 &amp; -4 Penetration seals</td>
<td>1182 Non-combustibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1363-1 General requirements</td>
<td>1716 Determination of heat of combustion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1634-1 Fire doors and shutters</td>
<td>11925-1 Ignitability of building products – single flame source test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1364-1 Non loadbearing walls</td>
<td>9239-1 Floorings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1366-1, -8 and -9 Ducts and smoke control ducts</td>
<td>13823 Single burning item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13381 series + assessment methods</td>
<td>TS 1187-2012 TM1 and TM2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passive and reactive protection applied to steel members</td>
<td>External fire exposure to roofs</td>
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Recent and forthcoming Round Robins

2010-2012
• ISO EN 1716 determining heat of combustion
• ISO EN 11925-2 ignitability of building products
• ISO EN 1182 non-combustibility

2013-2016
• ISO EN 9239-1 radiant flooring panels
• ISO EN 1187 roof test methods 1 & 2
• EXAP and classification of non loadbearing glazed partition
• Steel beam – EN 1363-1:2012 and EN 1365-3:1999
• SBI test on particle board and wallpaper

2015-2017 Secretariat for industry & SH02 RR on Cables to EN 50399
EGOLF Publications

- EGOLF Agreements (EGAs)
  - Guidelines and interpretations
- EGOLF Technical Recommendations (EGRs)
  - Concerning use of Standards and test methods
- EGOLF Round Robin reports
  - Full reports to members & summary for public
- EGOLF Position Papers (EGPs)
  - Where error or inconsistency identified in Standards
Issues for EA

- General concern amongst EGOLF members
- List of Technical Assessors from EGOLF
- EGOLF Agreement EGA 08
- Accreditation for Extended Applications and Classification
- Interpretation of CPR, Article 43
General concern amongst EGOLF members

- Different degrees of enforcement in various countries
- Emphasis on different topics
- Sometimes, lack of technical knowledge
- In some case, an accredited lab did not even have the right equipment to perform the test
- In some countries, inability to accredit against some standards, like ExAp and classification standards
List of Technical Assessors

- Requested by EA in 2011
- List of fire experts, willing to act as Technical Assessors
- Workshop held in June 2012, Presentation by Prof. Vandevelde (Belgium)
- During the workshop a Checklist for Technical Assessors has been produced
- This checklist is included as Annex to EGA08
- List of Fire Experts has been updated and is available
EGOLF Agreement EGA 08

- Interpretation of EN ISO/IEC 17025 for fire labs
- Developed since 2007
- Provides common understanding
- Agreement → mandatory
- All EGOLF members indicated to follow the guidelines
- Could assist EA members
Accreditation for ExAp and Classification

Activity of EGOLF member (example: fire door)
EN 1634-1 Fire test & EN 1634-3 Smoke leakage
EN 15269-5 Extended Application
EN 13501-2 → Classification

These activities are considered as “one package”.
The aim is to have this package under accreditation!
Interpretation of CPR, Article 43, clause 4

A notified body, its top-level management and the personnel responsible for carrying out the third party tasks in the process of assessment and verification of constancy of performance shall not become directly involved in the design, manufacture or construction, marketing, installation, use or maintenance of those construction products, nor represent the parties engaged in those activities. They shall not engage in any activity that may conflict with their independence of judgement and integrity related to the activities for which they have been notified. This shall, in particular, apply to consultancy services.

• Does EA have an interpretation?
• Impartiality is clear! But, what is meant with “any activity”?
• What are “consultancy services”? Before or after a fire test?