

related test method

subject

Notification of mistakes in EN test and classification standards

reference of original query

Plenary N336, TC4 N144 §10, TC4 N149

Problem

Most of the test standards for reaction to fire and resistance to fire are now published as is the classification standard EN 13501- 1 [EN 13501-2 is expected to be published soon]. Additionally, several product standards are now available and many more will become available in the near future, such that the new European test and classification system can become fully functional.

The Group of Notified Bodies - Fire Sector Group [SHO2] is actively working on the interpretation and further specification of practical operating procedures for use by those involved in operation of the new European test and classification system.

As this new European test and classification system is new to all laboratories, for many reasons it can be assumed that EGOLF members will involuntarily make mistakes, especially during the early days of implementation of the system.

The problem is aggravated by the fact that:

- Not all members follow the FSG meetings;
- We all tend to read CEN standards through our national glasses;
- Some instructions may not reach the relevant laboratory staff etc...

This may lead to loss of reputation of members, damage claims, and other unwanted situations.

EGOLF TC4 considers that an early warning system should be developed to identify and quickly inform members about any mistakes made in implementation of the new European test and classification system. This early warning system is formulated within this EGOLF Technical Recommendation (TC4 quality & accreditation matters).

It is therefore agreed that all members shall follow this Recommendation to avoid loss of reputation, damage claims and other unwanted situations for both EGOLF and its individual members and indirectly lead to harmonisation of technical performance and business practice.

Recommendation



All EGOLF members shall follow the following 'early warning' system to identify and inform other members about any mistakes they might have made or observed being made by other members, as soon as they are observed:

- i. An EGOLF member laboratory becoming aware of a mistake made by itself in implementation of the new European Test and Classification system shall immediately, if the mistake is serious enough to be worthy of notification to other members, inform the EGOLF Administration and Technical Executive of the problem.
- ii. An EGOLF member laboratory becoming aware of a mistake (or suggestion of a mistake) made in implementation of the new European Test and Classification system by another laboratory shall immediately discuss the mistake (or suggestion of mistake) with the laboratory responsible. Normally the problem shall be resolved at this level.
- iii. If the mistake is serious enough to be worthy of notification to other members the EGOLF Administration and Technical Executive shall be notified of the problem.
- iv. If, under (ii), agreement is not reached between the two members, the facts shall be given to the EGOLF Administrative and Technical Executive by one or both of those members involved.
- v. Information arising from (i), (iii) or (iv) above, shall be passed by the EGOLF Administration and Technical Executive to the relevant Technical Committee Convenor, in an anonymous way.
- vi. The Technical Committee Convenor shall determine whether a mistake has in fact occurred and how serious the consequences of that mistake are (or may become). If necessary, the matter shall be reported to / discussed with the EGOLF Executive.
- vii. The EGOLF member(s) concerned shall be advised of the results of that review.
- viii. The action to be taken shall be agreed by the member(s) involved and the Technical Committee Convenor (or if necessary by the EGOLF Executive).
- ix. If applicable to all members, the matter shall be discussed in the relevant Technical Committee.