

GNB-CPD AG	Co-ordination of the Group of Notified Bodies for the Construction Products Directive 89/106/EEC	NB-CPD/11/456 Issued: 15 July 2011 Working Document
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Letter from the GNB-CPD President: Update on versions of supporting standards to be used when certifying road restraint systems to EN 1317-5:2007

Dear Colleagues,

I refer to the case of EN 1317.

As you know, the harmonised standard is EN 1317 part 5. Annex ZA of this standard mentions EN 1317 parts 1, 2 and 3 as supporting standards.

The harmonised part of EN 1317 refers to the supporting standards in a generic form in its text, but the references in Annex ZA are to specific dated editions.

Revised versions of Parts 1, 2 and 3 have been issued by CEN in August 2010. In particular Part 2 "Performance classes, impact test acceptance criteria and test methods for safety barriers including vehicle parapets" has been modified in two critical ways:

<<3.2 Containment levels

In Table 2 the new containment classes L1, L2, L3, L4a and L4b have been added, requiring the same tests of the corresponding H classes plus the test TB 32.

3.3 Impact severity

The requirement for the index PHD (Post impact Head Deceleration) has been cancelled. Only ASI and THIV are required.>>

These modifications imply a different acceptance test which may have a disruptive impact on the market by allowing manufacturers to claim different classifications for the same products. The effect of such changes should have been monitored by the relevant CEN TC, and brought to the attention of the European Commission for a decision, even though this is a supporting standard rather than a hEN.

Notified bodies needed to decide which editions of the supporting standards to use. SG04 and the GNB-CPD AG proposed a possible solution, in consultation with CEN/TC 226, which has been included in a Position Paper; NBs were invited to follow the new edition of the standard according to the CEN rules which state that only the current edition of the standard should be applied.

After complaints were received from manufacturers who claimed that the co-existence of the two supporting standards could have caused unfair competition, the European Commission convened a meeting in order to clarify the situation. The meeting was held on July 4th, 2011, with the CEPMC in attendance, and the result of it was as follows:

Notified bodies shall strictly follow the contents of Annex ZA of hEN 1317-5: 2007 and use only the editions of the supporting standards with the issuing dates specified in that Annex as a reference for acceptance testing.

Notified bodies that have already issued certificates taking into account the 2010 edition of the supporting standards are advised to contact their national accreditation bodies and Mrs Ima Gómez López of the European Commission (ima.gomez-lopez@ec.europa.eu) immediately, for further advice on their situation.

Chapter 2 of Position Paper NB-CPD/SG04/10/074r1 “GNB-CPD position paper from SG04 - EN 1317-5:2007 Certification of Road restraint systems - Part 5: Product requirements and evaluation of conformity for vehicle restraint systems” will be revised as soon as possible. The proposed revised wording for this chapter is as follows:

<<2 Update of supporting standards

The following supporting standards:

- EN 1317-1 Road restraint systems. Part 1: Terminology and general criteria for test methods;
- EN 1317-2 Road restraint systems. Part 2: Performance classes, impact test acceptance criteria and test methods for safety barriers including vehicle parapets, and;
- EN 1317-3 Road restraint systems. Part 3: Performance classes, impact test acceptance criteria and test methods for crash cushions;

have been updated by CEN and re-published in August 2010.

However, Annex ZA of EN 1317-5:2007 (Road restraint systems) has dated references to the above mentioned standards. Although CEN has withdrawn the superseded versions of EN 1317-1, -2 and -3 **Notified Certification Bodies certifying vehicle restraint systems to EN 1317-5:2007+A1:2008 should apply the OLD VERSIONS (EN 1317-1:1998, EN 1317-2:1998 and EN 1317-3:2000) of these standards as required by EN 1317-5:2007 Annex ZA.>>**

The new edition of the PP will be made available on CIRCA as soon as possible.

Please circulate this letter to other concerned parties.

Best regards
Dario Agalbato
President of GNB-CPD AG