



Think Concrete, Go precast

BIBM welcomes new strategy for Competitiveness of the European construction industry

BIBM welcomes the European Commission's Communication on Strategy for the sustainable competitiveness of the construction industry which acknowledges the strategic importance of the construction industry for Europe's economy.

BIBM supports the five key objectives identified in the Communication as well as most of the actions proposed.

BIBM wishes to submit the following reactions to the publication of the above Communication:

- Welcomes the integrated approach covering the whole value chain
- Agrees that more efficient financial support has a primordial role in the future competitiveness of the industry
- Urges the Commission to use CEN TC350 standards regarding sustainable construction including the use of national resources and life cycle cost-benefits

However, the growing number of sustainability schemes constitutes a significant burden to the industry, rather than new opportunities. Therefore, BIBM supports Commission's intention to *"develop harmonised rules on the declaration of performance characteristics of construction products in relation to a sustainable use of natural resources in the context of the CPR"* , but call for a clear reference to CEN TC 350 standards developed by the industry.

Also, in terms of energy efficiency, BIBM would like to draw the attention to fact that is important to measure the energy performance at the building level, rather than at individual construction products level. The assessment of individual construction products is nonsense. BIBM hopes that the forthcoming Communication on Sustainable Buildings will deal with this issue.

BIBM (from the French acronym "Bureau International du Béton Manufacturé") is the European Federation of Precast Concrete Industry, established in 1954, represents the interest of precast concrete industry of 17 European countries with a combined industry turnover of 26 billion Euro, directly employing approximately 210,000 European citizens.