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Environmental performance of products & businesses - substantiating claims

BIBM feedback

BIBM, the federation of the European Precast Concrete Industry, fully supports the position of Construction Products Europe on this topic.

Our industry actively contributed in the past years to the establishment of a framework for the delivery of accurate and reliable information about sustainability of construction works in the field of standardisation (CEN/TC 350). We strongly believe that this is the right approach for the construction sector for the following reasons:

• EN 15804 is developed specifically for construction products in their role as "intermediate products" for achieving the required characteristics in the final construction work (building, infrastructure etc...). PEF is designed for end-user products;

• The construction products industry has been investing money and resources during the last years for providing information following the EN 15804; restarting with a new system now would be a tremendous loss and will further confuse the market. Smalla dn medium seized enterprised will hardly be able to follow;

• Alignment between EN 15804 and PEF was achieved successfully with the latest revision of EN 15804+A2 in order to take into account the key PEF principles. The exercise was made with the clear objective to keep using EN 15804 in the field of construction products and the result was satisfactory for all the parties (full response to the European Commission mandate).

Due to the fact that construction works are under the competence of Member States and considering the subsidiarity principle, we believe that option 3 for construction products will not work. Options 1 and 2 could work, provided that the specificities of the construction sector are taken into account as mentioned above.

Thanks for the possibility to give a feedback to this important initiative!

Secretariat: Rue d'Arlon 55 B-1040 T : +32 2 340 18 28 <u>info@bibm.eu</u>