

Dear stakeholder,

A question we frequently have got is regarding the process towards a harmonized European standard for assessing the fire performance of facades. We have asked EC on the process they foresee, and we have got the following response from the EC lawyers;

As you might be aware that there is an on-going process for the revision of the CPR and the results of that exercise are not known yet, and they can potentially change the way things are currently organised in this respect (depending on what legislators, European Council and Parliament, choose to do). Having said this the following is based on the CPR as it is now.

When we have the results from the project on the table, the Commission needs to initiate a standardisation request (SR) for horizontal “façade fire testing” standard. Normally, taking into account all consultations and commenting rounds, finalising a SR and getting it adopted by the Commission takes about two to three years.

After the SR is clear and has been accepted by CEN, the relevant CEN TC will start working on the requested standard. In this case, as the technical development has already been done, one could expect that the development of the horizontal standard would not take more than approximately three years.

After this horizontal supporting standard and the delegated act from the Commission about the classification (which could probably run to certain extent in parallel with standard development) have been adopted and entered into force, the TCs working on product standards can start using the new approach in the context of their respective product standards (so around 2027-28). The elaboration of the new versions of such product standards will of course also take its customary time.

For the point of time when all relevant product standards have been updated to reflect the new approach we are potentially speaking about 10 - 15 years from now but that is hard for us to estimate (as the process is in full control of CEN).