

The background of the slide is a blurred image of the European Union flag, featuring a circle of twelve gold stars on a blue field.

European Technical Approvals

ETAs

- CPD and ETAs
- Content of ETAs
- Why and when ETAs ?
- Basis for ETAs
- ETAGs and CUAPs
- ETAs and Eurocodes

- CPD and ETAs
- Why and when ETAs?
- On which basis?
- Relations with Eurocodes?

CPD – essential requirements

- For the design and execution of works.
- Expressed in terms of general objectives:
 1. Mechanical resistance and stability
 2. Safety in case of fire
 3. Hygiene, health and the environment
 4. Safety in use
 5. Protection against noise
 6. Energy, economy and heat retention
- Subject of regulations and technical rules of Member States

CPD – responsibilities of member states

- Regulations on Works
- Technical rules for the design and execution of works
- Choice of ERs contained in such regulations and technical rules
- Safety levels with regard to the fulfilment of ERs

CPD – Europ. Techn. Specifications for construction products

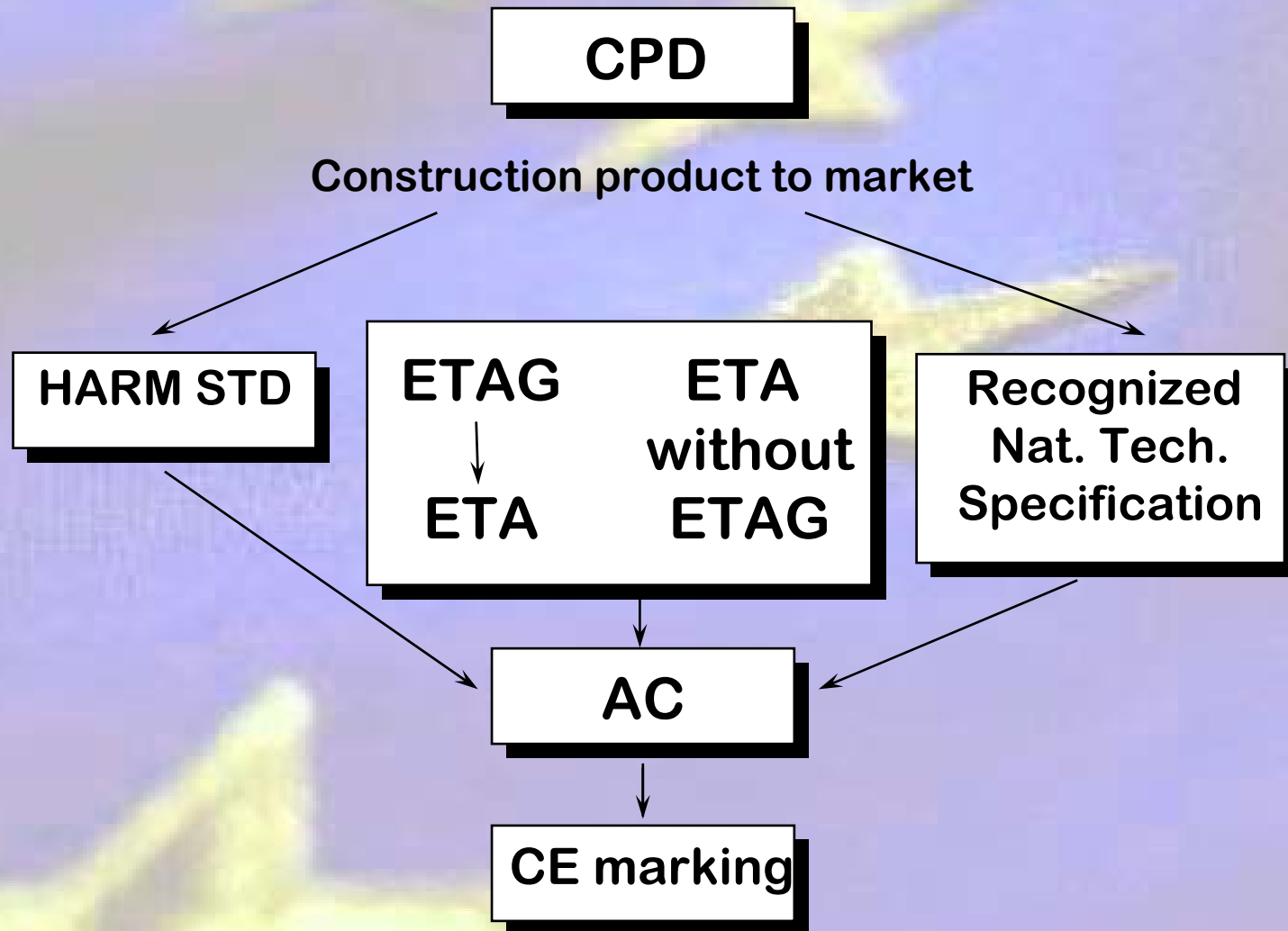
- Covering all product characteristics needed in one, several or all Member States
- Methods for verification and evaluation of these characteristics
- Different levels or classes of performance
- Option « No performance determined » for characteristics which are not in all Member States needed or not for all uses
- Indication of threshold values where necessary for technical reasons

CPD – Creating a single European market for construction products

- « Regulatory » product characteristics are laid down in European technical specifications
 - Harmonised standard (hEN)
 - Prepared by CEN
 - Mandate by European Commission
 - European Technical Approval
 - Issued by EOTA member
- CE – marking of products based on hEN or ETA
 - Accompanied by information on product performances
 - Declared values and classes

CPD and ETAs

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What is an ETA?

- ETA = European Technical Approval
- ETA = Approval procedure
 - Favourable technical assessment of « fitness for use of a product for an intended use », based on the fulfilment of the ERs for building works for which the product is used
- ETA = Document specifying the product
 - Technical specification of the assessed product
- ETA = Basis for the CE marking
 - Reference document for the CE marking and the accompanying information on the « regulatory » characteristics and performances of the product

Content of ETAs

- Description of the product and intended use
- “Regulatory” product characteristics expressed in harmonized European terms (eg loadbearing capacity)
- Provisions on
 - use and installation of the product, as far as relevant
 - evaluation and attestation of conformity
 - tasks of manufacturer
 - tasks of notified bodies to be involved for testing, inspection and certification (where relevant)
 - CE marking and accompanying information on product characteristics and performances

What is an ETA?

- **ETA =**
 - Valid for 5 years in the 27 member states of EU + EFTA
 - Mainly for innovative or products of a single producer
- **ETA ≠**
 - An attestation of conformity or certification

Why and when ETAs?

When ETA? < CPD (art. 8)

Product

- For which:
 - There is no harmonised standard
 - There is no recognised national standard
 - There is no mandate for European standard
 - The EC considers that a standard cannot or cannot yet be elaborated
- Which differs significantly from harmonised or recognized national standards
- EC derogation, even when there is a mandate for a standard

ETA – for which products?

- Construction product
 - Intended to be incorporated permanently in works
 - Relevant for fulfilment of ERs
- Product not or not yet covered by a hEN
 - Standard cannot (yet) be elaborated
 - Deviation from standard
 - Standard under preparation (interim solution)
- In particular for new, innovative, complex
 - Products or product types
 - Intended uses (incl. systems and kits)
 - Assessment conditions
- Complementarity with CEN standardization

Opportunities through the ETA

- Measure-made technical specification for individual product
 - Manufacturer has own technical specification for his product
 - Official reference document for CE marking
 - ETA can include specific installation and application conditions
- Reduced costs for the attestation of conformity
 - Product characteristics and performances are evaluated on the basis of the approval testing
 - Further type-testing is not necessary for this purpose

ETA combines innovation and CE-marking

- Easy and fast route to the European market and the CE marking
 - ETA gives benefits of CE marking also when hEN is not or not yet available
 - ETA allows Europe-wide market introduction of non-standardized products
 - No costs for participation in standardization work
- ETA facilitates development of new and innovative products
 - Allows consideration of regulatory context of MS also where hEN can not be set up, or existing hEN is not applicable
 - Possible integration of the approval procedure in the product development phase

Comparison of ETA with hEN

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■ Standards

- General specification
- Applicable for a whole range of products (according to scope)
- Reflects the market situation on a larger scale
- Cover mostly traditional building materials and products
- Represent acknowledged state of the art

■ Approvals

- Individual specification
- Tailor-made for individual product, unique
- For specific market needs of a manufacturer
- Mostly for new and innovative products or systems (kits)
- Represent state of the art, facilitate innovation

Basis for issuing ETAs

- Common assessment criteria established by EOTA
 - European Technical Approval Guideline (ETAG)
 - For whole product family
 - Many ETA applications to be expected
 - Prepared on the basis of a Commission mandate
 - Common Understanding (of EOTA member bodies) on the Assessment Procedure (CUAP)
 - For an individual product of a particular applicant
 - Not many applications to be expected
 - Referred to as “Art. 9.2 procedure”
- Common Procedural Rules

ETAGs and CUAPs (2)

- ETAGs and CUAPs:
 - **ETAG** (and CUAPs) describe “how to assess, in an harmonised way, products of a particular product family”, so that the result (CE marked product through ETA) can be brought to the market without further regulatory requirements from any Member State
 - **ETAG** drafted by EOTA (with help of industry) upon mandate from EC/EFTA: guarantee that all regulated characteristics are taken into consideration
 - **ETAGs and CUAPs** are binding for all Approval Bodies, regrouped in EOTA

ETAGs and CUAPs (3)

- ETAGs and CUAPs: how to assess
 - on the basis of available test and calculation methods resulting from CEN/CENELEC (prENs, ENs, also Eurocodes), ISO, national standards, “old” national approval work in voluntary or mandatory field or from research activities
 - sometimes development of totally new EOTA methods, if need be (e.g. EOTA Technical report)
 - limitation: it must always correspond to/linked to a regulatory framework in at least 1 MS

ETAG and CUAPs (4)

- Scope: Definition and internal use of the construction product
- Characteristics of the product and methods of verification
(What to evaluate and how to evaluate and how to express the result)
- Attestation and evaluation of conformity and CE marking
 - EC Decision
 - tasks for NB and manufacturer
- Assumptions under which the fitness for the intended use is assessed
(installation, maintenance, design, ...)
- Add 1. Content and format of ETAs issued on the basis of this ETAG/CUAP

ETAGs and CUAPs (5)

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6 ERs FOR WORKS TO BE FOUND
IN REGULATIONS OF M.S.

IDs for works /products and
Mandates

ETAGs < mandate
EC/EFTA

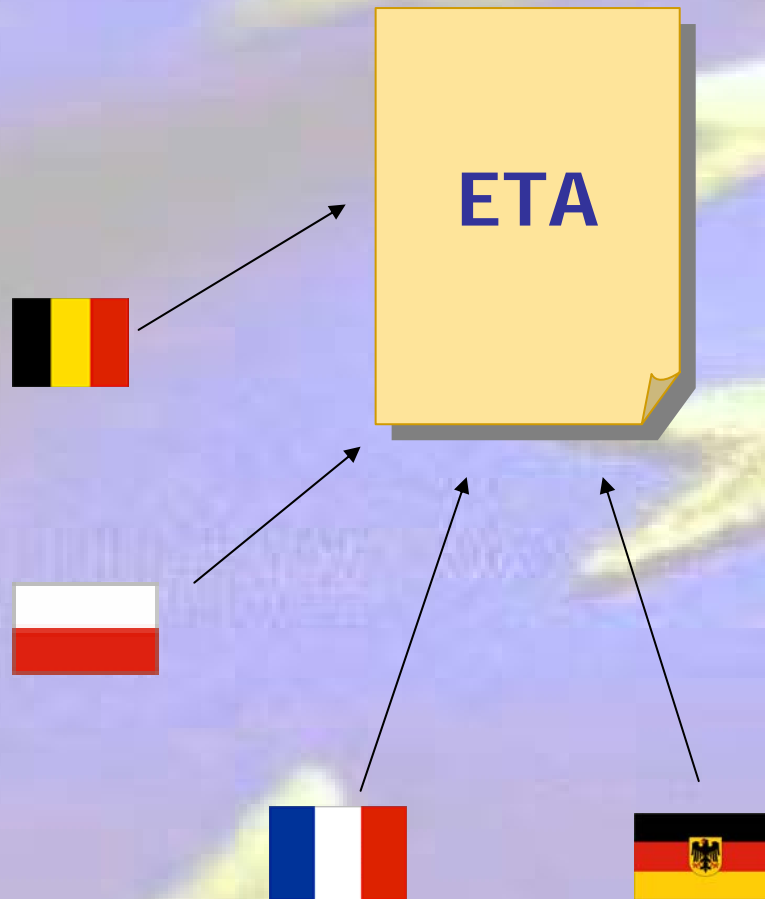
CUAPs <direct input
Approval Bodies

which characteristics to assess in ETAs in view of regulations on 6 ERs in M.S. and how to assess (in an harmonised way) so that the result (CE marked product through ETA) can be brought to the market without further regulatory requirements

Regulatory requirements of all MSs to consider

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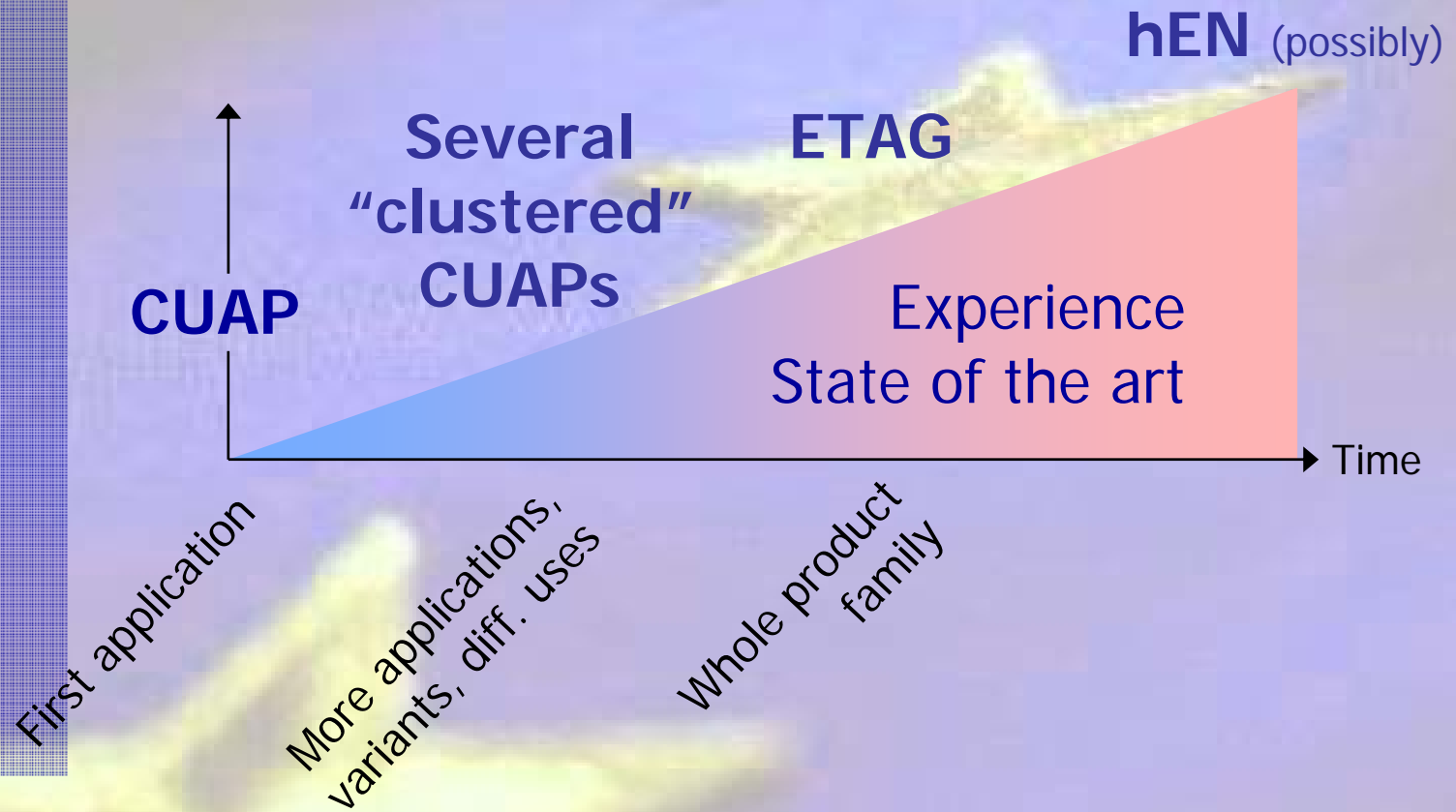
- Choice of the manufacturer depending on the countries in which he intends to put the product on the market:

- by product characteristics retained in the assessment (NPD option)
- or
- by levels and classes of performance obtained

Complementarity of ETA/hEN

From ETA(G) to hEN

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ETAs and Eurocodes

- Eurocodes are supporting standards for the assessment of ER1 or ER2
- Mentioned in ETAGs and CUAPs, where relevant
- Basis for indication in ETAs:
EC GP L (3 options)
- Usually option 2 is preferred in ETAs
i.e indicate the characteristic values,
sometimes design values with indication of
used safety factors
- Problems:
 - multitude of NDPs
 - complex products
(eg building kits)

ETAs and Eurocodes

- For some (mostly innovative) products, no European design codes available: development of own EOTA method (eg in ETAG on metal anchors)
- Or develop with CEN/TC 250 prenormative codes, with indication of product characteristics to be found in the ETAs

CPD and ETAs

Content of ETAs

Why and when ETAs ?

Basis for ETAs

ETAGs and CUAPs

ETAs and Eurocodes

■ Further information:

- e.g. - full text of ETAGs
- list of all valid ETAs

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