Implementation of Eurocodes in Spain: progress and challenges

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Spanish regulatory scenario

- In Spanish national codes/regulations the relevant administration assumes the responsibility of the safe, reliable and durable behaviour of the structure designed therewith.

- National codes/regulations allow the use of other codes, as long as the levels of safety, reliability and durability are equivalent.

- Designers may therefore use Eurocodes but, in the absence of National Annexes, they have to determine the appropriate open parameters to assure that equivalent levels of safety, reliability and durability, with regard to those required by the relevant national code/regulation, are met.
• Challenges:
  – Translation of Eurocode ENs: requires…
    – Knowledge and accurate use of technical jargon
    – Verification of consistency in terminology
  – Elaboration of National Annexes: requires…
    – Good knowledge of relevant national codes
    – Calibration of Eurocode EN (with NA) vs relevant national code
    – Verification of horizontal consistency
  – Liability issue: raised by…
    – Juridical implications of publication of NAs
  – Existance of consolidated national codes: represents…
    – Facing changes in traditional ways (practice, liability, software)
      and in related costs
EUROCODES IN SPAIN

• Progress:
  » Mirror national committee: AEN/CTN 140/SC 1 to 9
  » AEN/CTN 140/HWG “Terminology in translations”
  • Eurocode standards: Translated : 20 + (17 + 22) under translation
  • Eurocode standards: Published : 8 + (12 under final editing) + 17
  » Group for National Annexes: (32) + (13) SGT (3), DGRoads + DGRailroads (7), DGHousing (16) and IGN (6)
  » AEN/CTN 140/HWG “National Annexes”:
    • Draft National Annexes: 25 [EC0(2), EC1(6), EC2(4), EC3(11), EC4(2)]
    • Pending Draft NAs: 20 [EC1(2), EC3(4), EC4(1), EC5(2), EC6(4), EC7(1), EC8(6)]
    • Eurocode standards with default National Annex: 12 + 2
    • Available National Annexes: 0
    • Expected availability of NAs: between 2009 and 2010
EUROCODES - Background and Application
18 February 2008

Thanks for your attention

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