

PRESS RELEASE

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RIDBA Tackles CE Marking Non-Compliance with New Partnership

RIDBA is pleased to have signed a new partnership with Dorset County Council Trading Standards Service (DCCTSS) in the form of a Primary Authority Agreement (PAA). The agreement is a legal partnership whereby DCCTSS commits to investigating reports from RIDBA members of non-compliance of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR).

DCCTSS is fully aware of the CPR and the importance of CE Marking, which has often not been the case with many Local Trading Standards offices. Acting as the main point of contact for RIDBA on all cases, DCCTSS will follow up directly with other Local Trading Standards offices, allowing a more efficient way for RIDBA members to report non-compliance.

All RIDBA Steel Frame Manufacturers have achieved CE certification as part of the RIDBA membership criteria and this agreement takes a significant step in helping to make the industry a fairer place. RIDBA members are critical to ensuring the success of this partnership by making RIDBA aware of any cases of non-compliance, which can be reported anonymously. This is a fantastic opportunity for RIDBA and its members to lead the way in ensuring that non-member businesses not complying with CE Marking are reported.

Principal Trading Standards Officer at Dorset County Council, Martin Thursby said:

"We are delighted to form a Primary Authority Partnership with RIDBA and look forward to working closely together to drive up compliance with the Construction Products Regulation in non-member companies. As well as being a legal obligation, compliance with the regulations ensures safety and a level playing field in the industry."

RIDBA Chairman, James Anthony said:

"This is a massive step forward for RIDBA and something we have been looking at for some time. The number one issue for our members is compliance with CE marking and the frustration caused by companies operating illegally and not complying with the Construction Products Regulation. Dorset has already demonstrated how effective it can be in dealing with non-compliance so we look forward to a successful partnership."

~ Ends ~

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Notes to Editors

1. [The Rural and Industrial Design and Building Association \(RIDBA\)](#) is the recognised trade association for the modern agricultural and industrial buildings industry. RIDBA represents contractors, designers, colleges, surveyors, land agents and manufacturers involved in rural and industrial construction.
2. All [RIDBA members](#) who manufacture steel frames have met the legal requirements to CE Mark their relevant products, and all non-manufacturing members only purchase products which have CE Marking.
3. [Dorset County Council Trading Standards Service \(DCCTSS\)](#) aim to provide a fair, safe trading environment for consumers and businesses, through education, advice, enforcement and by working with their partners.
4. From 1 July 2013, under the [Construction Products Regulation 2013 \(CPR\)](#), it became mandatory for manufacturers to apply CE marking to any of their products covered by a harmonised European standard (hEN) or a European Technical Assessment (ETA).
5. Primary Authority Agreement (PAA) - As a co-ordinator, RIDBA has formed a legal partnership with a local authority (known as the primary authority) to provide advice on trading standards that is tailored to the needs of the industry.
6. [CE Marking](#) is a declaration by a manufacturer to a customer that their product complies with all relevant EU Legislation for that product. This shows that the manufacturer has checked that their products meet EU safety, health or environmental requirements and allows the free movement of products within the European market.