

# What can we expect from CE marking of building products?

Jeroen Bartels  
*CEN/TC 351 Chair*

---

# CEN/TC 351 and CE marking

- Introduction to the work of CEN/TC 351
- Test methods and CE marking
- Impact on Healthy Air

# Building products

- CEN/TC 351: Construction Products: Assessment of Release of Dangerous Substances
- **Essential Requirements 3** of the Construction Products Directive: hygiene, health and environment
- Harmonised, **horizontal** methods for testing for leaching to soil and ground water and release to indoor air
- **Mandate** M/366 from the European Commission based on the Construction Products Directive

# Dangerous Substances

- **Risk** management approach
- When **regulated** presumably there exists a risk
- Regulated by:
  - Existing national regulations (**notified** by Member States)
  - Existing international regulations (European Directives)
- List of Regulated Dangerous Substances
  - Release to soil and ground water
  - Emission to indoor air

# Mandate M/366

- Title:  
Horizontal **complement** to the mandates to CEN/CENELEC (for construction products), concerning the execution of standardisation work for the development of horizontal standardised assessment methods for harmonised approaches relating to **dangerous substances** under the Construction Products Directive (CPD)

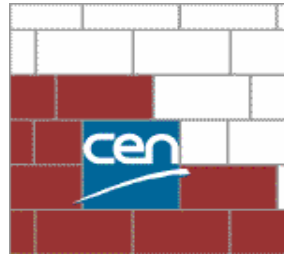
# Scope of CEN/TC 351

- Development of horizontal standardised assessment methods for harmonised approaches relating to the **release** of regulated dangerous substances under the CPD taking into account the **intended conditions of use** of the product.
  - Release versus content
  - Intended use
  - Release scenarios

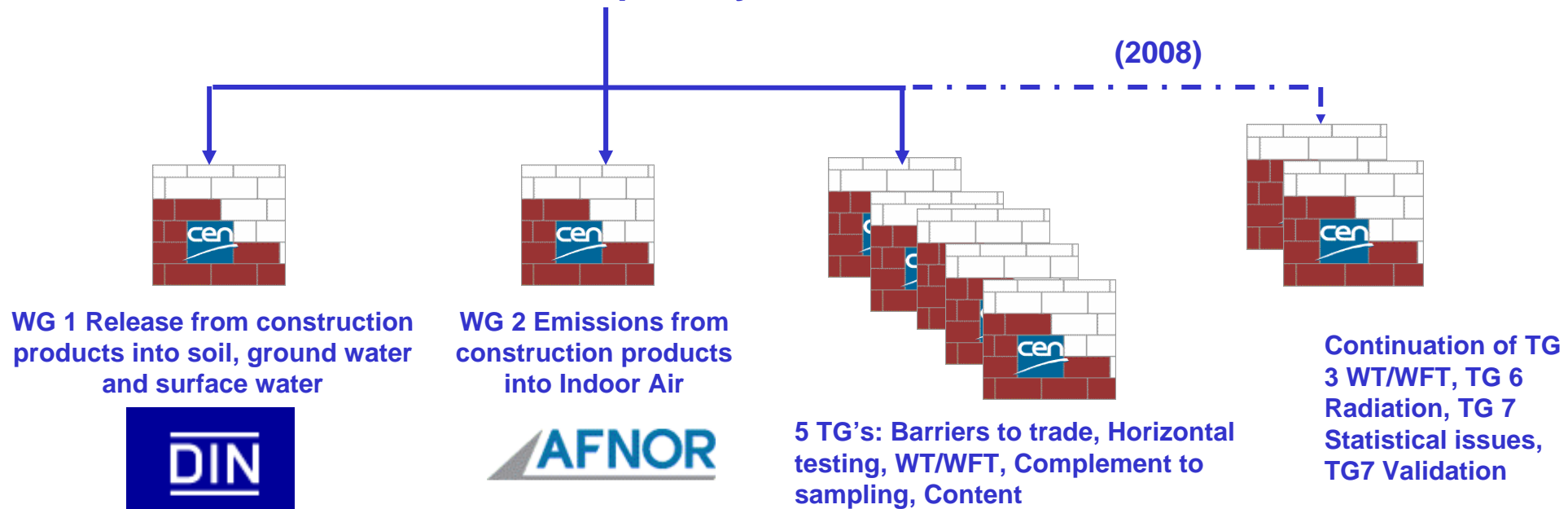
# Work plan of CEN/TC 351

- Listing of existing standards
- Selecting and adapting test method standards
- Publication as TS
- Validation programme (no EN without validation)
- Publication of EN after CEN voting procedure
- Revision of harmonised product standards (mandated under CPD) by Product TCs

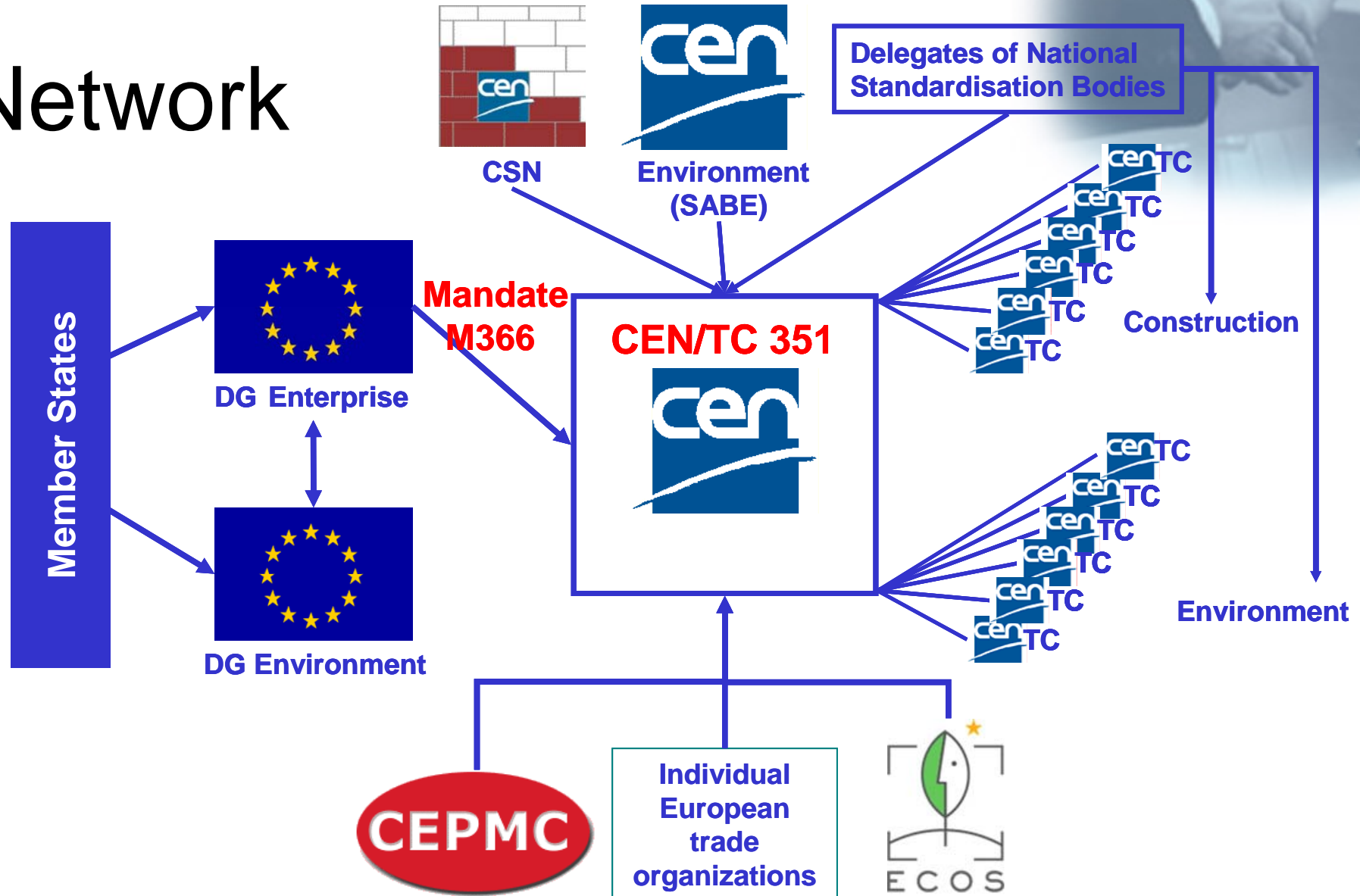
# Structure of CEN/TC 351



CEN/TC 351 plenary



# Network



# Communication is the key

- 67 product TCs, environmental TCs
- European Commission: SCC, DG Enterprise, DG Environment, DG Research
- 27 Member States / 30 CEN Members
- Industry, industrial sectors
- CEN bodies: CMC, CSN, CSNPE, SABE
- Regulators, experts from various fields
- Liaisons with interest groups

# Ways to communicate

- Various enquiries and questionnaires to product TCs, EOTA and organizations in liaison for information and to improve awareness
- Encourage establishment of liaisons to CEN/TC 351
- [www.centc351.org](http://www.centc351.org)

# ER3 in harmonised product standards

- Now: Note in Annex ZA: existing national requirements regarding Dangerous Substances have to be met
- Future: Note is to be replaced by assessment of Dangerous Substances as essential characteristic
- CE mark provides information: value/class or No Performance Declared)
- Product TCs can make use of Without Testing or Without Further Testing procedures

# Release to indoor air

- Construction products in their normal intended use
  - Flooring, paint are no construction products
  - Preserved wood for outdoor is not intended for indoor use
- Test methods for emission
  - Using test chamber (ISO 16000)
  - No sensory analyses
  - Excluding HVAC systems

# Test methods and regulations

- Indoor air problems:
  - Lack of ventilation, insufficient ventilation, poor design
  - Benzene, formaldehyde en VOCs exceed limit values
  - 30 - 50 % poor design of balanced ventilation system(1240 new houses)
  - 60 % CO<sub>2</sub> concentration higher than 1200 ppm (short or longer periods of time) (Netherlands total)
  - 30 % of heating systems wrongly installed (Netherlands total)
  - 25 % of total generate unhealthy indoor conditions (1.7 million houses)

# CE marking on Construction Products

- Declaration of (lack of) emission of Dangerous Substances
  - VOCs, formaldehyde, radiation
- Harmonised horizontal test methods
- Limit values are prerogative of Member States

**CE marking on construction products does not solve poor design or poor installation**

# Thank you for your attention

## NEN Construction

- Phone: +31 15 269 02 80
- Fax: +31 15 269 06 30
- E-mail:
  - [annemieke.venemans@nen.nl](mailto:annemieke.venemans@nen.nl)
  - [jbartels.4m.advies@wanadoo.nl](mailto:jbartels.4m.advies@wanadoo.nl)
- [www.centc351.org](http://www.centc351.org)