

SINTEF Building and Infrastructure Inspection

The inspection activities of SINTEF Building and Infrastructure include supervisory factory production control at manufacturers of construction products. The purpose is primarily to make sure that the manufacturer's own production control functions satisfactorily, and that the products have the qualities that are declared. The inspection activities are part of the supervisory control linked to SINTEF Technical Approval and SINTEF Product Certification. In addition, SINTEF Building and Infrastructure carries out inspections for other documentation systems and on behalf of other certification bodies. SINTEF Building and Infrastructure is accredited as an inspection body by Norwegian Accreditation (NA). The accreditation is pursuant to EN ISO/IEC 17020, and is valid for type C.

Status

SINTEF Building and Infrastructure is appointed as a notified body by the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development to perform certification, testing and inspection according to the Council Directive (89/106/EEC) on construction products.

The inspection activities are neutral, third party factory production controls where such supervisory control is required through product certificates or technical approvals. The activities encompass producers both in Norway and abroad.

SINTEF Certification

The inspection activities are led by SINTEF Certification, which is a unit at SINTEF Building and Infrastructure. SINTEF Certification is responsible for development and administration of SINTEF Building and Infrastructure's activities within product documentation.

Competence

SINTEF Certification makes a point of using inspectors with expert knowledge. By research and development assignments at the technical R&D sections at SINTEF Building and Infrastructure, the inspectors' general and productspecific competence is ensured and strengthened.

Confidentiality

Through the more than fifty years long history of SINTEF Building and Infrastructure, the institute has stressed to always be a neutral actor in the Norwegian building and construction

industry. The professional code and integrity of the inspectors is fundamental.

Inspection demand

All products holding a SINTEF Product Certificate or a SINTEF Technical Approval are subject to a supervisory product and production control. For a number of construction products which are CE-marked on the basis of a European product standard or a European Technical Approval (ETA), a supervisory production control performed by a notified inspection body is also required.

The manufacturer must have a satisfactory quality assurance system, and have a current production control securing that the product has the declared properties.

The carrying out of the inspection

The inspection is carried out by means of factory visits or other company visits where the producer's internal production control is examined. Product control may also include testing of product properties on product samples taken at random during the factory visit.

If the manufacturer has a certified quality control system, e.g. in accordance with ISO 9001, the inspection is coordinated with the audit of the quality control system as far as possible. In some cases, certification of a quality assurance system may also cover necessary supervisory production control specified as part of product certificates or technical approvals. But normally a separate inspection (and possibly supervisory control of random samples) linked directly to the product is required.

SINTEF Certification issues certificates and approvals for construction products. Documentation is issued as SINTEF Product Certificates, SINTEF Technical Approvals and European Technical Approvals.

SINTEF Building and Infrastructure Oslo

P.O.Box 124 Blindern, NO-0314 Oslo - Tel. +47 22 96 55 55 - Fax +47 22 69 94 38

SINTEF Building and Infrastructure Trondheim

NO-7465 Trondheim - Tel. +47 73 59 33 00/33 90 - Fax +47 73 59 33 50/80

