



AFITI

Association for the Promotion of Research
and Fire Safety Technology



LICOF. Laboratorio Oficial de Ensayos-
R.D. 1614/1985 de 1de Agosto.
O.M. de 21 de Mayo de 2007



Rev. 2008

FIRE SEAT

FIRE AND BUILDING SAFETY IN THE SINGLE EUROPEAN MARKET



Rev. 2008

DISSADVANTAGES AND BENEFITS OF THE EUROPEAN STANDARIZATION.



Rev. 2008



AFITI



Spanish Association for the Promotion of Research and Fire Safety Technology "AFITI" is founded as association of private right, in accordance with the laws in force, by foundation certificate on 27th March 1987 as non-profit-making Association, registered with nº 72.907 in the National Register Office for Associations of Spanish Home Offices and declared Association of public utility

AFITI collaborates, with an agreement of management established with the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade, for the management of the

LICOF

Center for Fire Testing and Research



AFITI has as mission the **diffusion, development** and **promotion** of **Fire Safety** in the society to safeguarding human life and preserving materials goods, as well as their cultural patrimony, environment and nature.

For this has **three centres** in the field of Fire Safety

LICOF ⇔ Centre for Fire Testing and Research

CITES ⇔ Centre for Fire Research, Technology and fire safety studies

OCCI ⇔ Control, certification and inspection body



STRUCTURE OF AFITI

AFITI-LICOF

**REACTION TO FIRE
Testing Laboratory**



**FIRE RESISTANCE
Testing Laboratory**



**Fire Fighting Systems &
Equipment Testing Laboratory**



STRUCTURE OF AFITI

AFITI-CITES

Technological Services



Technical Courses on Fire Safety



STRUCTURE OF AFITI

AFITI-OCCI

Control & Inspection Services



Certification & Audit Services



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



ACCREDITATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AFITI



LICOF. Official Fire Testing Laboratory.
R.D. 1614/1985 of 1st of August.
M.O. of 21st of May of 1991.



Fire Testing Laboratory unknown recognised
by the Ministry of Public Works by the
Regulation of 5th of November of 1993



Notify Body to the
European Commission n.1168
System 3

ACCREDITATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AFITI



EGLOF Member and founder laboratory
15th of March of 1985



Fire Testing Laboratory
recognised by IMO.
Circular FP/Circ. 18 of 2000



AELAF member and founder laboratory
November 1992

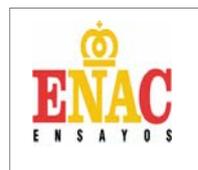


Official Fire Testing Laboratory recognised
by VKF, within the Swiss certification and
homologation process.
June 2006

ACCREDITATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF AFITI



Member of the EEIG
Efectis Grouping
July 2008



Fire Testing Laboratory accredited
Accreditation n. 41/LE 204 &
Accreditation n.41/LE 204





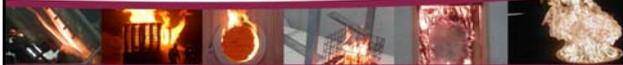
WHAT IS EFECTIS?

The European Economic Interest Grouping is hereby formed by different entities all around Europe.

The Grouping's purpose is :

- to develop engineering and consultancy services in the field of fire safety activities;
- to perform fire tests;
- to perform associated activities with the previous items such as education and training , without being limiting.

EFECTIS helps those involved in fire safety of the built environment, for example architects, regulators, designers and manufacturers, to implement successfully their projects by offering test facilities, fire safety engineering techniques and expert judgments.



WHAT IS EGOLF?

European Group of Organisations for Fire Testing, Inspection and Certification

EGOLF provides a **focus for fire testing issues** in Europe. Membership is open to all independent, nationally recognised organisations that test, inspect or certify materials, components and products in support of legislation.

The **work of EGOLF members**, and hence EGOLF activities, are mainly centred on passive fire protection. In the testing area this covers reaction to fire and fire resistance performance. The predominant sector is testing products and materials for the construction industry, but other key areas include textiles and transport (rail, marine, aerospace). Some members are also involved in active fire protection (design and testing of sprinkler systems, automatic extinguishing systems, smoke vents etc.). Additionally some members provide certification of products and services.





AFITI AS MEMBER OF EFECTIS AND EGOLF

- The importance of a common standardization.
- Common interest on fire behavior.
- Forum to discuss on fire topics
- Way to find a common procedure on non clear items
- Group to clarify some doubts about the interpretation of the standards.
- Ensuring common understanding and use of European fire test methods.
- Organising round robins
- Gaining common views on measurement uncertainty
- Interpretation of EN ISO/IEC 17025 for fire laboratories
- Additional workshops and special meetings are held as needed by members e.g. measurement of uncertainty, fire safety engineering, detailed discussions on specific test methods



WHAT MEANS A COMMON STANDARDIZATION

- Common procedure in all ways of working.
- Common interpretation of a product and product details
- Same tests for products/materials.
- Clear understanding of the classification of a product/material
- Single market





BEGINNING OF THE EUROPEAN STANDARDIZATION

The process towards the European system is characterized
by the following stages:

- Before 1990 : national systems (BS, Din, NF, UNE, etc.)
 - During 1990-2000 : start-up phase (implications of all European countries)
 - During 2000-2010 : growing phase
 - During 2005-2010 : transition period
 - The system will (probably) never be finalized !
- Final version of EN test methods
 - Development of classification standards EN 13501-series
 - Development of EXAP's, ITT's, ETAG's, CUAP's, et.



DISSADVANTAGES OF A COMMON STANDARIZATION

- Updating of the national requirements according to the new standards
- Test equipments need to be updated
- New system of testing could increase test prices (not always).
- Medium-scale tests → Bigger sizes of samples.
- Effort on understanding the new classification system.

B_{fl} , s2-d0

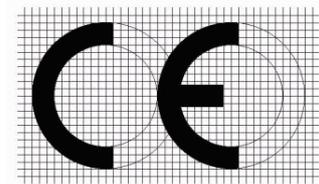
EI 90-V-X-B-W25 to 60





BENEFITS OF THE EUROPEAN STANDARDIZATION

- Increasing of trade among countries.
- Barriers taken away.
- Free circulation of products with CE marking.



BENEFITS OF A COMMON STANDARDIZATION

- Common understanding of national requirements.
- Same interpretation of test/requirements in all countries.
- Increasing of common investigation on fire.
- Testing not to be repeated on each country.
- **Save time and money!!!**





NEXT STEP...

- Benefits are clear using a common standardization.
- Experience.
- Need an extra effort to develop furthermore this procedures.
- Involving of all kind of personal (technicians, administration, manufacturers, etc) is necessary.
- Keep on working on the same and common way.
- Continuing common standardization since today.



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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**



Sergio López Castillo



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