



Technical Bulletin 05

Guide to CE marking

for solid surface wash basins as per
product standard DIN EN 14688



Preface

This guide to CE marking for solid surface wash basins is of interest to manufacturers, fabricators and distributors of solid surface wash basins. This bulletin is intended as a guide and reference for use of the CE mark, which became obligatory when DIN EN 14688 came into effect. The guide was drawn up by members of the Technical Committee of the Solid Surface Materials Group in the plastic consumer goods association pro-K Industrieverband Halbzeuge und Konsumprodukte aus Kunststoff e.V. The level of knowledge as at June 2009 is used in this guide.

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1. What is the CE mark?

The mark comprises the letters C and E and it has a prescribed design which must be adhered to. The official CE mark can be downloaded for free from various websites.
(For example: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ce_mark)

The CE mark is a type of seal used by the manufacturer/distributor to declare that their product meets the requirements of the applicable European standard.

It gives manufacturers and distributors unlimited authorisation to trade their products within the European Union and is intended to facilitate the free movement of goods within the EU.

2. Statutory basis

On 7 May 1985, the Council of Ministers adopted a resolution to create the CE mark based on a proposal from the European Commission.

Directive 89/106/EEC, known as the Construction Products Directive, and the German Construction Products Law (*Bauproduktengesetz*) of 10/8/1992 require that products be affixed with the CE mark.

3. Who awards the CE mark?

The manufacturers of construction products are responsible for affixing the CE mark to their products.

The manufacturer must ensure through its in-house production and product control that its products meet the requirements of European Standard DIN EN 14688 and contain the properties specified therein.

If a product is manufactured outside the EU, but placed into circulation within the EU, the manufacturer or importer is responsible for ensuring that the product is correctly CE marked.

Manufacturers and importers who affix the CE mark on products without complying with the applicable EU Directives may be liable to pay a fine.

Whoever affixes the CE mark to a product guarantees that that product complies with the relevant EU Directives.

4. CE mark for wash basins

The CE mark must be affixed to a product in accordance to DIN EN 14688.

It is immaterial in this regard whether the manufacturer supplies goods to its home market only or additionally to other EU Member States.

5. General requirements

Solid surface wash basins as per ISO 19712 must conform to the requirements set out in Part 4 of DIN EN 14688.

Classification is mainly based on the following performance characteristics:

General requirements:

- Tensile strength
- Water runoff
- Resistance to temperature changes
- Resistance to chemicals
- Runoff coefficient of overflow
- Cleanability

6. Internal production and product control – conformity assessment

The manufacturer must ensure through its in-house product control that the product features are always maintained. It should appoint a person with responsibility for this task.

The results of the production and product controls are to be documented.

The records must contain the following information:

- Product identification
- Test methods
- Date of manufacture and testing
- Test results

The documents must be kept for a minimum period of five years.

If a manufacturer works to ISO 9001:2000 or similar quality management systems of recognised international standards, then they are already fulfilling the in-house production control requirements.

Section 7.3 of Standard DIN EN 14688 contains detailed information about in-house production control.

By implementing this in-house production control, the manufacturer can assess the conformity of its products with the requirements set out in the product standard (conformity assessment).

It is up to the manufacturer to decide on the nature and scope of the regular in-house production control activities.

A construction product's conformity must be proven in an initial type test before it is placed on the market for the first time.

The construction product's features are determined and verified in the course of the initial type test.

There is no requirement to carry out repeat tests on construction products that have already been tested.

The results of the initial type test remain valid until such time as a significant change occurs in the manufacturing conditions.

7. The declaration of conformity

The declaration of conformity shows that a product complies with the harmonised product standard.

It remains in the manufacturer's safekeeping and should be handed over if required.

The declaration of conformity contains:

- The manufacturer's name and address
- A description of the product
- The European specifications and standards which the product complies with (DIN EN 14688 in this case)
- Intended use (e.g. personal hygiene)
- Details of signatory

The declaration of conformity should be drafted in one of the EU's official languages.

8. The CE mark

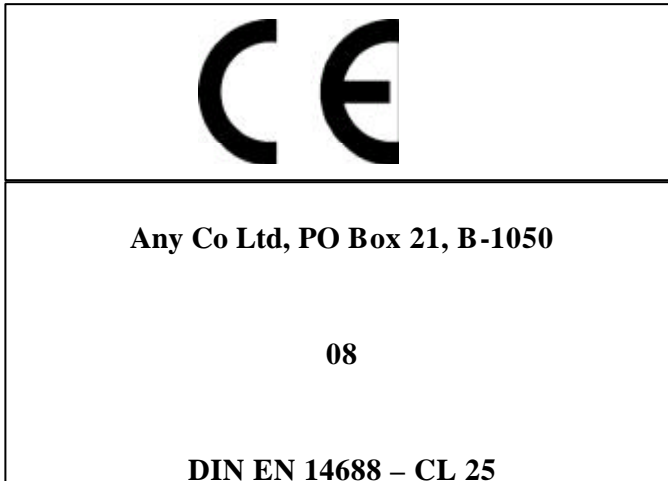
The manufacturer or importer is responsible for affixing the CE mark to a product. The CE mark must be in compliance with Directive 93/68/EEC. The mark must be affixed to the wash basin, the packaging or the delivery note and contain the following information:

- Name and registered address or trademark of manufacturer
- The last two digits of the year in which the CE mark was affixed
- Reference to DIN EN 14688
- Overflow classification

9. Accredited testing institute

Sanitary engineering and water separation
LGA QualiTest GmbH
TÜV Rheinland Group
Dreikronenstraße 31
97082 Würzburg

Appendix **Example of a CE mark**



CE mark, composed of the "CE" symbol in accordance with Directive 93/68/EEC

Name and address of the manufacturer or registered trademark

The last two digits of the year in which the CE mark was affixed

Number of European standard + overflow classification

The information contained in this document is based on our present knowledge and experience. Due to the vast number of possible influences when processing and using the products, it does not release the user from doing their own checks and testing. The information provided here does not constitute a legally binding warranty of specific characteristics or of suitability for a specific application.

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Solid Surface Materials Group

The main manufacturers of solid surface materials joined together in 2003 to form the Solid Surface Materials I Group. Since its foundation, it has been representing the interests of manufacturers operating in Germany. It is one of the professional groups in the plastic consumer goods association pro-K Industrieverband Halbzeuge und Konsumprodukte aus Kunststoff e.V.

For further information about the group and links to the bulletins published to date, visit www.mineralwerkstoff.org

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As at 06/2009