

The logo for Wood Technology Ireland is displayed in large, white, sans-serif font against a background of a wooden roof structure. The text is arranged in three lines: 'Wood' on the top line, 'Technology' on the middle line, and 'Ireland' on the bottom line.

# Wood Technology Ireland

**Wood Technology Ireland (WTI)** has been established to provide the Irish timber and construction industry with technical advice and information to facilitate compliance with standard specifications, the construction products regulation (CPR) and with the requirements of the Irish building regulations. WTI liaises with HomeBond, government departments, industry and technical bodies for the benefit of Irish companies and timber users.

WTI is supported by COFORD, the National Council for Forest Research and Development of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

## **Mission Statement**

Wood Technology Ireland aims are to provide independent technical information and advice on design, manufacture, specification and use of wood and timber products for the benefit of Irish consumers and Irish industry. The areas covered include structural timber and timber products used in building, timber frame construction, joinery products, panel products, flooring, cladding, fencing, decking and a range of other timber and wood products used in buildings.

## **Aims**

- To promote the correct use of timber and wood products through specifications based on National, European and International Standards.
- To enable increased use of wood and timber products, including Irish timber products, through the provision of technical information and advice.
- To provide a technical advisory service to WOODSPEC (Guide to designing, detailing and specifying timber in Ireland)
- To assist Irish based companies, timber users and specifiers by providing technical information on timber and timber products.
- To assist exporting companies through the provision of technical information on regulations and compliance requirements in their target export markets.
- To facilitate access to a wide range of technical services through a network of consultants, timber specialists and testing laboratories.
- To participate in the NSAI standards development programme at National and European level.
- To provide assistance and advice to Irish companies on CE marking and compliance with the CPR.

## **Technical advice and support**

The need for an Irish based body to provide technical advice specific to the requirements of the Irish timber and construction industry has become particularly acute since the implementation of the Eurocodes and the Construction Products Regulation (CPR). While the UK has long been regarded as a valuable source of information, with the UK having left the European Union significant differences now exist between UK based information and technical bodies and those in Europe and Ireland.

It is a legal requirement to comply with the CPR and through that, the harmonised standards and specifications on construction and building products.

**Wood Technology Ireland** aims to provide advice to suppliers of timber, joinery and wood products on what they need to do to comply with the CPR and the Irish Building Regulations.

Products of suspect quality, including plywood, timber, OSB and joinery products have appeared on the Irish market and have resulted in problems and expensive remedial work when incorporated in buildings. Those who specify, supply and use timber products need to be fully aware of the requirements relating to the CPR, CE marking and the provisions of a 'Declaration of Performance' (DoP). WTI can provide clarification on requirements for timber and timber products and help deal with any resulting issues.

The primary areas of technical services and support include;

- Technical advice relating to timber products, CE marking and the Construction Products Regulations
- Technical advice and information on specifications and standards
- The production of Wood Information Sheets (see WTI website)
- Identification of training needs and training providers
- Information on testing of timber, wood products and board materials
- Technical queries
- Liaison with government departments, public, trade and professional bodies
- Provision of timber technical advice to trade and professional organisations including HomeBond
- Provision of technical advice and site inspection services to Local Authorities
- Access to a WTI panel of technical consultants and timber specialists.
- Where consultation / inspection and technical reporting is required on specific projects these services may be subject to professional fees to be agreed with the consultant concerned.

### **Training**

WTI can assist in developing training courses in accordance with the identified needs of the Irish timber and construction industry.

### **Standards and specifications**

WTI supports and has an active role in the Standards development programme of the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI). WTI also has a role in informing industry on relevant issues including on the general work carried out by the Irish and European (CEN) Standards committees relating to timber and joinery products.

### **Contact details**

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