

Accessibility EuroCode

Harmonized European Code of Design & Construction Practice for Accessibility in the Built Environment

EU Council Directive 89/106/EEC ~ CEC DG Enterprise

Essential Requirement 1: Mechanical Resistance & Stability

Essential Requirement 2: Safety in Case of Fire

Essential Requirement 3: Hygiene, Health & the Environment

Essential Requirement 4: Safety in Use

Essential Requirement 5: Protection against Noise

Essential Requirement 6: Energy Economy & Heat Retention

Essential Requirement 7: Accessibility

PART I - General

1. **Harmonized European Terminology** - Disability & Perception
2. **The Accessibility Cycle**
3. **Priority Targets for Concerted Action in Europe**
 - List A - 'Liberation & Survival' ;
 - List B - 'Health & Social Wellbeing'.
4. **A Harmonized 3-Level Approach to Accessibility**
 - Level 1 - New & Existing Buildings ;
 - Level 2 - A Fully Accessible Built Environment ;
 - Level 3 - Buildings of Historical, Cultural or Architectural Importance.
5. **European Union & National Legislation**
 - Anti-Discrimination, Rights & Social Development.
 - Spatial Planning & Infrastructural Works ;
 - Buildings & the 'Workplace' ;
 - Protection from Fire in Buildings ;
 - Electronic, Information & Communication Technologies ;
 - Transport.
6. **Regional Implementation**
 - Accessibility Implementation Plans, with Timetables ;
 - Social Partnerships.

7. **Accessibility Impact Assessment of Policies & Actions**
 - Vertical & Horizontal Co-Ordination in Europe.
8. **Technical Control** - During Construction
 - Categorization of Design & Construction Execution.
9. **Monitoring Accessibility Performance in Use**
 - Reliable Data & Statistics ;
 - Performance Indicators & Benchmarking ;
 - Life Cycle Management.
10. **Competence** - Designers, Builders, Controllers & Managers
 - Training / Education + Experience.
11. **Public Awareness & Consultation**
 - 1998 UNECE Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters ;
 - CEC Communication COM(2002) 704 final : Towards a Reinforced Culture of Consultation and Dialogue - General Principles and Minimum Standards for Consultation of Interested Parties by the Commission.
12. **Decision Support Tools**

PART II - Spatial Planning & Infrastructural Works

European Spatial Development Perspective ~ CEC DG Regional Policy

PART III - Buildings & the 'Workplace'

Directive 89/391/EEC ~ CEC DG Employment & Social Affairs

1. **Harmonized European Terminology** - Construction Works
2. **New & Existing Buildings**
3. **Buildings of Historical, Cultural or Architectural Importance**
 - 1964 ICOMOS Venice Charter.
4. **Accessibility Related Construction Products, Product Categorization & 'Fitness for Intended Use'**
 - Links to CPD Interpretative Documents
5. **Regional Variations in European Design & Construction**

PART IV - Protection from Fire in Buildings

1. **Harmonized European Terminology** - Fire Engineering
2. **The Target Fire Safety Objective & Places of Safety**
3. **Hazard Analysis, Risk Appraisal & Optimization**
4. **Independent Evacuation & Protection in Place**
 - Building 'Understandability' & Evacuation ;
 - Individual Orientation & Relationship with Exterior ;
 - Signage ;
 - Alternative Means of Evacuation ;
 - Areas of Rescue Assistance ;
 - Use of Lifts/Elevators during a Fire Incident ;
 - Accessible, Safe Staircases for Evacuation ;
 - Use of Escalators & Travelators.
5. **Accessibility for Firefighters**

PART V - Electronic, Information & Communication Technologies

Directive 2002/21/EC ~ CEC DG Information Society

1. **Harmonized European Terminology** - e-Europe
2. **e-Accessibility Matrix**

PART VI - Transport

COM(2001) 370 final ~ CEC DG Energy & Transport

Accessibility EuroCode Format

'New Approach' to Technical Harmonization & Standardization (EU Council Resolution 85/C 136/01)

A Harmonized EuroCode is intended for the guidance and use of 'competent persons' only.

It is a concise document. It is not a design manual.

Regional variations in design and construction practice must be taken into account.

Explanatory text in the Accessibility EuroCode will vary in extent.

A Harmonized EuroCode provides design principles and operational rules for application.

The Principles, denoted as (P) in the text, comprise general statements, requirements and definitions for which no alternative is permitted, unless specifically stated.

The Application Rules, denoted as (A) in the text, are generally recognized rules which follow the statements and satisfy the requirements in the Principles. If, for a particular design, it is desired to use an alternative design rule which differs from the Application Rules given in the document, this may be done provided that the necessary justification is produced to show that the alternative rule complies with the Principles.

Supporting Documents

Harmonized European Product, Performance & Test Standards - CEN
European Technical Approvals (ETA's)
[European Agrément Certificates]

National Standards

National Agrément Certificates

Regional Design Manuals in Local Languages