

ANNUAL REPORT

2025 | 2026

EDITORIAL

The construction industry entered 2026 with cautious optimism. Positive forecasts and the prospect of substantial federal infrastructure investment fuelled expectations for a gradual market recovery. Yet in a highly dynamic global environment, these assumptions quickly revealed their fragility.

Reality remains volatile: the war in Ukraine, the escalation in the Middle East and disruptions along key trade routes drive up energy and raw material prices, create uncertainty in supply chains and place additional pressure on construction costs.

At the same time, Europe and Germany are sending important signals: with the Clean Industrial Deal, economic concerns have returned to the centre of the political agenda. In Germany, too, there is a noticeable recognition of the importance of a strong industrial base. However, one thing is clear: reducing bureaucracy inevitably means changing existing rules – a process that requires political determination and time.

Building on the European Green Deal, our sector is confronted with an unprecedented density of regulatory activity, with a large number of legislative acts now entering the implementation and legal specification phase, while parallel efforts are underway to simplify and streamline existing regulatory frameworks.

It is precisely under these conditions that the value of an efficiently operating and professionally organised Secretariat and Brussels office, combined with the strong commitment of our member companies within the committees, becomes evident. Only through this close interaction is it possible to monitor and assess the numerous legislative processes constructively and effectively.

Over the past four years, we have made targeted investments to improve the efficiency and optimise the cost structure of our association. These strategic decisions are proving particularly valuable in the current challenging envi-

ronment. At the same time, working closely with the Executive Board, the foundations have been laid for safeguarding the long-term future of our association and for ensuring an influential voice for construction chemicals in Europe. Today, we have a robust agenda for the future.

Our sector makes an indispensable contribution to sustainable construction and to meeting future demand for housing, infrastructure and industrial buildings. Our products are characterised by a high degree of innovation and play a significant role in enhancing the productivity and efficiency of the construction site of the future, while the profound changes in the global economy and industry act as a catalyst for the necessary rethinking.

As an association, we actively support this transformation together with our member companies. We work to promote understanding among policymakers, demonstrate practical solutions and advocate the reduction of bureaucracy. Through additional services, for example in the field of Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) and a growing range of practice-oriented educational formats, we further strengthen our member companies. We also contribute our expertise to professional training and promote awareness of construction chemical applications and their role in advancing sustainability objectives.

We are many. We are well positioned. And we have a strong voice with competent, solution-oriented approaches for our sector. Together, as Deutsche Bauchemie, we form a resilient community – the foundation for overcoming crises and for actively shaping a positive, future-proof development.



Peter Summo
Peter Summo
Chairman of the Executive Board

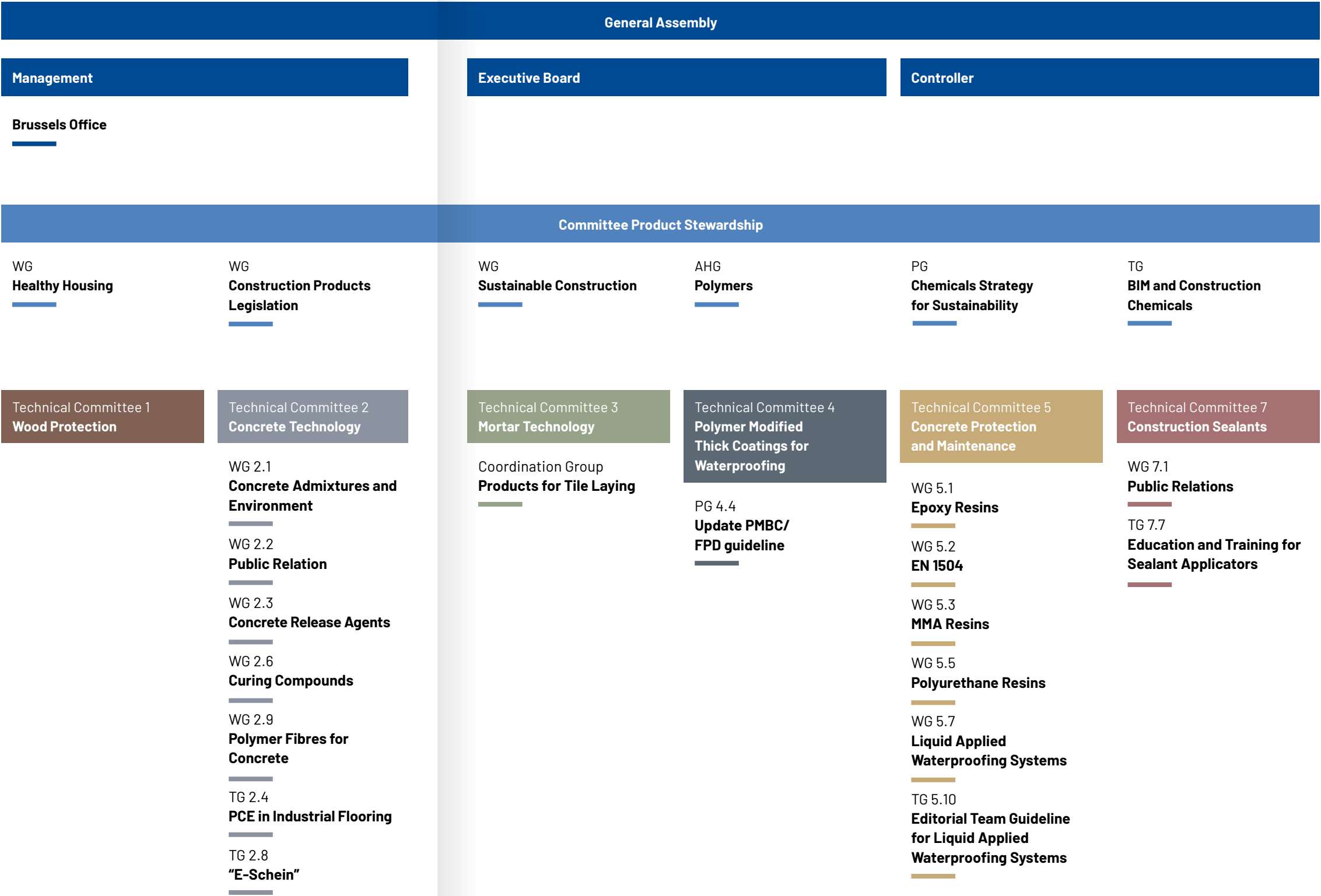


Ina Hundhausen
Ina Hundhausen
Director General

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Real turnover in Germany's main construction sector increased by 2.5 % in 2025.

Chemical production and chemical industry turnover in Germany each declined by 2.5 % over the same period.

Construction chemicals turnover in 2025 varied considerably across product groups, ranging from -5.97% to +1.63%.

ECONOMIC SITUATION

Construction chemicals at the crossroads of economic pressures, rising costs and growing regulatory demands.

The economic situation of Germany's construction chemicals industry remains characterised by considerable structural pressures driven both by broader economic developments as well as the persistently strained situation in the chemical industry and the construction sector.

Development of the construction chemicals industry

As construction chemicals are not recorded as a separate category by the Federal Statistical Office, only indicative figures can be provided. Based on internal surveys conducted by Deutsche Bauchemie, the sector recorded an average turnover decline of -1.09 % across all product groups in 2025. There were, however, marked performance variations between individual product segments, ranging from declines of up to -5.97 % to growth of up to +1.63 %. This spread can be attributed, among other factors, to the different application areas of construction chemical products within individual trades.

Development of the chemical industry

In 2025, the chemical industry continued to record a noticeable production decline of -2.5 %. In view of the unstable global economic environment, no reliable forecast is currently being made for 2026. The sector's ongoing weakness is driven by persistent structural causes: high energy and production costs, regulatory uncertainty, increasing bureaucracy and international competition distortions resulting from overcapacity, trade barriers, and geopolitical conflicts. (Source: Verband der Chemischen Industrie)

„At a time when the global economy is visibly losing stability, the construction industry is being hit by a profound cyclical crisis – while the chemical industry is simultaneously facing a structural one. Growing regulatory complexity is further intensifying these pressures. This is precisely why clear orientation, joint action and a strong voice for construction chemicals are needed today, so that we can create stability where other markets are beginning to falter.“

Peter Summo, Chairman of the Executive Board



Development of the construction industry in Germany

After several years, the German construction industry showed initial signs of stabilisation in the beginning of 2025. Following massive real turnover declines between 2021 and 2024 amounting to around -17 % in total, the main construction sector returned to growth, recording a +2.5 % increase in real turnover in 2025. At the beginning of the year, a similar development had been projected for 2026. Against the backdrop of the ongoing military conflicts in the Middle East and the resulting implications on raw material markets, prices and supply chains, a reliable forecast is currently no longer possible.

Developments continued to vary across individual subsegments in 2025. Despite slight signs of recovery, residential construction remained in negative territory (-1.5 %). By contrast, commercial construction performed strongly (+6.5 %). Public-sector construction, however, recorded below average growth (+2 %). (Source: Bauindustrie, 25 February 2026)

Development of the construction industry in Europe

At European level, EUROCONSTRUCT data confirm that the market situation remained heterogeneous. The year 2025 was characterised by cautious stabilisation, while a significant upswing had been expected from 2026 onwards, particularly in civil engineering and new residential construction. For 2027 and 2028, the institute forecast broad-based growth across almost all subsegments, supported by improved financing conditions and gradual recovery in investment willingness.

However, these projections predated the latest geopolitical escalations. Against a backdrop of rising raw material prices and potential supply bottlenecks, as of early April 2026, reliable forecasts for the sector's further development can no longer be made. (Source: EUROCONSTRUCT)

Summary and outlook

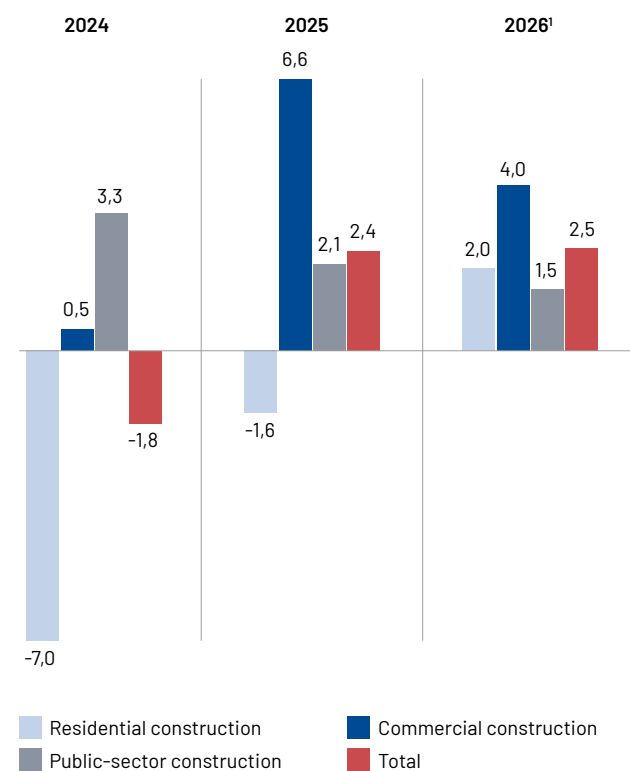
From the construction chemicals industry perspective, the medium-term outlook had originally pointed towards a positive development. As recovery in construction and infrastructure activity typically benefits from developments in the construction sector with a certain time lag, the combination of current geopolitical tensions and economic uncertainties has significantly reduced the reliability of such forecasts. Therefore, a robust assessment of future market developments for construction chemical applications is currently not possible.

At the same time, surveys conducted among member companies of VCI, including companies represented by Deutsche Bauchemie, indicate that economic pressures continue to intensify. More than 90 % of respondents report a high regulatory and administrative burden, followed by rising energy and raw material costs, high labour cost pressure and an increasingly challenging competitive environment. Despite these adverse conditions, many companies are placing greater emphasis on efficiency improvements, cost reductions and innovation in order to stabilise their earning power. Foreign markets remain an important pillar for many companies, as the decline in turnover in the domestic market is expected to be more pronounced in 2026 than in either European or non-European foreign markets. It should be noted, however, that these survey results were collected prior to the outbreak of the Iran conflict.

Overall, it can be stated that the construction cycle showed initial signs of a turnaround in the period spanning 2025 and early 2026. Nevertheless, the recovery remains fragile and heavily dependent on political and financial framework conditions. In contrast, the chemical industry continues to face a structural crisis, the causes of which are deeply rooted and unlikely to be resolved in the short term.

Construction turnover in the main construction sector

Real terms, percentage change on previous year

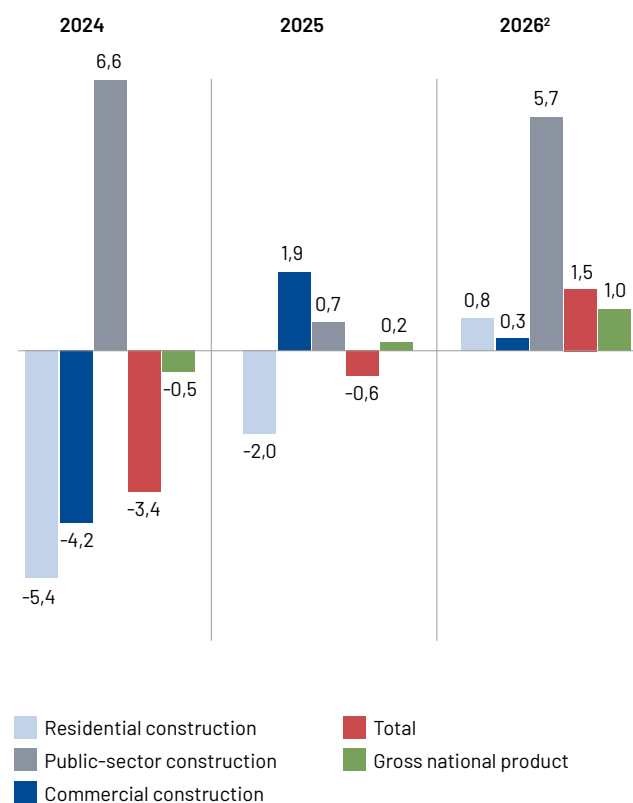


¹BAUINDUSTRIE forecast, 6 January 2026

Source: Federal Statistical Office, Hauptverband der Deutschen Bauindustrie

Construction investment

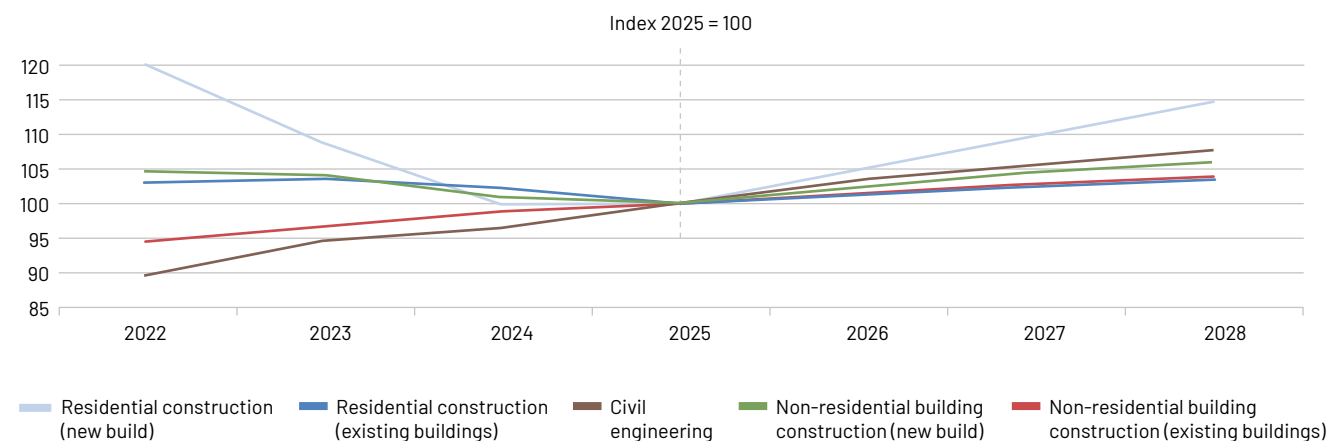
Real terms, percentage change on previous year



²DIW forecast, 13 March 2026

Construction activity by main segments in the EUROCONSTRUCT area*

At 2025 prices



Source: EUROCONSTRUCT

© ifo Institut

*The EUROCONSTRUCT area consists of 19 Western and Central Eastern European countries.



Executive Board (from left to right): Sebastian Kammerer, Martin Ludescher (Executive Director Regulatory & Government Affairs DBC), Dr Hubert Motzet, Johann Hafner, Harald Lüttke, Dr Clemens von Trott zu Solz, Ina Hundhausen (Director General DBC), Prof. Dr Josef Felixberger, Peter Summo, Ulrich Meyer, Dr Dieter Köster and Holger Sommer. Not pictured: Dr Jörg Leuninger and Dirk Sieverding.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Strategy, Europe and communication

Strategic issues continued to shape the work of the Executive Board. Key areas of focus included further developing the European association strategy, updating Deutsche Bauchemie's sustainability campaign and expanding its EPD services, including associated investments.

Strengthening European networks

Building on the strategic positioning adopted in January 2025 and the results of the "Europe" Task Force, strengthening European networking remained a strategic priority for the Executive Board. To this end, the association joined Construction Products Europe (CPE) and ECO Platform in 2025. At the same time, following a thorough review, the Executive Board decided to discontinue Deutsche Bauchemie's membership in the European Federation of Concrete Admixture Associations (EFCA), a decision that reflected the assessment that the resources invested in recent years were not commensurate with the benefits achieved.

Options for a European association solution

The question of an effective European association solution for the construction chemicals sector was another key strategic topic. The objective is to build on the strength of Deutsche Bauchemie and its close integration within the VCI network to represent the interests of European construction chemicals manufacturers and raw material producers effectively and with a unified voice at the European level.

Sustainability communication

The Executive Board also decided to realign the sustainability campaign launched in 2022 (see page 12).

Committee and personnel developments

Following the Executive Board elections in summer 2025, Peter Summo succeeded Andreas Collignon (both Wacker Chemie AG) as Chairman. Sebastian Kammerer (Sopro Bauchemie GmbH) and Harald Lüttke (Soudal N.V.) joined the Executive Board as newly elected members, while Joachim Straub (Sika Deutschland CH AG & Co KG) and Andreas Wilbrand (Sopro Bauchemie GmbH) stepped down after many years of dedicated service.

In addition, working closely with TC 1 "Wood Protection", the Technical Officer position for Wood Protection and Sealing Technology (FLK, PMBC, FPD) was successfully refilled, with the role's responsibilities reviewed and realigned. Looking ahead, Deutsche Bauchemie will bid farewell to Dr Peter Reißer, who will retire in autumn 2026 after more than two decades of commitment to the association.



SECRETARIAT

Working methods under growing regulatory pressure

During the reporting year, the work of the Secretariat was significantly shaped by growing regulatory complexity. The reorganisation of the Regulatory Affairs area implemented in the previous year, combined with organisational adjustments, proved essential in enabling the association to effectively monitor and respond to the steadily growing number of legislative and regulatory dossiers.

Process optimisation and digitalisation

To further increase efficiency, internal workflows were reviewed and optimised. Particular emphasis was put on strengthening cross-functional cooperation between the Technical Officers and on making systematic use of digital tools. Artificial intelligence, in particular Microsoft Copilot,

was integrated into day-to-day work. To support this development, a key-user and multiplier concept was established, supporting the structured build-up of expertise within the Secretariat. The objective is to harness the potential of AI to increase operational efficiency, strengthen technical capacity and ensure the Secretariat's long-term performance.

Managing regulatory challenges

The optimised structures and processes enabled the Secretariat to effectively address the growing volume of regulatory requirements and develop numerous industry positions working closely with the association's committees while continuously providing member companies with well-founded information.

Office space reduction

In November 2025, the planned reduction of office space at the Frankfurt premises was successfully implemented. The measure was based on conceptual considerations regarding workspace optimisation supported by the ongoing digitalisation of documents. The resulting office layout continues to provide a functional working environment while making more efficient use of available space.

Expansion of the seminar programme

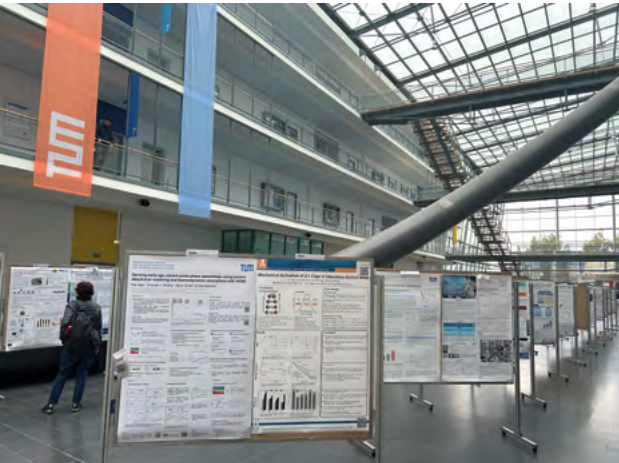
The portfolio of online and in-person seminars was further expanded. Key topics covered regulatory developments, AI, executive fireside chats and a crisis management seminar. To support these activities, standardised processes for planning, delivery and follow-up were established. A continuously maintained database provides the foundation for targeted communication and effective outreach activities.

Members Newsletter

The DBC newsletter continues to serve as a central and highly valued information channel for member companies. Through regular editions, Deutsche Bauchemie provides concise updates on key developments within the association, the political sphere and the industry. It also promotes member services, including webinars, events and publications.

Cooperation with universities

As part of the International Conference on Chemistry of Construction Materials in Munich/Garching, Deutsche Bauchemie sponsored and presented the conference poster awards. More than sixty early-career researchers showcased their research projects on construction chemicals, with an expert jury selecting and recognising the three most outstanding contributions. In addition, the association supported the meeting of doctoral candidates of the current semester conducting research in the field of construction chemicals. The wide range of topics and scientific approaches presented throughout the events highlighted the strong innovative potential of contemporary research in construction chemicals.



The Poster Award at the International Conference on Chemistry of Construction Materials attracted an impressive number of high-quality submissions. Ina Hundhausen honoured the three highest-ranked early-career researchers with certificates recognising their scientific achievements.

Data and figures from the Secretariat

Communication during the reporting period		Committee work during the reporting period	
LinkedIn followers	+ 23 %	Active committees	31
Number of press releases	10	Active committee members	295
Number of publications	7	Meetings	75
New member companies	4	Events/webinars	7
Internal newsletters for members	9	New Model EPDs	3

ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION

During the reporting period, Deutsche Bauchemie’s communication activities focused on the strategic development of the new sustainability campaign and on outreach to members and the professional community. At the same time, the association further expanded its digital communication channels, events programme and information services addressing current industry and regulatory topics.



New sustainability campaign

A key priority was the conceptual and strategic preparation of a new sustainability campaign, building on the successful Green Deal campaign launched in 2022/2023. The objective was to further develop established messages while also setting new thematic priorities. Alongside the contribution of construction chemicals to achieving sustainability goals and the extension of the service life of building infrastructure, greater emphasis is placed on efficiency and economic viability in construction. The campaign will be launched during 2026 and is designed to specifically address planners, architects, building owners and other construction stakeholders, while also engaging the interested public. Developed in close coordination with the Executive Board, the campaign strengthens Deutsche Bauchemie’s role as a constructive voice in the industry discourse.

Recognition of the Green Deal campaign

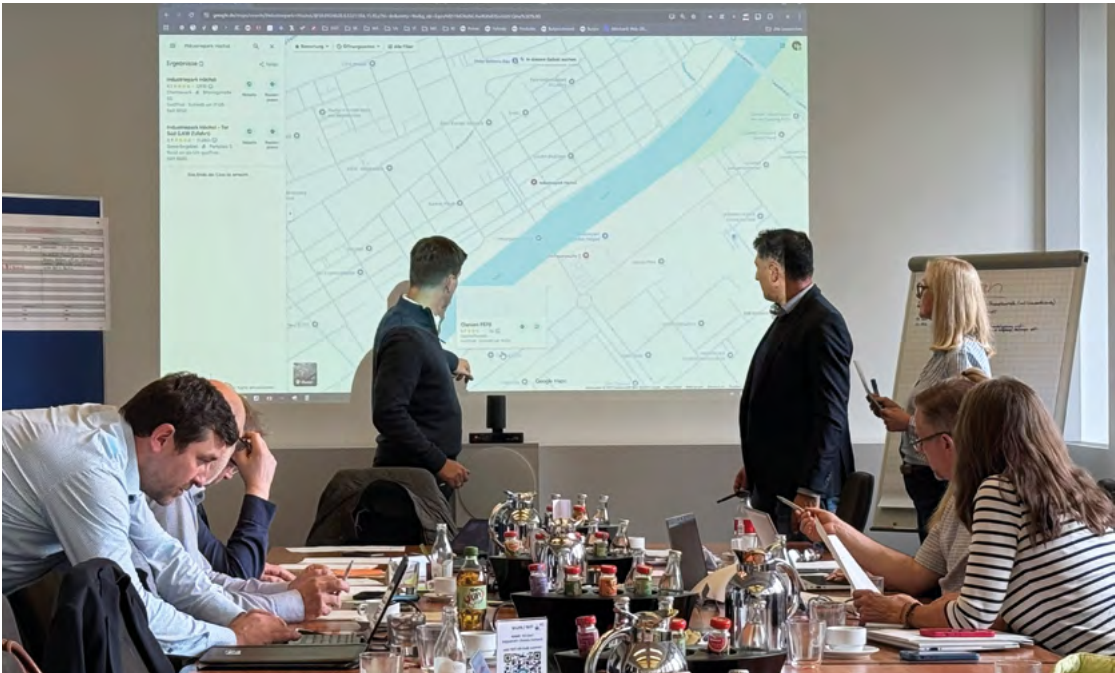
A particular highlight of the reporting year was the recognition of Deutsche Bauchemie’s Green Deal campaign, launched in 2022, at the mediaV Award in Cologne. The campaign was ranked among the three best sustainability communication campaigns, underscoring the quality of the campaign’s content and the close cooperation between member companies, the Secretariat and external partners.

Digital communication

The association continued expanding its digital communication activities, with a particular focus on intensifying its LinkedIn presence. These efforts support Deutsche Bauchemie’s objective to increase visibility of industry-relevant topics, broaden its reach and engage additional stakeholders and potential interested parties.

Presence at industry events

Deutsche Bauchemie maintained a visible presence at key industry events. For example, the association supported the BetonTage 2026 using the platform to promote professional exchange and strengthen the association’s profile within the specialist community.



During the in-person workshop on crisis management, participants were able to apply test methods in realistic crisis scenarios through interactive group exercises.

Webinars and in-person workshops for members

Through a diverse event programme, Deutsche Bauchemie continued to support its members in addressing current strategic, regulatory and business-related challenges.

Webinar on practical applications of AI using design thinking

As part of its ongoing webinar series, Deutsche Bauchemie hosted a webinar session on AI in June 2025. Mohammed Brückner, Senior Enterprise Architect at Ascent, demonstrated how companies can use the design thinking methodology to identify and implement suitable AI applications.

In-person workshop on crisis management and communication

In September 2025, Deutsche Bauchemie held a two-day workshop on crisis management and communication in Frankfurt am Main. Led by Dr Hans Georg Klose, the programme combined insights into established methods and current case studies with interactive exercises based on realistic crisis scenarios.

In-person seminar “Qualified ECO EPD Communicator”

In November 2025, Deutsche Bauchemie and ECO Platform jointly organised a two-day in-person seminar on Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) in Cologne. The programme provided the participants with knowledge on the preparation, interpretation and strategic application across marketing, sales and product management.

Online executive fireside chat on EPDs

In December 2025, Deutsche Bauchemie revisited the topic of Environmental Product Declarations in an executive fireside chat. Christian Donath, Managing Director of ECO Platform AISBL, discussed the increasing strategic importance of EPDs in the context of evolving legal requirements.

Online executive fireside chat on Corporate Leadership in turbulent times

In response to the ongoing economic uncertainty and structural transformation processes, Deutsche Bauchemie, in cooperation with Dr Wieselhuber & Partner, launched a three-part online fireside chat series for managing directors and executives of member companies in February 2026. The series focused on central aspects of modern corporate leadership in uncertain times, including strategic steering, risk management and restructuring.

Webinar on the EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)

In light of the forthcoming implementation of the EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), new requirements for companies will gradually come into force from 2026 onwards. In February 2026, Deutsche Bauchemie held a webinar, during which Sonia Pastore of the Verband der Chemischen Industrie (VCI) presented the key elements of the regulation, outlined the stakeholders affected and highlighted issues of particular practical relevance.

Press work

Total number of publications	35
on the topics	
General Assembly 2025	25
Workshop for Sealant Applicators 2026	6
Wood Protection Conference 2025	3
Technical articles	1
of which online 57 %, print 43 %	

Events

Wood Protection Conference 2025

At the end of November 2025, Deutsche Bauchemie hosted its annual Wood Protection Conference in Göttingen, bringing together experts from industry, trade, public authorities and academia. The diverse programme once again reflected the complex framework conditions under which the sector operates.



Speakers and hosts of the Wood Protection Conference 2025 (from left): Ina Hundhausen, Prof. Dr Christian Brischke, Dr Evelyn Roßkamp, Peter Stuckenberg, Dr Martina Arenz-Leufen, Daniel Krisa, Dr Jörg Habicht, Dr Peter Reißer and Norbert Nieke.

The association-internal session opened with an update from Ina Hundhausen, Director General of Deutsche Bauchemie, on current developments in the association's work, followed by a technical presentation by Dr Martina Arenz-Leufen (LANXESS Deutschland GmbH), who examined the regulatory challenges associated with the renewal of biocidal active substances in the EU, using IPBC as a practical example. Dr Jörg Habicht (Wolman Wood and Fire Protection GmbH), chair of Technical Committee 1 "Wood Protection" (TC1), reported on the ongoing association's internal committee activities. His presentation highlighted that issues relating to biocidal products legislation, standardisation and classification continue to shape the committee's work.

The public technical part of the Wood Protection Conference commenced with a keynote presentation by Prof. Dr Christian Brischke (Thünen Institute of Wood Research), entitled "Determining the durability and service life of wood - Necessity, methodological approaches and pitfalls". In the second presentation, Dr Evelyn Roßkamp (Verband der Chemischen Industrie) addressed the "Professional use of biocidal products in Germany - the new TRGS Biocides". The programme subsequently turned to practical aspects of wood protection: Norbert Nieke, from the engineering and expert consultancy bearing the same name, presented "The wood preservative

foam process" and its advantages from both an application and occupational safety perspective. The final block of presentations opened with a special contribution on "Digital wood protection: a configurator for planning and designing durable timber structures", during which Peter Stuckenberg (Remmers GmbH) showcased a model developed by student Silvia Kizil. The conference concluded with a presentation by environmental engineer Daniel Matthaeus Krisa (Danish Technological Institute), who provided an "Introduction to the world of life cycle assessment, LCA and EPD".

Farewell to Dr Peter Reißer

The Wood Protection Conference in Göttingen marked Dr Peter Reißer's last participation at the event in his role as Technical Officer for Wood Protection at Deutsche Bauchemie. Following more than two decades of dedicated work for the association since joining in 2002, he will retire in October 2026. On behalf of the entire wood protection sector, Dr Jörg Habicht, chair of TC 1, paid tribute to Dr Peter Reißer's outstanding contribution: "With unwavering dedication and commitment, Dr Peter Reißer has always been a tireless advocate for chemical wood protection; he has moved a great deal. He was always the highly competent technical point of contact for the sector and the 'compass' through the complexities of biocides legislation. Over many years, he shaped the Wood Protection Conferences, successfully bringing together differing perspectives and consistently building consensus."



Ina Hundhausen, Director General of Deutsche Bauchemie, and Dr Jörg Habicht, chair of TC 1, presented Dr Peter Reißer with a farewell photo book featuring personal messages of thanks from numerous companions.



The fifth Workshop for Sealant Applicators hosted by Deutsche Bauchemie in Karlsruhe provided participants with up-to-date technical knowledge on joint sealants combining theory and practice.

Workshop for Sealant Applicators 2026

Held on 4 February 2026 and organised by Task Group 7.7 "Education and Training for Sealant Applicators", the workshop took place at the Vocational Academy for Glass, Window and Facade Technology in Karlsruhe.

The programme was structured into a theoretical part during the morning session, and an extensive practical part in the afternoon. The theory sessions conveyed basic knowledge of various joint sealant systems with compact short presentations covering PU systems (Frank Boldt, Sika Deutschland CH AG & Co KG), silicones (Olaf Pretzsch, Dow Silicones Deutschland GmbH), acrylates (Lynn Schwarz, Henkel AG & Co. KGaA) and hybrid systems (Maik Rabe, Tremco CGP Germany GmbH). Complementing the theoretical part, Alexander Kirch (Soudal N.V.) provided an overview of the standards, guidelines and classifications relevant to sealant applications. The theoretical programme concluded with a contribution by legal expert Jörg Teller (SMNG Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft), who used current case law to illustrate potential legal pitfalls in the application of sealants providing practical guidance on numerous legal questions that are highly relevant to the day-to-day work of sealant applicators.

The afternoon session focused on the professional application of joint sealants. Five practical stations, each supervised by a member company of Deutsche Bauchemie, reflected the application areas covered by the European EN

15651 series of standards and covered facade (Tremco CPG Germany GmbH), natural stone (EGO Dichtstoffwerke GmbH & Co. Betriebs KG), glazing/windows (Soudal N.V.), sanitary applications (Hermann Otto GmbH) and pedestrian walkways (Sika Deutschland CH AG & Co. KG). Participants were able to gain hands-on experience working directly on prepared exhibits. The practical training session provided ample opportunity for technical exchange, allowing attendees to clarify application-related questions directly with the speakers.



BRUSSELS OFFICE

Europe's economic architecture under pressure to adapt

Europe is under significant geopolitical and economic pressure. Wars, crises and protectionist US measures are placing external strain on Europe's economic architecture. With fluctuating energy prices, persistent supply chain fragility and faltering investment, signs of deindustrialisation are becoming increasingly apparent. Against this backdrop, expectations placed on the EU to stabilise Europe's economic architecture and make it fit for the future have intensified. **A clear signal in this context is the decision against a legislative revision of REACH.**

Political realignment? Competitiveness as a cornerstone of a modern Europe?

In the second term of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, competitiveness has moved to the forefront of EU policymaking to counter deindustrialisation and strengthen Europe's economic architecture. Tangible progress, however, has so far remained limited despite the considerable pressure to act.

Amid these developments, the European Industry Summit took place in Antwerp in February 2026 as a follow-up to the Antwerp Declaration. Based on a sobering monitoring report, the Antwerp Declaration Community once again warned of Europe's deepening competitiveness crisis and called for swift and concrete measures to stabilise its industrial foundations on which Europe's economic architecture rests. The presence of high-level political leaders – including Ursula von der Leyen, Friedrich Merz and Emmanuel Macron – underscored the urgency. Both heads of government clearly

expressed their commitment, albeit with different approaches, to take decisive action to safeguard Europe's modernisation capacity. Europe's competitiveness also dominated the discussions at the informal meeting of EU heads of state and government held the following day in preparation for the European Council in March. However, the European Council itself, originally intended as a "competitiveness summit", was overshadowed by the escalating conflict in the Middle East, disruptions in energy and raw material markets, and disputes over aid for Ukraine.

These developments illustrate how closely the resilience of Europe's economic architecture has become intertwined with Europe's security policy. Both in trade and security policy, the rules-based order that is so important to the EU is under pressure. Faced with growing geopolitical uncertainty and an increasingly unpredictable US partner, the European Commission is intensifying its efforts to advance new trade agreements, thus making a virtue of necessity while reaffirming its commitment to rules-based international trade.

At the same time, protectionist measures are being discussed under the proposed Industrial Accelerator Act. These include, in particular "Buy European" provisions and targeted incentives to stimulate demand for low-carbon products, notably through public procurement, with the aim of counteracting deindustrialisation. These efforts are accompanied by initiatives such as the Critical Chemicals Alliance, a Commission-led stakeholder platform in which Deutsche Bauchemie participates as a member. The initiative seeks to strengthen the production of critical chemicals in Europe. However, it remains essential to ensure that the foundations of Europe's economic architecture are not weakened by unintended consequences and unnecessary, additional bureaucracy.

Indeed, particularly with regard to bureaucracy, active efforts are currently underway to simplify legislation and ease bureaucratic burdens through a series of so-called omnibus packages – some of which were originally introduced under the European Green Deal under von der Leyen and are now being reassessed prior to their entry into force. One example is the Chemicals Omnibus, which puts the recently adopted label-formatting requirements under the CLP Regulation under review. Similarly, the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR) has become the subject of such omnibus legislation efforts. Deutsche Bauchemie is closely monitoring both legislative procedures.

REACH: Modernisation without destabilisation

After years of intensive debate on a far-reaching revision of the REACH Regulation, the Commission has sent a clear signal by deciding to refrain from an ordinary legislative procedure. Deutsche Bauchemie had strongly advocated this approach, arguing that, in light of the significantly changed framework conditions facing the European chemical industry, further structural interventions in the existing regulatory framework would not be appropriate.

The Commission's decision makes an important contribution to greater planning certainty. Rather than pursuing a potentially disruptive overhaul of the Regulation, targeted modernisation through non-legislative measures, adapting the existing framework where necessary, is the more appropriate course of action. This approach must, however, be pursued with due care. Deutsche Bauchemie will continue to monitor developments closely.

New CPR: the CPR Acquis process is under way

The new EU Construction Products Regulation (CPR) has entered its implementation phase, with the delivery of a functioning Single Market remaining a major undertaking. Deutsche Bauchemie advocates a pragmatic implementation approach to avoid unnecessary additional regulatory burdens and calls for non-legislative measures, wherever possible, and – as a last resort – targeted omnibus solutions to ensure the Regulation achieves its intended objectives. A particularly important aspect is the removal of barriers that impede proportionate sector-specific solutions for the declaration of environmental information. Potentially problematic developments are identified and discussed proactively with the European Commission. Through its membership of Construction Products Europe, Deutsche Bauchemie is also able to contribute effectively to the practical implementation of the CPR – an effort that is urgently needed to support the resilience and competitiveness of the European construction sector.

At the same time, the existing DBC Model EPDs continue to be maintained and updated for as long as they remain valid under the previous CPR framework. In parallel, DBC is working on a follow-up concept that meets the requirements of the new CPR.



European construction and housing policy: creating new space

Under the leadership of EU Housing Commissioner Dan Jørgensen, addressing Europe's housing shortage has firmly moved up the political agenda and is increasingly being recognised as one of Europe's major construction challenges. The Affordable Housing Strategy, complemented by a European Strategy for Housing Construction, seeks to address this challenge within the limits of the EU's competences in this field. Deutsche Bauchemie and Construction Products Europe are closely monitoring both initiatives.

DBC in Europe: stabilising, modernising, building on

Deutsche Bauchemie continues to strengthen the voice of the construction chemicals sector in Brussels. The tasks are clear:

- stabilising and simplifying the foundations of chemicals legislation,
- helping to shape the modernisation of construction products legislation,
- actively contributing to the development of a functioning Single Market that remains viable for all industry stakeholders.

In this way, Deutsche Bauchemie contributes to efforts to safeguard and modernise Europe's economic architecture for the future.





Committee PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

Active committee bodies

WG Healthy Housing
WG Construction Products Legislation
WG Sustainable Construction
Ad Hoc Group Polymers
TG Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability
TG BIM and Construction Chemicals

European legislative initiatives and their implementation in focus

Since the start of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's second term, the political focus has shifted towards strengthening Europe's industrial competitiveness. The Clean Industrial Deal provides the strategic framework for a series of measures aimed at simplifying and reducing burdens on industry. The omnibus initiatives for simplification – including the Chemicals and Environmental Omnibus – address key regulatory frameworks of direct relevance to the construction chemicals sector. While the initiatives provide a positive impetus, a final assessment will only be possible once the legislative procedures have progressed further.

Move away from a comprehensive REACH revision

After the European Commission announced an ambitious revision of the REACH Regulation in 2020 and maintained this course until recently, these plans have now officially been withdrawn. In doing so, the Commission has responded to the strong calls from the chemical industry and Deutsche Bauchemie for planning certainty within an established regulatory framework. As a result, the long-running discussions on individual proposals for a comprehensive REACH revision – such as the introduction of polymer registration and the extension of the generic risk management approach (GRA) – have, for the time being, come to an end. Instead, the REACH Regulation is intended to be adapted in a targeted manner focusing primarily on amendments to the annexes without an ordinary legislative procedure. The committee and its associated bodies will continue to closely monitor these developments, assess their impact on the sector and contribute with positions where appropriate.

Close monitoring during the implementation phase of the EU Construction Products Regulation

With the ongoing Acquis process, the new EU Construction Products Regulation 2024 has now firmly entered the implementation phase. As anticipated, numerous detailed provisions are currently being specified in secondary legislation. These developments are being closely monitored by both the technical bodies and by the overarching Committee Product Stewardship. Deutsche Bauchemie is actively contributing to the process through consultations and continuously supports its members in understanding and preparing for the new regulatory requirements.

EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) comes into focus

Different interpretations of the legal text of the PPWR are creating uncertainty across the supply chain, particularly regarding the allocation of roles and responsibilities. This uncertainty has been further compounded by the considerably delayed publication of the Commission's guidance, despite the fact that the first obligations are due to apply from August 2026. To support its members, DBC provided exclusive information through dedicated webinars and, together with other industry associations, sought dialogue with representatives of the German packaging sector.

Substance-specific regulation under CLP and REACH

The committee also dealt intensively with ongoing CLH classification procedures for relevant raw materials used in the construction chemicals sector, as well as with the still broadly based scope of the proposed PFAS restriction.

Healthy Housing

HEALTH-RELATED ASSESSMENT OF INDOOR EMISSIONS FROM CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS

Indoor Air Quality has long been more than a peripheral issue – the health-related evaluation of emissions from construction products has evolved into a key topic in recent years, as indoor emissions affect not only wellbeing but also the sustainability of living and working environments.

With the revised CPR, the European Commission envisages the introduction of corresponding essential characteristics for the declaration of VOC emissions from construction products relevant to indoor air within harmonised product standards. In parallel, intensive discussions have taken place in recent years on how indoor emissions should be declared and communicated in the Declaration of Performance and Conformity (DoPC). One possible concept currently under consideration is the introduction of a harmonised EU VOC Classification System based on performance classes under the legal framework of the Construction Products Regulation.

New European and national rules are placing increasing focus on indoor air quality and the

assessment of emissions from construction products.

Horizontal CPR Acquis Subgroup “Dangerous Substances” and EU-LCI WG

In this context, the EU-LCI Working Group, which has been responsible for deriving European harmonised limit values for substances relevant to indoor air since 2011, has been integrated into the horizontal CPR Acquis Subgroup “Dangerous Substances” and will continue this work as a dedicated entity within the new structure. The list of EU-LCI values, first published in November 2023 comprising around 190 substances is intended to play a central role in the assessment of emissions from construction products into indoor air as part of the implementation of the new CPR.



Development of the EU VOC Classification System postponed once again

In recent years, the European Commission has repeatedly announced plans to introduce a harmonised EU VOC Classification System (“European Class System for the Emission into Indoor Air”) for the declaration of emissions from construction products revisiting the topic again in 2024. The objective of the classification system is to present the complex results of emission chamber testing in a clear, understandable and harmonised way for users of construction products.

The development of the system was originally intended to proceed in parallel with the CPR Acquis process and to be introduced under the new CPR through a delegated act. However, discussions were postponed once again in mid-2025 and its introduction is now not expected before 2027, in order to allow alignment with related developments at Member State level under the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). Following this renewed postponement, it remains uncertain whether and when the Commission will resume work on the introduction of a harmonised EU VOC classification concept. Deutsche Bauchemie advocates strongly for its swift introduction.

Updating national VOC assessment systems (AgBB, NIK list and MVV TB)

According to the current draft, the MVV TB 2026/1, expected to be published in mid-2026, will contain the revised NIK value list. At the same time, an update of the AgBB VOC assessment scheme is anticipated for 2026, which will also refer to the revised NIK value list.

These parallel updates represent an important step towards a uniform assessment of construction products under national

sets of technical regulations. At the same time, however, the introduction in 2026 of the NIK value for the widely used preservative methylisothiazolinone (MIT), lowered to $1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, is expected to pose significant practical challenges. To advocate for a practical implementation, Deutsche Bauchemie participated in the consultation on MVV TB 2026/1 by submitting a comprehensive position paper including concrete application examples from industry practice.

Standardisation Request on the “Release of dangerous substances from construction products”

The European Commission is currently finalising a standardisation request on the “Release of dangerous substances from construction products”. The revision focuses on updating the EN 16637 series of standards to extend the existing assessment method to PFAS and other organic substances. In addition, EN 16516 is to be revised to incorporate assessment methods for TVOC and TSVOC. Once finalised, the standardisation request will be submitted to the European Committee for Standardization (CEN).

European Construction Products Legislation IMPLEMENTATION PHASE OF THE NEW EU CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS REGULATION

The Working Group “Construction Products Legislation” monitors topics related to construction products law. Whereas focus previously mainly lay on the legislative process leading to the adoption of the new CPR, the Regulation’s full entry into force in January 2026 marked the tran-

sition to its implementation phase. During this phase, the regulatory framework is being progressively fleshed out and specified through a wide range of secondary legal acts. The Working Group is closely following this process. Over the past year, among other topics, the applicable AV systems with product relevance and the horizontal essential characteristics were defined. As the need for adjustments to the delegated act was identified during the CPR Acquis process, future amendments are possible. In addition, the familiar performance classes for reaction to fire from the previous CPR were transferred into the new legal framework through a delegated act. The design of the Digital Product Passport system is expected in the coming year.

Even at this early stage, it is becoming apparent that individual provisions of the new CPR may, depending on their design and interpretation, lead to considerable additional effort for manufacturers in application. This applies particularly to the criteria governing the application of AV systems, the detailed provisions for determining the sustainability characteristics of construction products, and the components and practical implementation of the Digital Product Passport.

To ensure that these challenges are presented in a transparent and constructive manner, Deutsche Bauchemie has prepared a position paper and is in dialogue with the European Commission on this issue. The paper highlights specific areas of concern in practical application while also outlining realistic solution approaches. At the same time, cooperation with European industry associations has been intensified to develop consolidated positions and strengthen joint advocacy efforts.

CPR Acquis process

Another central area of activity is monitoring the ongoing CPR Acquis process, which represents the development and introduction of harmonised standards in accordance with the requirements of the new CPR. A central milestone in this context was the publication of the Commission’s first CPR work plan document for the period 2026–2029. The work plan structures the CPR Acquis process by prioritising product families according to the order in which they are to be dealt with in the CPR Acquis process and provides an indicative timeline for the preparation of the corresponding standardisation requests and the subsequent development of new harmonised standards.

This provides, on the one hand, better planning certainty while enabling targeted preparation for the future application of the new CPR. While the first product families relevant to the construction chemicals sector – such as products for concrete, mortar and grout, and floor coverings – are already in the midst of preparing the standardisation requests, work on other product families is not expected to begin until 2027 or 2028.

Deutsche Bauchemie is closely monitoring the process, both with regard to horizontal issues and on matters specific to the relevant product families, and is analysing, in coordination with the relevant Technical Committees and expert bodies, which technical requirements need to be adapted and which aspects should be addressed as a priority from the perspective of member companies.

Alongside CPR implementation, the Working Group also monitors a range of European initiatives related to construction legislation. These include the Industrial Accelerator Act, presented by the Commission in March 2026, aiming to create demand incentives through mandatory minimum-use requirements in public procurement of low-carbon concrete and mortar by introducing “low-carbon” performance classes. For the construction chemicals sector, whose products are often integral components of such systems, these developments raise questions regarding the future assessment and labelling requirements for “low-carbon” concrete and mortar and their implications for the use of construction chemical admixtures.

Digital Product Passport (DPP)

The Digital Product Passport system for construction products is expected to be introduced through a delegated act no earlier than the end of 2026. Key standards relating to Digital Product Passports, including those applicable to other product sectors, have been developed within JTC 24 and are expected to be published shortly.

Sustainable Construction

CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AS CENTRAL LEVERS IN THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS

Advancing the sustainable transformation of the construction sector under evolving EU requirements

The Working Group “Sustainable Construction” addresses regulatory initiatives related to sustainable construction. Over the past year, its work focused particularly on the implementation of sustainability requirements under the new CPR, the recognition of the Mass Balance Approach (MBA) in Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), and the sector’s positioning on initiatives such as the Circular Economy Act and the European Strategy for Housing Construction.

Circular Economy Act: setting the course for a circular construction economy

The EU Commission’s Circular Economy Act (CEA), scheduled for adoption by the end of 2026, is a legislative initiative aimed at strengthening the circular economy across the EU. Its objectives are to place emphasis on resource efficiency and waste prevention, remove Single Market barriers for secondary raw materials, and reduce dependence on imported critical raw materials. The construction sector is expected to play a pivotal role in achieving these goals due to its waste volumes, as according to the Commission, only around 10 % of materials are currently reintegrated into the materials cycle following demolition.

Construction chemical products are key enablers of a circular construction economy:

they support recycling and the use of
secondary raw materials while contri-
buting to preserving and extending the
service life of existing buildings and
infrastructure.

Construction chemicals can make a substantial contribution to this transformation through innovative refurbishment products and technologies that support repair and the extension of service life, improving the circularity of construction products and facilitating the implementation of harmonised end-of-waste criteria. In doing so, the sector plays an essential role in advancing a circular and resource-efficient construction economy.

Implementation of the CPR sustainability requirements

Following the entry into force of the new CPR on 7 January 2025, significant steps were initiated during the past year to implement its sustainability-related aspects.

In October 2025, the European Commission launched a tender for the development of CPR-compliant European background datasets for the calculation of the environmental performance of construction products. Initially, the datasets are intended to cover the first product families and may subsequently be gradually expanded to additional ones. The objective of this initiative is to establish a uniform and reliable basis for the environmental assessment of construction products in line with the requirements of the CPR. At the same time, it is intended to facilitate the mandatory calculations for manufacturers – particularly SMEs – and help reduce the associated costs. However, it cannot currently be assumed that the European Commission will be able to

provide all background datasets required for assessing the environmental performance of construction chemical products.

Environmental Footprint and revision of EN 15804

The Environmental Footprint (EF) method, developed by the European Commission, provides a harmonised approach for assessing the environmental impacts of products and organisations throughout their entire life cycle. The method is applied across many sectors, including construction, chemicals and consumer goods, and is closely linked to standards such as EN 15804 governing Environmental Product Declarations.

In 2025, the European Commission initiated preparatory work on the revision of the EF methodology (EF 4.0). According to the work plan, revision activities are expected to begin in 2026, with completion of the updated EF database planned by 2027 at the latest.

The revision of EN 15804+A2, the European reference standard for EPDs in the European construction sector, will build on the update of the EF methods. The standard lays down core rules for EPDs of construction products. Conceptual preparations for revising EN 15804+A2 have already begun within CEN/TC 350 WG 3 with the official revision currently expected to start in 2027. Consequently, it can be assumed that a future EN 15804+A3 is unlikely to be available before 2029 and is expected to be introduced in 2030.

Mass Balance Approach in EPDs

The debate around the use of the Mass Balance Approach (MBA) in EPDs remained controversial during the reporting period. At the heart of the debate is the question of how MBA models can be integrated into existing standards while maintaining the transparency and comparability of EPDs. Particular attention has focused on the conformity of the Mass Balance Credit Method with the requirements of EN 15804+A2. Discussions are also being held intensively with regard to the forthcoming revision of the standard and the ongoing development of the EF methodology.

The Working Group has closely monitored the debate and the related standardisation activities for many years to support the development of a methodologically robust and standards-compliant framework that safeguards both credibility and environmental effectiveness of EPDs.

Further development of Model EPDs for construction chemical products

A total of 37 Model EPDs covering 11 product categories are currently available to association members. In addition to three new Model EPDs for construction sealants, developed by Deutsche Bauchemie in a joint project with the European



Adhesive and Sealant Association (FEICA) and Industrieverband Klebstoffe e.V. (IVK) and published in June 2025, the association also updated the Model EPDs for methacrylate resin products and polymer-modified bituminous thick coatings. Both sets were fully adapted to the requirements of EN 15804+A2.

In preparation for adapting the established Model EPD concept to the requirements of the new CPR and enabling the use of the data as part of the mandatory declaration of environmental performance within the DoPC for construction products harmonised under the new CPR, Deutsche Bauchemie will continue to closely monitor regulatory developments. The objective is to develop a viable CPR-compliant association model based on the emerging regulatory framework.

Revised EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

The revised EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), which entered into force on 28 May 2024, requires Member States to transpose its provisions into national law by the end of May 2026. The directive aims to achieve a zero-emission building stock by 2050 and introduces requirements for zero-emission buildings, national renovation plans, minimum overall energy performance standards, and the enhanced integration of energy and mobility infrastructure. From 2028, all new public buildings and, from 2030, all new buildings must meet the zero-emission standard. In Germany, implementation is expected through the new Building Modernisation Act (Gebäudemodernisierungsgesetz – GModG).

By establishing a harmonised regulatory framework, the European Commission seeks for the first time to link energy efficiency and climate impact across the entire building life cycle and to promote the consistent application of life-cycle-based climate requirements throughout the entire construction value chain. A central element in this regard is the delegated regulation of 16 December 2025 amending Annex III to the EPBD, which introduces, for the first time, a uniform EU framework for calculating life-cycle global warming potential (LC-GWP). The methodology is based on international standards, notably EN 15978 and EN 15804, and is embedded within the EU Level(s) framework.

The LC-GWP calculation

for buildings will become mandatory:
from 1 January 2028 for new buildings
larger than 1,000 m² and from 2030
for all new buildings.

In the longer term, the EPBD and the CPR are intended to become operationally linked through the mandatory declaration of the environmental performance of construction products within the DoPC. However, numerous uncertainties regarding practical implementation of these requirements remain at present.

Green Claims Directive

Following the publication of the European Commission's proposal for a Directive on the substantiation of environmental claims in business-to-consumer (B2C) communication in March 2023, the legislative proposal progressed through the ordinary legislative procedure and entered the trilogue phase in early 2025.

Developed as part of the European Green Deal, the proposed Directive was intended to prevent greenwashing by establishing uniform EU requirements for voluntary environmental claims, including the mandatory prior verification of environmental claims and labels by independent accredited bodies, as well as scientifically robust substantiation based on reliable evidence.

The legislative process is currently on political hold but has not been formally withdrawn. As a result, the future course of the legislative procedure remains uncertain.

European chemicals legislation

COMPETITIVENESS IN FOCUS

At the beginning of the European Commission's 2024–2029 term of office, the political priorities were recalibrated with a stronger focus on competitiveness. However, legislative procedures in the field of chemicals legislation that had already been launched or announced continued to progress. For the TG “Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability” (CSS) and the Ad Hoc Group “Polymers”, the further development of European chemicals legislation remained therefore a central topic. In the current reporting year, the committees monitored and analysed numerous initiatives and, where appropriate, used these activities as the basis for the development and external representation of association positions.

Chemicals Omnibus package: relief regarding CLP labelling requirements still pending

With the publication of the Chemicals Omnibus package, the European Commission presented a series of proposals aimed at simplifying certain formatting requirements of the CLP Regulation that had only recently been introduced. Specifically, the proposed amendments relate to defined mandatory minimum font sizes, line spacing and other label layout requirements established under the 2024 CLP revision and scheduled for implementation in the coming years.

Due to the increasingly limited space available on labels and the resulting need for extensive redesign, these requirements would have represented considerable conversion effort for many companies and would have made the marketing of products in multiple Member States more challenging. The short-notice adoption of the “Stop-the-Clock” proposal provided the affected sectors with additional transition time. As a result, the application of the new labelling requirements was postponed until 1 January 2028, creating greater planning certainty.

Although the proposals have generally been assessed positively, they have also generated controversial reactions, particularly within the European Parliament. The outcome of the legislative process therefore remains uncertain. Final adoption of the Omnibus package is currently expected during the second half of 2026.

REACH: Commission shifts away from a comprehensive revision

The REACH revision remains the central topic of the TG “Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability”. Although a legislative proposal had been announced as part of the Chemicals Industry Package by the end of 2025, the Commission was unable to publish a draft after the associated impact assessment received a negative opinion from the Commission's internal Regulatory Scrutiny Board.

Important signal:

The European Commission
is moving away from a
comprehensive legislative
revision of the

REACH Regulation.

While the Commission initially continued to formally support the revision, it has since announced that it will not pursue a comprehensive revision of the REACH Regulation under the ordinary legislative procedure. Previously, critical voices from both the European Council and industry had increasingly been raised, warning that an ordinary legislative revision procedure would impose additional burdens on industry and undermine the objective of strengthening European competitiveness. In response, the TG “CSS” updated its position paper and called for a move away from a comprehensive REACH revision.

With the Commission announcing the intention to pursue only a targeted revision of the REACH Regulation through the comitology procedure, initiatives such as the introduction of polymer registration or an expansion of the generic risk management approach would not be possible. The TG



will continue to closely monitor further developments and prepare position papers where necessary.

Implementation of the Microplastics Restriction

The Restriction on synthetic polymer microparticles, which entered into force in October 2023, remained a key topic within the Ad Hoc Group “Polymers” during the reporting period. Since October 2025, companies affected have been required to comply with information obligations along the supply chain. Given that this deadline applied to all actors in the supply chain, construction chemicals companies receiving information late from upstream suppliers may potentially be unable to meet their own obligations within the prescribed timeframe.

To support its members, Deutsche Bauchemie distributed an information letter to draw attention to the implications of the restriction and to provide practical guidance. In addition, discussions focused on the implementation of the reporting obligations relating to the use and release of synthetic polymer microparticles. Through the association's involvement in FEICA, Deutsche Bauchemie contributed to the development of a methodology for estimating the release of synthetic polymer microparticles and helped shape the associated FEICA guidance document, which is now publicly available.



Technical Committee 1

WOOD PROTECTION

TC 1 addresses national and european regulatory, technical and standardisation matters relating to wood protection in general and wood preservatives in particular. It represents the sector both within and outside the association and coordinates public relations activities on wood protection, including the preparation and organisation of the annual Wood Protection Conference. To support its work on individual topics, such as the development of publications, the Committee establishes Working Groups and Task Groups composed of experts from member companies. TC 1 also manages the special fund “Public Relations Wood Protection and Standardisation” and oversees the financial resources required for the projects it initiates and supervises.

EU Biocidal Products Regulation

APPROVALS, AUTHORISATIONS AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS

Active Substance approvals and Wood Preservative authorisations

Wood preservatives as biocidal products are subject to authorisation under Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 (Biocidal Products Regulation, BPR). A prerequisite for obtaining an authorisation is the prior approval of the active substances contained in the preservative concerned.

The evaluation of the final “existing active substance” in Product Type 8 (PT8, wood preservatives) has now been completed, with the approval date set for 1 June 2026. To ensure continued market access, applications for the authorisation of wood preservatives containing this active substance have to be submitted by that date. At the same time, the renewal process of approvals for a number of active substances used in wood preservatives is under way or has already been completed. This lengthy procedure, often spanning several years, inevitably leads to competition distortions within the market. Furthermore, the additional data requirements and evaluation criteria applied during the renewal assessments present significant challenges for active substance manufacturers. In many cases, these requirements lead to further restrictions on the use of products containing the active substances concerned or even lead manufacturers to abandon renewal applications altogether for economic reasons.

Tebuconazole, an organic fungicidal active substance of particular relevance to the sector, is currently undergoing the renewal approval process. To support its continued approval for PT 8 as a potential candidate for substitution and for authorisation renewal under the derogation condi-

tions, TC 1 prepared a position paper which was submitted as part of the ECHA consultation. Given the steadily declining number of active substances available for use in wood preservatives, maintaining access to effective alternatives for Use Classes 3 and 4 is of particular importance in order to ensure a broad spectrum of efficacy.

The burden associated with the authorisation process for preservative products continues to increase, both for first-time authorisations and renewals. Triggered by new data requirements or data to be updated as a result of revised guidance documents – including during an ongoing evaluation process – applicants face substantial costs, risks that are often difficult to predict and a lack of planning certainty.

Evaluation of the BPR and Omnibus Initiative

The growing complexity of approval and authorisation procedures, combined with lengthy evaluation timelines, the resulting uncertainty for applicants and rising administrative workload and costs, has led to mounting frustration among all stakeholders involved in the process. This has increased the pressure to introduce regulatory reforms and pursue structural improvements. Two key opportunities have emerged in this regard:

In autumn 2025, the evaluation process of the BPR was launched through an ECHA consultation. Representatives from TC 1 member companies contributed to the position paper of the VCI “Biocides” Working Group, helping to formulate core demands for a revision of the Regulation. These proposals are urgently needed and aimed at making procedures more efficient and practical while creating framework conditions that better support innovation. In parallel, TC 1 prepared its own position paper for the consultation specifically tailored to the needs of the wood preservative sector. The paper provides a critical assessment of the current regulatory framework and calls for the simplification and streamlining of BPR procedures, a stronger risk-based assessment approach, the safeguarding of competitiveness and improved conditions for innovation.

A further opportunity for more rapid and targeted improvements under the BPR is provided by the “Food and Feed Safety” Omnibus initiative launched by DG SANTE and proposed by the European Commission in December 2025. Alongside a proposal on data protection, the Commission’s proposal includes measures intended to improve and accelerate the review programme for the evaluation of so-called existing active substances, which has fallen significantly behind schedule. However, an analysis by TC 1 concluded that these proposed measures would not provide substantial relief for the sector. TC 1 has therefore put forward additional amendments aimed at reducing time pressures within the process and establishing a fixed set of data requirements from a defined point following submission of an application.

Biocides Legislation

NATIONAL REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

Biocides Law Implementation Ordinance

The supply provisions of the German Biocides Law Implementation Ordinance (ChemBiozidDV) have had significant consequences for the marketing of biocidal products, particularly wood preservatives in the DIY sector. In some market segments, sales have effectively collapsed. The impact extends beyond bricks-and-mortar retailers, such as DIY stores, to the entire online and mail-order trade. The primary cause is the Ordinance’s statutory requirement that biocidal products may exclusively be supplied by appropriately trained and competent personnel and that each sale must be accompanied by a mandatory supply consultation. This consultation is intended to inform users about the safe handling of biocidal products, the potential risks associated with their use and possible non-biocidal alternatives. This represents a striking example of excessive bureaucracy, as the safe use of wood preservatives and the availability of alternative solutions are already comprehensively assessed as part of the BPR authorisation process. The State of North Rhine-Westphalia has initiated efforts to amend the Ordinance and has submitted proposals for change. However, these proposals do not fundamentally improve the situation for the affected trade sectors. Consequently, the VCI, through its regional associations and with the involvement of other specialist associations including Deutsche Bauchemie, has submitted additional improvement proposals.

The Food and Feed Safety Omnibus initiative

provides an important opportunity to improve the approval and authorisation procedures for active substances and biocidal products.

Hazardous Substances Ordinance – TRGS Biocides

From 28 July 2027, the German Hazardous Substances Ordinance (Gefahrstoffverordnung) will introduce notification and competence requirements for professional users of biocidal products where certain hazardous properties are present or where it is explicitly specified in the relevant authorisation.

To provide greater clarity on these legal obligations, the “Biocides” Working Group of Subcommittee II (UA II) of the Committee for Hazardous Substances (AGS, Ausschuss für Gefahrstoffe) commissioned the development of three new Technical Rules for Hazardous Substances (TRGS) relating to biocidal products.

The overarching framework is provided by TRGS 540 “Use of biocidal products – basic requirements”, published in the Joint Ministerial Gazette on 21 November 2025. Building on this TRGS, TRGS 541 “Use of biocidal products – competence requirement” and TRGS 542 “Fumigations” further specify requirements relating to the competence-based product use, as well as notification and authorisation obligations. While TRGS 542 is still being drafted, work on TRGS 541 was completed at the end of 2025 and is currently undergoing formal legal review. During the drafting process, employers’ representatives voiced significant criticism regarding



several provisions contained in TRGS 541, which resulted in a number of easements to the proposed requirements governing the handling of biocidal products. Many critical comments from TC 1 were also submitted to the “Biocides” Working Group via the VCI.

A further important development was the amendment to the Hazardous Substances Ordinance, which entered into force on 20 December 2025. Among other changes, the legislator narrowed the scope of the notification and competence requirements for the use of biocidal products. As a result, the competence requirement under Section 15c now applies only to pest control products (Main Group 3 under Annex V of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012) that meet the corresponding classification criteria, as well as to biocidal products for which the status “trained professional user” is explicitly specified in the product authorisation. For all other biocidal products, including wood preservatives, that meet the classification criteria but for which the authorisation does not specify the need for a “trained professional user”, the competence requirement no longer applies. Similarly, the employer notification obligation will in future be limited exclusively to pest control products. As a consequence of these legislative amendments, both the already published TRGS 540 and the draft TRGS 541 will require further content revision.

Knowledge base expansion

RESEARCH PROJECTS

TC 1 supports research projects that contribute to expanding scientific and technical knowledge in the field of wood protection and wood preservatives, both through expert input and financial support.

Standards for wood protection, such as EN 12037 and EN 252, frequently require the use of reference preservatives in efficacy testing of wood preservatives. These reference products are essential for comparative assessments of efficacy and for establishing the minimum application rates of the products under evaluation. However, due to changes in the regulatory framework, many of these reference preservatives are no longer available and must be replaced. To ensure the validity of efficacy test results, only reference preservatives, for which a robust database is available, can be used. Against this backdrop, the Danish Technological Institute (DTI) launched a multi-year round-robin testing programme in 2023 to evaluate a potential alternative reference preservative. The project is supported by TC 1 both technically, through the involvement of experts from member companies, and financially via the Public Relations Wood Protection and Standardisation special fund.

During the reporting period, TC 1 discussed further participation in research initiatives as well as a self-funded project. The latter, in cooperation with an external testing institute, aims to generate more precise information on the durability of preservative-treated timber components. Particular attention will be given to existing heartwood in weather-exposed outdoor applications.

As part of the German Environment Agency (UBA) project “The challenge of biocidal wood protection: background knowledge, current practice and perspectives regarding active substance use”, TC 1 submitted extensive comments in response to a questionnaire issued by the project contractors. In its contribution, TC 1 critically assessed the current regulatory requirements, with particular emphasis on the national ChemBiozidDV. The Committee also highlighted concerns within the wood preservative sector regarding the steadily declining availability of active substances and the implications this may have for future products. At the same time, TC 1 called for greater recognition of the benefits of chemical wood protection.

EUROPEAN WOOD PROTECTION STANDARDISATION

The endeavour to standardise wood, being a heterogeneous, orthotropic building material, as well as its protection has a long tradition, which is still reflected today in the comparatively low number of wood protection standards.

At the same time, the continuously growing body of knowledge and the emergence of new technical and regulatory challenges require knowledge to be regularly updated in line with current scientific and practical developments. Representatives of TC 1 are actively involved both in the German mirror committee NA 042-03-06 AA and in several working groups of CEN/TC 38.

Alongside the revision of a range of European standards in the field of wood protection, EN 350, which classifies the durability of wood and wood-based products, is currently also under revision. Research projects have demonstrated that the durability classification methodology set out in the standard is not suitable for preservative-treated wood. It was therefore decided to remove this area of application from the scope of the standard. A proposal developed by TC 1 to explain this issue comprehensively within the revised standard was accepted only in part by the responsible working group.

Increasing attention is also being directed towards the preparations for the revision of harmonised standards for wood products, including preservative-treated wood, within the CPR Acquis process. Developments in this area require close monitoring. Of particular importance is the need to avoid duplicative regulatory requirements, especially concerning the testing of emissions from treated wood, on one hand under the recently revised CPR and, on the other hand, under the Biocidal Products Regulation.

Event

WOOD PROTECTION CONFERENCE 2025

The 2025 Wood Protection Conference, organised by TC 1, was held in Göttingen (see page 14).

Association activities at European level EUROPEAN WOOD PRESERVATIVE MANUFACTURERS GROUP (EWPM)

The topics of the “Risk Assessment” and “Efficacy” WGs of the European Wood Protection Association remain highly relevant to the work of TC 1 with current developments derived from these bodies being directly reflected back into TC 1 and discussed within the Committee. Alongside technical and regulatory matters, advocacy activities are an

important element of EWPM. In cooperation with the European Wood Protection Association (EWPA) and supported by a dedicated consultancy, EWPM has developed and is currently implementing a comprehensive advocacy strategy. The objective of these activities is to raise awareness among policymakers of the positive impact and benefits of protected wood from both a sustainability and climate protection perspective. Key messages focus on CO₂ savings and conservation of the natural resource forest. With the momentum of the EU Clean Industrial Deal, efforts are under way to ensure that these aspects are reflected in medium- to long-term legislation and regulatory frameworks.

FURTHER TOPICS

- Coordination and topic selection for public relations activities relating to wood protection
- Prioritisation of topics in the field of wood protection
- Handling of enquiries on wood preservatives and wood protection
- Administration of the special fund “Public Relations Wood Protection and Standardisation”
- Reaction-to-fire classification of preservative-treated wood used in facade applications
- Maintenance of close contacts and regular exchange with European and national industry associations, including EWPM, VCI and DeSH, as well as active participation in the Deutscher Fachausschuss Holzschutz, which is responsible for organising and hosting the Deutsche Holzschutztagung.

Strong networks

and close cooperation among all stakeholders are essential for effectively addressing the technical and regulatory challenges the sector is facing at both European and national level.





Technical Committee 2 **CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY**

Active committee bodies

- WG 2.1 Concrete Admixtures and Environment
- WG 2.2 Public Relations
- WG 2.3 Concrete Release Agents
- WG 2.6 Curing Compounds
- WG 2.9 Polymer Fibres for Concrete
- TG 2.4 PCE in Industrial Flooring
- TG 2.8 “E-Schein”

TC 2 addresses technical issues relating to the use of concrete and mortar admixtures in modern concrete technology. It brings together the leading manufacturers of these products to exchange expertise on relevant topics and to represent the interests of the sector externally. In addition, TC 2 also covers other construction chemical products used in concrete technology, including concrete release agents, curing compounds and polymer fibres, and is structured in product-specific subcommittees. Further topic-specific bodies focus on specialised application areas, such as industrial flooring and selected aspects of concrete construction. TC 2 and its subcommittees actively contribute to technical standardisation and are involved in the development of national and European technical rules. They also address issues relating to occupational health and safety, environmental protection, sustainability and continuing professional education, working in close cooperation with other industry associations and research institutions.

Standardisation

CONCRETE ADMIXTURES

Standardisation activities relevant to the concrete admixture industry at both European and international level are continuously monitored and closely followed. Particular attention is given to the European product standards of the EN 934 series, which govern concrete admixtures, as well as the associated testing standards of the EN 480 series. Experts delegated by TC 2 actively contribute to the relevant national and European standardisation bodies (CEN/TC 104/SC 3).

Construction Products Regulation

ACQUIS PROCESS FOR THE FUTURE FRAMEWORK OF CONCRETE STANDARDISATION

The revision of the European EN 934 series of standards for concrete admixtures, which was initiated in 2014, was discontinued as a consequence of the general standstill in the development of harmonised construction product standards following the James Elliott judgment. Under these circumstances, a central prerequisite for the application of the revised standards, namely their publication in the Official Journal of the European Union and, consequently, their use as the basis for CE marking, could no longer be achieved.

The publication of the revised Construction Products Regulation in December 2024 established a new framework for the development of harmonised construction product standards. The Regulation introduced the so-called CPR Acquis process, in which the technical and structural foundations for future standardisation requests from the European Commission to CEN are being developed. These processes are being carried out successively for the individual construction product families.

The Acquis process covering concrete, its constituents and products for concrete repair – previously grouped under construction products Mandate M/128 – was launched in November 2024. The work of Acquis Subgroup 26 includes, among other product categories, concrete admixtures governed by the EN 934 series and polymer fibres covered by EN 14889-2.

Progress to date

The European Commission invited Member States to nominate representatives to participate in the work of Acquis Subgroup 26. The national delegations comprise representatives of the Member States – represented in Germany by DIBt – as well as industry observers. Deutsche Bauchemie successfully secured direct representation in the work of Acquis Group 26 through the participation of a member of staff as an observer. In parallel, DIBt established a national mirror committee to monitor and discuss the European activities. Deutsche Bauchemie is represented in this mirror committee by two members of staff.

As an initial milestone in the development of the future standardisation request, Member States were asked to compile a detailed overview of national regulatory requirements applicable to the products within the relevant product family concerned. The bodies of TC 2 collected and prepared the corresponding information for concrete admixtures and polymer fibres. Within this process, TC 2 proposed the inclusion of shrinkage-reducing admixtures as an additional harmonised functional group alongside the functional groups already covered by the European standard. Furthermore, it advocated the integration of elastic micro hollow spheres, for which an EAD had previously existed, into the EN 934 series of standards.

The contributions prepared by TC 2 were submitted to DIBt and incorporated into the German feedback to the European Commission. Deutsche Bauchemie's proposal was subsequently included by the Commission in the work programme of Acquis Subgroup 26. In addition, a number of proposals submitted by other European Member States in the field of concrete admixtures were integrated into the work programme, including the harmonisation of antifreeze admixtures, anti-washout admixtures for underwater concrete and alkali activators. Concrete curing compounds were also added to the scope of work.

As the Acquis process progressed, Member States were also requested to identify the Essential Characteristics considered relevant at national level and to define requirements for factory production control for the products included in the work programme. TC 2 actively supported DIBt in an advisory capacity and prepared appropriate text proposals for Germany's contribution to the Acquis process.

Outlook

According to a work programme published by the European Commission in December 2025, Acquis Subgroup 26 is expected to complete its work during 2026, with the standardisation request scheduled to be issued to CEN in the fourth quarter of the year. Following the adoption of the standardisation request, CEN will have until 2029 to develop the required product standards for harmonisation.

Concrete standardisation

MORE FLEXIBLE TECHNICAL RULES FOR CONCRETE

EN 206 "Concrete - Specification, performance, production and conformity" is the central European standard for concrete and is currently undergoing revision. As part of this process, TC 2 submitted an objection to the draft standard

with the objective of ensuring that EN 934-7 for shrinkage-reducing admixtures are appropriately reflected in EN 206 and that the use of shrinkage reducers is placed on the same regulatory footing as the other established functional groups of concrete admixtures.

In addition, the revision originally included plans to extend EN 206 with a performance-based durability design concept. This concept was intended to provide an alternative to the existing approach. However, as no agreement could be reached within the European standardisation bodies regarding the specific design of the performance concept, it was decided not to publish it as a normative part of the standard, but rather to make it available initially in the form of an informative technical report.

In Germany, there is considerable interest in a prompt introduction of the performance concept, as this is expected to enable reductions in CO₂ emissions in many areas of concrete construction. Against this backdrop, it was decided to incorporate the concept into the national framework of technical rules in the form of a DAfStb guideline based on the European technical report in order to facilitate its practical application in the near future.

TC 2 is closely monitoring the development of these technical rules, as the planned changes are expected to increase the flexibility of concrete regulations and thereby create additional opportunities for the use of concrete admixtures.

Retarders

SEEKING THE REMOVAL OF EXISTING RESTRICTIONS ON USE

Retarders are widely used in infrastructure construction because they delay cement hydration and, consequently, the setting and hardening of concrete. This property is particularly important when casting massive structural elements, where it helps to prevent excessive temperature increases caused by the heat of hydration. In Germany, phosphates are predominantly used as active substances in retarding admixtures. By contrast, the use of sucrose and hydroxycarboxylic acids - common practice in a number of other countries - is excluded in Germany due to restrictions contained in ZTV-ING and ZTV-W for both road and waterway construction.

Against this backdrop, TC 2 carried out an extensive testing programme to demonstrate that safe construction using retarded concrete is also possible when using sucrose and hydroxycarboxylic acids. Based on the results, a compre-

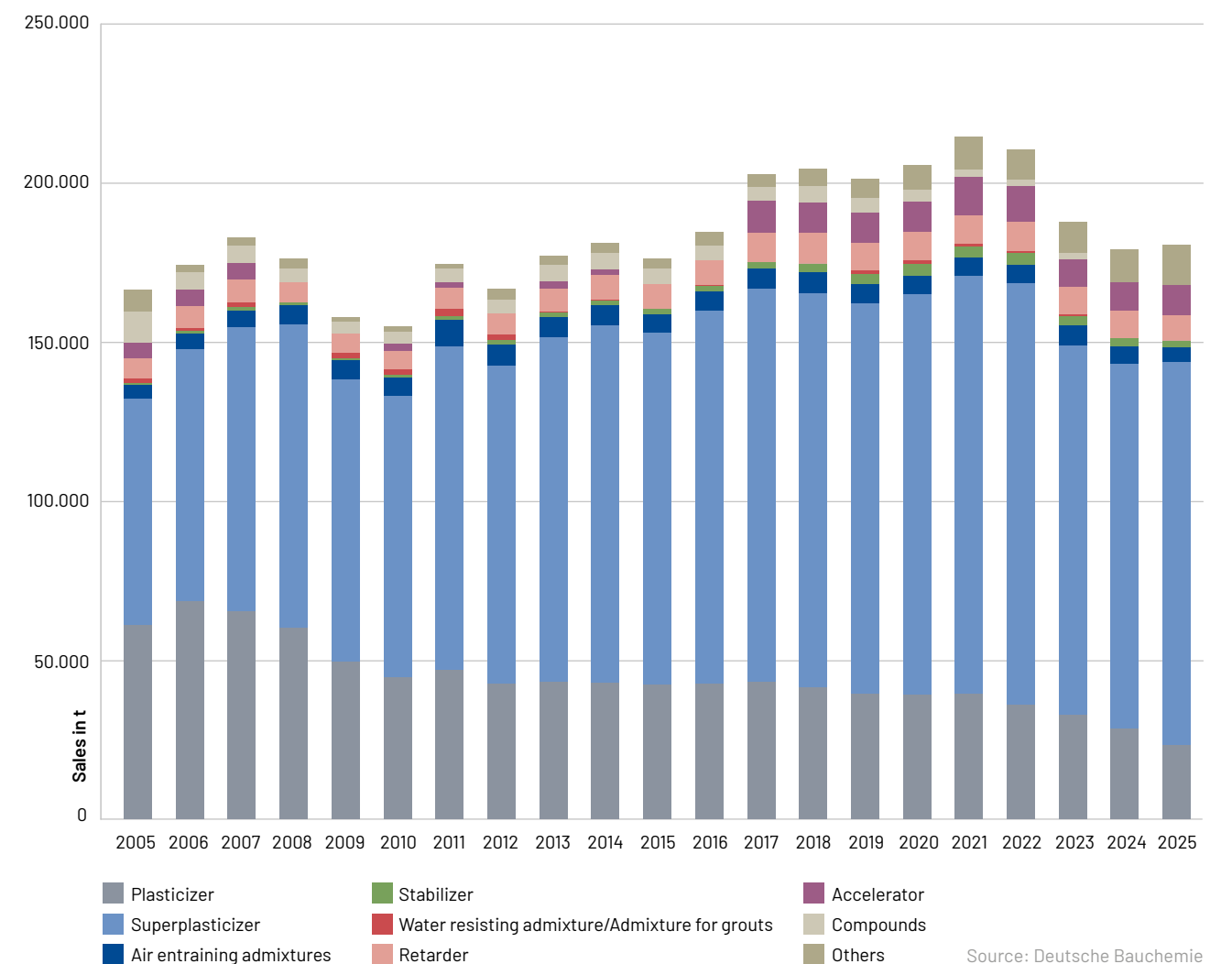
hensive technical dossier was prepared which, in addition to presenting technical and scientific principles, also draws on practical experience from international markets and outlines ways for minimising potential risks associated with the use of these substances. The dossier was submitted to representatives of the Federal Highway Research Institute (BAST) and the Federal Waterways Engineering and Research Institute (BAW), which are responsible for the development of ZTV-ING and ZTV-W respectively. On this basis, Deutsche Bauchemie proposed that the existing restrictions on the use of sucrose and hydroxycarboxylic acids be removed.

BAW adopted Deutsche Bauchemie's recommendation and eliminated the restriction in a revised edition of service area 215 of ZTV-W. TC 2 remains in close technical dialogue with BAST with the objective of also achieving a corresponding amendment to the restriction in ZTV-ING.

STATISTICS

Working Group 2.2 "Public Relations" is responsible for preparing the basis for the sales statistics for concrete admixtures.

Sales development of concrete admixtures in Germany and exports



Source: Deutsche Bauchemie

MICROPLASTICS

In response to the entry into force of the REACH Restriction on synthetic polymer microparticles (microplastics), TC 2 “Concrete Technology”, WG 2.1 “Concrete Admixtures and Environment” and WG 2.9 “Polymer Fibres for Concrete” assessed the potential implications of the restriction for the concrete supply chain. As part of these deliberations, model texts were developed to support manufacturers of polymer fibres and concrete admixtures in fulfilling the information obligations established by the Restriction.

As the REACH Restriction also introduces information and, in certain cases, reporting obligations for downstream users, both the national and European associations representing the precast concrete and ready-mixed concrete industries were informed about the relevant provisions. In addition, the model texts developed were made available in several language versions.

Research
GOOD RECYCLABILITY
OF POLYMER FIBRE-REINFORCED
CONCRETE DEMONSTRATED

Against the backdrop of societal and political ambitions to strengthen circular economy approaches, the recycling of construction materials is becoming increasingly important, with concrete receiving particular attention. In Germany, a large proportion of concrete demolition waste is already recycled. However, recycled material is currently used predominantly in applications such as road sub-base construction and landscape modelling, rather than in the production of new concrete. Efforts are therefore underway to increase future use of recycled concrete materials in concrete construction, primarily through the incorporation of recycled aggregates.

In the case of polymer fibre-reinforced concrete, questions have arisen as to whether the polymer fibres contained in the concrete could affect the processing of the concrete demolition waste or influence the properties of concrete produced using recycled aggregates. To investigate these issues, Working Group 2.9 “Polymer Fibres for Concrete”, together with the Institute for Construction Materials, Geotechnics, Transport and Water at TH Köln – University of Applied Sciences, initiated a dedicated research project.

The results demonstrated that polymer fibres do not cause any significant impairment during the processing of concrete demolition waste. Although some polymer fibres may partially protrude from the grains of the recycled aggregates, the investigation showed that these fibre residues – whether polymer microfibres or polymer macrofibres – have no adverse effects on either the processing characteristics or the performance properties of the concrete produced with them.

The project further demonstrated that, where polymer fibre concrete containing polymer macrofibres is recycled, separation of the fibres using conventional processing and sorting technologies is possible. This enables the recovered polymer fibres to be directed to appropriate recovery routes independently of the mineral concrete fraction.

Overall, the findings of the research project confirm the high recyclability of polymer fibre-reinforced concrete. The results were published in the trade journal beton (Issue 12/2025). The article is available free of charge here:



Supporting
the concrete
supply chain:

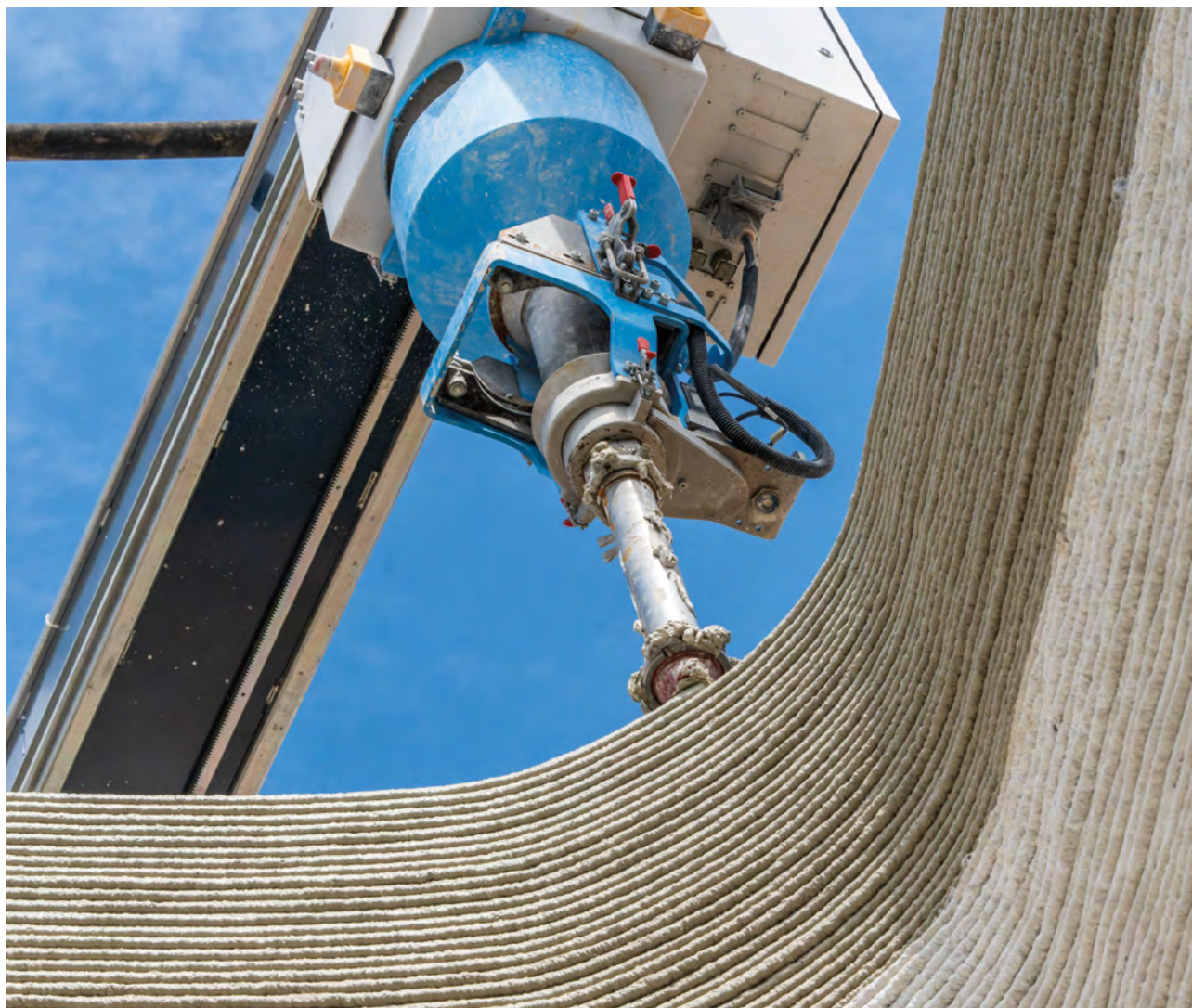
Practical DBC model texts assist companies in meeting the obligations arising from the European Microplastics Restriction.

Concrete release agents

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Working Group 2.3 “Concrete Release Agents” has initiated the revision of the status report “Concrete release agents and the environment”. The objective is to align the report with current application practices and the applicable regulatory framework. In addition to updating the content, including sections on GISCODEs and products in contact with drinking water, the WG is developing a structured decision-making tool for users. The tool is intended to support the assessment of concrete release agents based on defined criteria relating to occupational safety, environmental compatibility and sustainability.

Within the topic area of ecological quality, the criteria catalogue of the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB) classifies concrete release agents into four quality levels under the aspect “risks to the local environment”. Against this background, the Working Group prepared a proposal to amend the classification system, as certain products had, in individual cases, received less favourable ratings due to occupational safety considerations, despite these factors having no influence on the products’ sustainability. The proposed amendment was submitted to the DGNB by DBC and discussed with the relevant technical experts during a meeting of the responsible DGNB Working Group. As a result, the proposal was adopted by the DGNB and incorporated into a revised edition of the criteria catalogue. Following publication, minor content-related errors were identified, prompting the Working Group to submit an additional amendment proposal to the DGNB to address these points.



Up-to-date expertise for concrete technologists:

The revised core presentation for the E-Schein training programme integrates the latest technical requirements and developments in concrete admixture technology.

Curing compounds

NEW PRODUCT STANDARD UNDER DEVELOPMENT

European Working Group CEN/TC 104/WG 17 “Curing Compounds” is pursuing the development of a European product standard for concrete curing compounds. The standard is intended to define both product requirements and the associated test methods. As it will not be a harmonised standard under the Construction Products Regulation, its application will remain voluntary following publication. The responsible Working Group 2.6 “Curing Compounds” closely monitors developments at European level and actively contributes to the standardisation process through experts delegated via DIN. The Working Group has expressed considerable reservations regarding the proposed standard, as in its view, the envisaged test method for determining the barrier coefficient of curing compounds has not yet been sufficiently validated. Furthermore, as no round-robin testing has been carried out to date, there is very little experience with the application of the measurement and insufficient knowledge regarding the robustness and precision of the method. For these reasons, the Working Group also opposes the inclusion of a classification system for curing compounds based on the test method. To support its position, the Working Group prepared a comprehensive position paper and submitted it to the European Working Group. The paper calls on the standardisation body to refrain from publishing the standard until adequate experience has been gained and reliable findings are available.

Education and training

ADVANCED CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY TRAINING (“E-SCHEIN”)

The new edition of DIN 1045-2 was published in August 2023. The revised standard introduced a number of regulatory changes that also affect concrete admixtures and has since been incorporated in the Model Administrative Provision “Technical Building Rules” (MVV TB). Implementation of the updated MVV TB in the individual German federal states is currently ongoing.

In response to these developments, TG 2.8 “E-Schein” updated the existing core presentation used in advanced concrete technology training (“E-Schein”) on the topic of concrete admixtures. Among other aspects, the revised training material incorporated the content-related changes introduced by the new edition of DIN 1045-2, thereby ensuring that the high standard of advanced concrete technology training is maintained. The revision work was completed during the reporting period, and the updated core presentation was made available to the E-Schein training centres, ensuring that the revised content can be used from the 2025/2026 winter training year onwards.

Cooperation

JOINT VDB/DBC REPORT “CONCRETE ADMIXTURES”

The Verband Deutscher Betoningenieure (VDB) and TC 2 continued their successful collaboration on the report “Concrete Admixtures”. The publication provides detailed basic knowledge of all functional groups of concrete admixtures and is complemented by practical guidance and recommendations for users. The work on the report was completed during the reporting period, and the publication was released by VDB in November 2025.

FURTHER TOPICS

- Monitoring the implications of the European Drinking Water Directive for concrete admixtures
- Following the activities of DAfStb relating to sustainable construction with concrete
- Monitoring the preparation of technical bulletins by ADIV (Allgemeiner Deutscher Industriebodenverein)

Technical Committee 3 MORTAR TECHNOLOGY

Active committee bodies

Coordination Group
Products for Tile Laying (KKF)

TC 3 was founded in 1980 as the Technical Committee “Factory-Made Mortars and Auxiliaries”. In the years that followed, the committee underwent several name changes: in 1988, it became “Mineral Mortars and Mortar Sealants”, and in 1992 “Modified Mineral Mortar Systems”. Since 2000, the Committee has operated as TC 3 “Mortar Technology”. Some of TC 3’s key topics have remained central to its work since its foundation, for example the regulation and standardisation of building waterproofing. Other areas, including sustainability and Model EPDs, have been added over the past 15 years. The significance of these long-standing activities was duly recognised at the Committee’s 100th meeting on 4 September 2025.

European Standardisation REPAIR PRODUCTS

For concrete repair products, the harmonised EN 1504 series of standards is being addressed by CEN/TC 104/SC 8. For TC 3, Part 3 “Structural and non-structural repair” (mortar products/systems) is of particular relevance. Work on the revision of EN 1504-3 had been ongoing for many years within CEN/TC 104/SC 8/WG 2. However, all submitted drafts were rejected by the European Commission on purely formal reasons and were therefore not cited in the Official Journal of the European Union. As a result, work on the harmonised standards has been suspended pending clarification of the formal basis through the CPR Acquis process and the availability of the corresponding standardisation request.

At the end of 2024, the compilation of input for the CPR Acquis process for repair products began at Member State level. The necessary preparatory work was carried out by the national Mirror Committees and CPR Acquis Subgroup 26 was established in late 2024. A revised version of EN 1504-3 is not expected before 2030. These developments are addressed in greater detail by TC 5 (see page 51).

Waterproofing of buildings

STANDARDS AND FINAL PUBLICATION

In 2017, the “Waterproofing of buildings” series of standards was published, comprehensively integrating the product groups mineral waterproofing slurries (non-flexible and flexible)(MDS) and waterproofing materials used in conjunction with tiles and slabs (AIV).

The following standards are of particular relevance to TC 3:

- DIN 18531 Waterproofing of roofs, balconies, loggias and walkways (Parts 1 to 5), particularly Part 5 covering materials for waterproofing balconies, loggias and walkways
- DIN 18533 Waterproofing of elements in contact with soil (Parts 1 to 3)
- DIN 18534 Waterproofing for indoor applications (Parts 1 to 6) and
- DIN 18535 Waterproofing of tanks and pools (Parts 1 to 3)

Since 2018, the responsible DIN standards committees have been working on revisions of these standards.

At the end of 2023, the revised draft standards (yellow prints) for DIN 18533 were published, followed at the end of 2024 by the revised drafts for DIN 18531 and DIN 18534. These drafts were subsequently considered within the formal objection procedures. The revision process has now been completed.

DIN 18531 (Parts 1 to 4) was published by DIN Media in the August 2025 edition, while DIN 18534 (Parts 1 to 6) followed in the October 2025 edition. In addition, the technical report DIN TR 18534-7, Guideline for the design of waterproofing in domestic and similar bathrooms with showers at floor level, was prepared. Its publication had originally been planned for the first quarter of 2026, but is still pending.

The publication date of the revised DIN 18533 remains uncertain. As of March 2026, the standard had not yet been published, as fundamental issues required resolution during 2025. For further details, see TC 4, page 48.

DIN 18535 was not revised and remains unchanged.

DIN 19573

MORTARS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND REFURBISHMENT OF DRAINS AND SEWERS

DIN 19573, Mortar for construction and rehabilitation of drains and sewers outside buildings, was first published in March 2016. It specifies requirements and test methods for the construction and repair of wastewater pipes, sewers and wastewater treatment plants outside buildings. During the first DIN objection meeting on this standard, numerous objections from various stakeholders were raised, including Deutsche Bauchemie. The five year revision of DIN 19573 has been underway since 2021.

Experts from TC 3 contributed their technical and practical experience with the products covered by the standard and prepared and submitted comprehensive comments.

New test methods for testing acid resistance were integrated into the revised DIN 19573. Comparative investigations were carried out on exposed samples in 2024. The revised draft standard was published in April 2025 and subsequently discussed during the formal objection meeting. Publication of the revised standard is expected in the second quarter of 2026.

A European standardisation initiative in CEN/TC 165/WG 13 “Renovation and repair of drains and sewers” was launched as early as 2017 with the involvement of the DIN Standards Committee Water Practice (NAW). One of its objectives is to incorporate the test methods specified in DIN 19573. Following a temporary interruption, the standardisation work resumed in 2023. Delegates from Deutsche Bauchemie are actively involved in this European standardisation committee.

In early May 2026, DIN Media published the revised version of

DIN 19573,

which appeared as the June 2026 edition.

CEMENT-BASED PRODUCTS IN CONTACT WITH DRINKING WATER

Directive (EU) 2020/2184 on the quality of water intended for human consumption, adopted on 16 December 2020, was published in the Official Journal of the EU (L435/1) on 23 December 2020 and entered into force on 12 January 2021.

The Directive specifies that the details referred to in Article 11(2) are to be regulated through delegated and implementing acts. These include:

- Methods for the evaluation of starting substances and compositions
- Methods for product/component testing
- European Positive Lists (EU Lists), including listed substances assigned an expiry date based on their hazardous properties

The legal framework assigns responsibility for the evaluation of products and the establishment of Positive Lists to ECHA, supported by its Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC). The requirements apply across all material groups: organic, ceramic, metallic and cement-based materials.

The specified requirements will apply from 31 December 2026 to materials and products used in new installations as well as in the renovation or repair of existing installations.

Transitional provisions apply to products covered by a national assessment for starting substances, constituents and compositions. Such assessments will remain valid until 31 December 2032. Products that are manufactured on site are currently excluded from these transitional arrangements.

On 5 February 2026, the European Commission published the previously missing supporting document “Materials in contact with drinking water – Testing of Final Materials and Conformity Assessment”.

In addition, since January 2026 ECHA has made available a new online guidance tool that provides applicants with step-by-step support throughout the application process:



PRODUCTS FOR TILE LAYING

COORDINATION GROUP PRODUCTS FOR TILE LAYING (KKF)

The Coordination Group Products for Tile Laying was jointly initiated and founded by Deutsche Bauchemie and the Industrieverband Klebstoffe (IVK) in 1998. Since its foundation, the group has represented the interests of manufacturers of tile installation products.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDISATION

Relevant tile installation products are standardised at the international level within ISO/TC 189/WG 3. In analogy to the European harmonised standards, the ISO series was developed to provide classification rules (ISO 13007-1 and ISO 13007-3) and test methods (ISO 13007-2 and ISO 13007-4) for tile adhesives and grouts. With regard to the test methods, ISO 13007-2 is identical to EN 12004-2. At regular intervals, ISO 13007-5, covering liquid-applied waterproofing membranes for use beneath ceramic tiling bonded with adhesives,

and ISO 13007-6, which specifies the associated test methods, are reviewed and revised where necessary. The most recent review took place in 2026. In addition, Working Group 7 within ISO/TC 189 addresses sustainability-related aspects.

EUROPEAN STANDARDISATION

The relevant European standards for tile installation products are developed within CEN/TC 67/WG 3 “Products for installation of ceramic tiles”. For many years, the CEN committee has been engaged in the revision and publication of EN 12004 and its associated testing standards, as well as EN 14891.

Both EN 12004 and EN 14891 had long been scheduled for revision. However, for purely formal reasons, the European Commission declined to cite in the Official Journal of the European Union the drafts adopted by CEN/TC 67. Neither the May 2017 draft nor the subsequent 2020 draft was officially cited. The standards were divided into Part 1: Adhesives for ceramic tiles – requirements, assessment and verification of constancy of performance, classification and marking



and Part 2: Test methods. As long as no revised version of the standard has been cited in the Official Journal of the EU, CE marking of the relevant products must continue to be based on EN 12004:2012-02.

EN 14891 "Liquid applied water impermeable products for use beneath ceramic tiling bonded with adhesives – Requirements, test methods, assessment and verification of constancy of performance, classification and marking" was also revised to align with the formal requirements of the former Construction Products Regulation. Although the revised

edition was published in May 2017, it has not been cited in the Official Journal of the EU. Consequently, CE marking must still be carried out in accordance with the 2012 edition.

In the meantime, work on the harmonised standards within CEN/TC 67/WG 3 has been suspended, as no further work is expected on the above-mentioned standards until the CPR Acquis process under the revised CPR has been completed. Furthermore, the standardisation request for tile installation products is currently considered a low priority.

From the perspective of German building law, products covered by EN 14891 may only be used for the waterproofing of outdoor wall and floor surfaces and for outdoor swimming pools that are not connected to buildings. For other applications, proof of usability in accordance with entry B 2.2.5.12 of the currently valid MVV TB 2025/1 remains necessary. In parallel, Section C of the MVV TB continues to include entry C 3.27 for "Bonded Waterproofing Systems", which still requires a certificate of conformity.

EMO REACTION TO FIRE PERFORMANCE OF MORTARS

Together with the European Mortar Industry Association (EMO), discussions were held on the reaction to fire performance of mortars and on a CWT application for renders and mortars covered by EN 998. The application was submitted by EMO to the European Commission with the support of member companies of IVK and DBC. Without a positive outcome of this application, products containing more than 1% organic content would – contrary to previous practice – require third-party testing. At present, the outcome of the CWT application remains open. EMO raised the issue again at the beginning of 2026, and further discussions with the European Commission are expected.

EAD/ETAG 022

The three EADs replacing ETAG 022 were published and formally cited back in October 2020. Former Part 1 of ETAG 022 "Liquid applied watertight covering kits for wet room floors and/or walls", now has reference number EAD 030352-00-0503 and was published in the Official Journal of the EU through Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1574 of 28 October 2020. The remaining EADs can be downloaded from the EOTA website. Implementation developments under the revised CPR continue to be closely monitored.

COOPERATION WITH FFN

The Coordination Group Products for Tile Laying regularly monitors the revision of the FFN technical bulletins.

Since the end of 2022, the KKF has actively contributed to the FFN Technical bulletin for exterior coverings. The installation of tiles in outdoor areas requires particular care and specialised technical expertise. Appropriate product selection and professional installation are crucial. The technical bulletin therefore provides comprehensive guidance on the requirements and specific considerations relevant to the applications on balconies and terraces.

The publication also includes the "Guide for the installation of exterior coverings and covering constructions made of tiles and slabs outside buildings", which was prepared by the KKF. The revised edition of the technical bulletin was published at the beginning of 2026.

Other joint publications include, among others, the technical bulletins "Commercial kitchens/production facilities with chemical exposure", "Bonded waterproofing systems", "Large and mega formats" and "Swimming pool construction".

FURTHER TOPICS

- Revision of the CPR
- Launch of the CPR Acquis Subgroup Floorings and revision of the screed standard EN 13813
- Microplastics Restriction
- Development of the DAfStb Guideline "Grout Concrete and Grout Mortar"

FFN incorporated the new technical bulletins and technical rules into the 11th edition (2026) of the

Manual for the Tiling Trade – Technology.



Technical Committee 4 POLYMER MODIFIED THICK COATINGS FOR WATER- PROOFING

Active committee bodies

TG 4.4 Update PMBC/FPD Guideline

TC 4 “Polymer Modified Thick Coatings for Waterproofing” – known until 2024 as “Bitumen in Building Protection” – addresses both polymer-modified bituminous thick coatings (PMBC) and flexible polymer-modified thick coatings (FPD), with a particular focus on their application in building waterproofing.

A central aspect of TC 4’s work is supporting the implementation of statutory and building regulatory requirements for these construction products, while closely monitoring developments in national standardisation related to building waterproofing. TC 4 is also responsible for preparing and maintaining the PMBC and FPD Guideline.

At the turn of 2025/2026, long-standing TC 4 Chair Arno Kohls stepped down from chairing the Committee. Together with Deputy Chair Manfred Vaupel, he continues to provide interim leadership of the Committee until a successor has been appointed.

PMBC under the European Construction Products Regulation (CPR)

EUROPEAN PRODUCT STANDARD

PMBC are subject to the harmonised European standard EN 15814. In the future, this standard will need to comply with the requirements of the revised Construction Products Regulation (CPR). Within the so-called CPR Acquis process, a standardisation request is being developed to incorporate the requirements of the revised CPR and provide the basis for the revision of harmonised product standards. The various product families are being addressed in dedicated subgroups according to a staggered timeline based on a prioritisation list. EN 15814 was originally developed under Mandate M/102, which allocated PMBC to Product Family 23 “Construction products for road construction”, placing it 12th on the priority list. This classification has since been corrected. PMBC has now been assigned to Product Family 3 “Waterproofing sheets including liquid-applied waterproofing products and kits (for waterproofing against water and/or water vapour)”, and is now placed 20th on the priority list, a categorisation that more accurately reflects its intended application. Work within Subgroup 3 is currently expected to begin at the end of 2027 or the beginning of 2028. The future standardisation request will also include requirements relating to the fulfilment of the Basic Requirements for Construction Works, particularly relating to environmental performance and sustainability aspects. To closely monitor these developments, members of TC 4 participate in both the German mirror committee NA 005-02-19 AA and the European committee CEN/TC 361. Both committees are currently operating in a dormant status, as preparatory work for the adaptation of EN 15814 to the revised CPR requirements has not yet begun.

Building authority regulations

PMBC AND FPD IN NATIONAL BUILDING LAW

The national requirements for PMBC in accordance with EN 15814 are specified in the MVV TB under No. B 2.2.5.9, which directly references Requirement Table 2 of DIN 18533-3:2017-07.

Proof of usability for PMBC as waterproofing for transition joints on water-impermeable elements is provided by a General Building Authority Test Certificate (allgemeines bauaufsichtliches Prüfzeugnis) for a construction method based on the test principles PG-FBB, Part 1 (May 2020 edition). The entry can be found under No. C 4.14 of MVV TB 2025/1.

FPD are regulated under building regulations both under No. C 3.26 and under No. 2.4.1 of Annex 15 to the MVV TB. The regulatory basis for proof of usability under No. C 3.26 is provided by the “Test principles for issuing general building authority test certificates for rigid and flexible mineral waterproofing slurries and flexible polymer modified thick coatings for building waterproofing (PG-MDS/FPD)”. On the basis of a General Building Authority Test Certificate issued according to these test principles, FPD may be used under proof of usability in waterproofing applications in Water Exposure Classes W1-E, W2.1-E (up to a 3-metre water column), including transitions to water-impermeable concrete elements, as well as W3-E and W4-E in accordance with DIN 18533-1. In addition, FPD may be used for the waterproofing of tanks and basins in Water Exposure Classes W1-B and W2-B under DIN 18535-1.

As part of the regular exchange of experience among testing bodies, application- and testing-related questions concerning the PG-MDS/FPD are continuously clarified. Based on proposals from experts of TC 4 member companies, a number of clarifications and amendments were incorporated into the test principles regarding the indication of characteristic product values in General Building Authority Test Certificates. Furthermore, a refined definition of FPD was established, covering one-component products and providing a clearer distinction from liquid-applied waterproofing systems. Of particular importance for manufacturers was the adaptation of testing requirements relating to optional reinforcing fabrics. The outcomes of these decisions are documented in a formal decision list, which must be taken into account as a mandatory supplement to the PG-MDS/FPD and when issuing a General Building Authority Test Certificate.

Annex 15 to the MVV TB (see above) also sets out the building authority requirements applicable to FPD placed on the market with a European Technical Assessment (ETA) based on EAD 030295-00-0605 and used for building and tank waterproofing. The requirements defined for this purpose correspond to those applicable under the PG-MDS/FPD for building waterproofing.

Proof of usability for waterproofing construction joints, predetermined crack cross-sections, connections and transitions in or on waterproof structural elements in below-ground applications is provided through a General Building Authority Test Certificate issued in accordance with PG-FBB Part 1. For movement joints, a General Building Authority Test Certificate based on PG-FBB Part 2 is required. Representatives of TC 4 actively contribute to the recognised testing bodies' working group responsible for these test principles.

With the introduction of MVV 2026/1, certain formal changes relating to waterproofing products are expected in future. Based on the information currently available, however, no substantive changes or additional requirements for PMBC or FPD products are planned.

National standardisation for building waterproofing

PMBC AND FPD IN DIN 18533

All building waterproofing construction applications using PMBC are covered by DIN 18533, with the exception of external strip-type joint waterproofing for water-impermeable concrete structures, which fall outside the scope of the standard. While waterproofing with PMBC has already been

normatively regulated for many years for applications in Water Exposure Classes W1-E, W2.1-E, W3-E and W4-E, with the exception of cross-sectional waterproofing, the product group FPD is not included in the currently in force 2017 edition of the standard.

As part of the regular five-year review process, the responsible standardisation committee incorporated a range of updates, clarifications and revisions identified as necessary, including the addition of new materials. Deutsche Bauchemie's proposal to include FPD as an independent product group within the standard was approved by the responsible standardisation committee, and corresponding provisions were integrated into Parts 1 and 3 of the revised standard. Based on the available data, the standards committee decided to differentiate between two-component and one-component products. Under the revised provisions, one-component products will be normatively regulated for Water Exposure Classes W1-E and W4-E, while two-component systems will be covered across all Water Exposure Classes.

The acceptance of FPD within the standard was also confirmed during the objection procedures concerning the published draft versions of DIN 18533 Parts 1 to 3. No objections were raised either against the inclusion of FPD or against the proposed normative provisions for the product group.

However, before FPD can be regulated for the first time under DIN 18533, the revised standard must first be published. As of March 2026, publication has been delayed for almost two years due to fundamental disputes concerning interpretative authority and the definition of the Water Exposure Classes previously specified in DIN 18533, involving NA 005-05-10 AA "Subsoil; building drainage" and the standard DIN 4095-1 addressed by the latter. This conflict stems from the differing approaches to classifying water exposure based on geohydraulic conditions on the one hand and waterproofing requirements for structures, depending on the water acting upon them, on the other. Despite numerous efforts to resolve these issues – including involvement of the NABau, the relevant Secretariats and the higher-level steering bodies of both standards committees – no satisfactory compromise could initially be achieved. Only during the October 2025 committee meetings did the respective bodies approve the manuscript versions of DIN 18533 and DIN 4095-1 for publication by majority vote. As of March 2026, final review and publication approval for the three parts of DIN 18533 remained within DIN's "Process Quality and Review (PQ)" Group. Consequently, the affected professional community, construction practitioners, and, in particular, users of FPD, have been awaiting the new edition of the standard for more than two years. Once published, the future edition of DIN 18533 will rely on DIN 4095-1 for the definitions of Water Exposure Classes.

Revision of the PMBC and FPD Guideline

TASK GROUP 4.4

Against the backdrop of the still pending publication of the DIN 18533 waterproofing standard (see above), TG 4.4, established by TC 4, has focused on updating both the PMBC Guideline and the FPD Guideline. During the reporting period, the Task Group held a total of 13 meetings dedicated to this work. The revision of the FPD Guideline is necessary in view of the planned inclusion of FPD, which will be normatively regulated under DIN 18533 in the future. In addition, other content-related changes introduced into the waterproofing standard must be reflected in both association publications. With the exception of the new provisions relating to water exposure in DIN 18533-1 and DIN 4095-1, TG 4.4 has completed the revision of the PMBC Guideline. Substantial progress has also been made on the update of the FPD Guideline. However, the workload associated with the FPD revision has been considerably greater, as the normative provisions for this product group must be taken into account. At the editorial deadline for this annual report, the revision of the FPD Guideline was nearing completion. Nevertheless, finalisation of the update remains dependent on the publication of DIN 18533. Given the significance of the ongoing DIN 18533 discussions for both guidelines, TC 4 convened a dedicated meeting during the reporting period to review the status of DIN 18533, explore various options for the revision of the two Guidelines, and ultimately renew the mandate of TG 4.4.

Successful renewal

MODEL EPDs FOR PMBC

The validity of the national Model EPD for PMBC expired in spring 2025. TC 4 initiated the renewal process at an early stage, not least to bridge the period until future mandatory sustainability requirements for harmonised products under the revised CPR come into force. As part of a five-year renewal process, compliance with the current version of EN 15804+A2 was required, replacing the previous Model EPD, which had been based on EN 15804+A1. This involved the inclusion of additional life cycle assessment indicators, the application of revised calculation rules and the updating of the underlying datasets.

Following a review and update of product-specific raw material lists and resource consumption data, the information was processed by a specialised life cycle assessment consultancy. Based on the recalculation of the updated raw material list and with the involvement of member companies in TC 4, a maximum single score was determined for the



worst-case formulation. Subsequently, the textual content of the Model EPD was updated, after which the independent verification process was carried out by a verifier appointed by the EPD programme operator "Institut Bauen und Umwelt" (IBU). The renewed Model EPD for PMBC has been available since September 2025. It maintains its validity for a period of five years and can be used by Deutsche Bauchemie member companies for the declaration of their PMBC products.

Ensuring high application quality

TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD WATERPROOFING

Deutsche Bauchemie represents the interests of its member companies on the Training Advisory Board Waterproofing. In addition, experts from member companies are recognised as instructors for the training programme leading to the qualification "Waterproofing Certificate PMBC/MDS/FPD".

Following a revision of the content of the training programme under the leadership of the Training Advisory Board and with substantial contributions from experts represented in TC 4, the content-related prerequisites necessary for offering theoretical and practical instructions in professional building waterproofing with PMBC, FPD and MDS were created.

FURTHER TOPICS

- Monitoring developments relating to the revised CPR and the ongoing CPR Acquis process
- Assessment of the impact of the statutory restrictions on synthetic polymer microparticles (SPM) on PMBC formulations
- Handling enquiries relating to the PMBC and FPD Guidelines
- Administration of the TC 4 special fund



Technical Committee 5 CONCRETE PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

Active committee bodies

- WG 5.1 Epoxy Resins
- WG 5.2 EN 1504
- WG 5.3 MMA Resins
- WG 5.5 Polyurethane Resins
- WG 5.7 Liquid Applied
Waterproofing Systems
- TG 5.10 Editorial Team
Guideline for Liquid Applied
Waterproofing Systems

TC 5 “Concrete Protection and Maintenance” addresses all key topics relating to the product types reactive resin coatings, repair mortars, construction adhesives, anchoring systems, injection products and corrosion protection systems, as well as liquid-applied waterproofing systems for building elements. These products are used to waterproof, protect and repair a wide range of structures, including civil engineering works, public buildings, dwellings and industrial facilities. For this purpose, the construction chemicals industry continuously develops these products with regard to application safety and durability, while also advancing sustainability as well as health and environmental protection. The topics covered by the Technical Committee are correspondingly complex. The Committee has therefore established several dedicated working bodies. Experts from TC 5 and its committees contribute extensively to standardisation at both national and European level.

New convenors

ELECTION OF NEW CONVENORS AT THE 130TH MEETING OF TC 5 IN MINDEN

At its 111th meeting on 8 May 2019, Dr Joachim Käßler (MC-Bauchemie Müller GmbH & Co. KG) was appointed Convenor of TC 5, having served as Deputy Chair between 2014 and 2019. On 8 May 2025 – exactly six years later – Dr Käßler stepped down from his position at the 129th meeting of TC 5. As convenor of both TC 5 and WG 5.2, he played a key role in guiding the development of national technical rules and the European standardisation process for EN 1504, the central standard series for concrete repair products. On behalf of the construction chemicals industry, he moderated these processes with outstanding commitment and expertise. The members of TC 5 and the DBC Secretariat extend their sincere appreciation and thanks for his longstanding contribution.

At the 130th meeting of TC 5, held in Minden on 3 December 2025, new convenors were elected. Dr Patrick Schäffler (PAGEL Spezial-Beton GmbH & Co. KG) was elected Convenor, while Volker Schwarz (PCI Augsburg GmbH) was elected Deputy Chair, having already served in this role for several years prior. At the 131st meeting in April 2026, Dr Julian Kehrle (KLB Kötztal Lacke & Beschichtungen GmbH) was elected as second Deputy Chair.

Repair products

EUROPEAN STANDARDISATION EN 1504

Responsibility for the European standardisation of protection and repair products lies within CEN/TC 104/SC 8. The committee developed the EN 1504 series of standards “Products and systems for the protection and repair of concrete structures; definitions, requirements, quality control and evaluation of conformity (Parts 1 to 10)”. This EN 1504 series had already been scheduled for revision in 2009 to address a number of identified errors. These included, for example, insufficient descriptions of supplementary essential product characteristics.

Due to the absence of adequate formal specifications under the former Construction Products Regulation (CPR 2011) and the lack of a generally accepted guidance for CEN, particularly regarding the inclusion of essential characteristics, none of the revised draft standards was accepted by the European Commission. As a result, the revised versions of EN 1504 were blocked by the European Commission and, as a consequence, were not formally introduced. In response, the parent committee CEN/TC 104 decided to suspend work on the harmonised standards until clear standardisation requests are provided by the European Commission. CEN/TC 104/SC 8 adopted the same approach. Since the end of 2022, activities have therefore focused exclusively on the revision and publication of European test standards.

At the beginning of 2023, it was announced that an Acquis Subgroup would be established in 2024 as part of the ongoing CPR Acquis process for repair products covered by Mandate M/128 “Products related to concrete, mortar and

grout” (CMG). One of the Subgroup’s tasks is the preparation of a standardisation request for the series of harmonised standards covering protection and repair products (EN 1504-2 to 7). This process requires formal input from the CEN Member States. For Germany, the regulatory and technical contributions were compiled jointly by DIN and DIBt at the beginning of 2024.

At the end of November 2024, CPR Acquis Subgroup 26 (CMG) began its work. This Subgroup was tasked with developing standardisation requests for concrete constituents, ready-mixed concrete and protection and repair products within an anticipated timeframe of approximately 15 months. To this end, CPR Acquis Subgroup 26 was divided into three dedicated subgroups covering concrete constituents, ready-mixed concrete and products for the protection, repair and strengthening of concrete elements.

At the beginning of 2025, the CEN Member States, including Germany, submitted their Acquis input for protection and repair products to CPR Acquis Subgroup 26, which has since met on five occasions.

CEN/TC 104/SC 8 established a horizontal working group dedicated to the development of c-PCRs for repair products, ensuring close alignment with the ongoing CPR Acquis process.

Experts from TC 5 and WG 5.2 of Deutsche Bauchemie are actively engaged in the relevant standardisation bodies of DIN NA 005-07-06 AA “Protection, repair and strengthening”, the Mirror Committee to CEN/TC 104/SC 8, as well as in CEN/TC 104/SC 8 and its working groups, directly contributing their positions and statements.

Concrete maintenance NATIONAL RULES

Despite critical feedback from member companies of DBC, the Technical Rule “Maintenance of Concrete Structures”, Parts 1 and 2 (TR IH), was published by DIBt in January 2021 and introduced as an official building authority-approved technical rule through the MVV TB. In October 2021, three member companies initiated judicial review proceedings before the Bavarian Administrative Court and the Higher Administrative Court of North Rhine-Westphalia against the TR Maintenance with the objective of having the legality of Part 2 of the TR reviewed and thereby establish legal certainty regarding the application of this set of rules.

Technical experts assume that the revised EU Construction Products Regulation ((EU) 2024/3110) and the ongoing CPR Acquis process will ultimately lead to a correction of the

potentially unlawful provisions in the TR IH. As part of the CPR Acquis process, the European Commission is required to prepare standardisation requests for the harmonised parts of the EN 1504 series of standards and, where necessary, address existing deficiencies and gaps. Once revised, the harmonised parts of EN 1504 are expected to be introduced under the new CPR, under which additional national requirements will no longer be necessary or permissible. In view of this emerging development, the companies that had initiated the judicial review proceedings decided not to pursue the two cases further and withdrew the action before the Higher Administrative Court of North Rhine-Westphalia prior to the oral hearing scheduled for early 2024.

During the same period, the committees of DIBt, DIN and DAfStb adopted proposals for the European harmonised standardisation of protection and repair products – initially without the involvement of DBC. In parallel, the member companies represented in TC 5 and WG 5.2, in coordination with the DBC Executive Board, developed proposals outlining how a joint German contribution into the CPR Acquis process could be structured. These proposals were discussed in detail with the other stakeholders under the coordination of DAfStb.

In spring 2025, DIBt submitted the outcome of these consultations to the responsible CPR Acquis Subgroup 26, including proposals relating to surface protection systems, structural and non-structural repair products, and products for

crack injection. For a variety of reasons, the work of Acquis Subgroup 26 is currently delayed by approximately six to eight months.

It can be assumed that several years will pass before the revision of EN 1504 has been completed and the updated standards are introduced under the new CPR. A practical national transitional solution is therefore required. Against this background, DAfStb intends to transfer the DIBt TR Maintenance back into a DAfStb guideline. This approach is regarded by stakeholders as a broadly supported and consensus-based solution. Extensive work on the required documents was already undertaken during 2025. Members of TC 5 and WG 5.2 closely accompanied this process and submitted, among other contributions, proposals for practical solutions relating to the building inspectorate approval of relevant products to DAfStb. DAfStb has announced its intention to finalise the content of the “2025+ Maintenance Guideline” during 2026.

BMDV Rules

BAST AND BAW RULES

In November 2017, the then Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI), now the Federal Ministry of Transport (BMV), introduced the revised version of ZTV-W

LB 219 “Repair of concrete elements of hydraulic structures” by ministerial decree. At around the same time, the revised ZTV-ING, Part 3, Sections 4 and 5 “Protection and repair”, was announced for the federal trunk road sector through General Road Construction Circular No. 20/2017. In addition, BAW published its revised recommendation “Repair products – Code of practice for the competent planner on structure-related product characteristics and test methods” in December 2025. Both sets of rules contain sections relating to quality assurance. The regulatory framework issued by BAST and BAW was last updated in spring 2019.

During 2024 and early 2025, the above-mentioned sets of rules were revised to reflect the new edition of the DIN 1045:2023-08 series of standards. The adaptation of the BAST rules to DIN 1045 is, however, still pending.

Both rule-setting bodies have announced their intention to simplify the procedures and processes between the competent planner and the executing construction company. In addition, the building inspectorate approval procedures for products are expected to be streamlined to align conformity assessment procedures with Procedure B of DIN 18200.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

TC 5 regularly evaluates current research needs in the field of concrete protection and maintenance. Based on these assessments, research projects are commissioned to external research or testing institutes. Wherever possible, the projects are technically supported by experts from TC 5 and its Working Groups. In addition, TC 5 supports research initiatives funded by other organisations, including public funding bodies. This support may include, for example, provisions of products and test specimens, as well as expressions of interest in the research activities. The overarching objective is to generate additional scientific knowledge on protection and repair products and thereby sustainably enhance safety and practical benefits for users. Among the research projects supported under the WIPANO funding line “Knowledge and technology transfer through patents and standards” were:

- Development of a test method for determining the wear resistance of moderately trafficked surface protection systems on cracked substrates – draft set of technical rules
- Standardisation of the measurement of electrolyte resistance on structures

In addition, TC 5 provided technical support for the BG BAU research activities on epoxy resins (FoBiG); see “Epoxy Resins” in the following section.



EPOXY RESINS

EVALUATION OF EPOXY RESINS

The BG Epoxy Resins Working Group was established in 2007 as a joint initiative involving a broad range of stakeholders, including the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS), employers' liability insurance associations, research institutes, manufacturers and users. The shared objective of the initiative is to reduce occupational allergic skin diseases associated with the use of epoxy resins.

Over the past two decades, numerous collaborative projects have been continuously implemented aimed both at improving occupational health and safety and advancing the technical development of epoxy resin products.

At the beginning of 2023, a research project funded by the Epoxy Resins Working Group and the German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV) on the skin-sensitising potential of epoxy resin system components was successfully completed.

One of the key outcomes of the project was the so-called "EIS calculator". Based on in vitro investigations of epoxy resin components, substances have been assessed and classified according to their sensitising potency. A particular focus of the project was the evaluation of prepolymers.

The resulting EIS list contributes to a more robust assessment of the listed substances (list of relevant epoxy resin ingredients). It continues to be expanded through the integration of new additional findings and is rounded off through data available under REACH. The EIS list project was extended at the end of 2024 for a further period of approximately three years to ensure the data remains up to date.

The Epoxy Resins Working Group has supported a wide range of projects dealing with sensitising potency. The results of these projects have been published on a DGUV information platform on the safe handling of epoxy resins.



In 2025, several scientific publications were prepared and published in order to make the project findings accessible to a broader expert audience. In addition, the EIS Working Group commissioned and collected further data on the evaluation of reactive diluents in mid-2025.

Another important outcome of the Epoxy Resins Working Group is the development of a test method for assessing the

resistance of chemical protective gloves to solvent-free epoxy resins.

Projects that help improve knowledge on the safe handling of epoxy resins and promote the correct implementation of protective measures during processing of epoxy resin products are strongly supported by DBC member companies. Members of WG 5.1 therefore participate regularly in such initiatives, both through financial contributions and by supporting the implementation activities, including providing products and materials for research projects.

REACTIVE DILUENTS

In spring 2024, Epoxy Europe informed manufacturers of epoxy resin products that suppliers of several widely used reactive diluents intended to change the classification and labelling of three common substances in 2024. This reclassification was based on the results of recent toxicological studies initiated by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) as part of the REACH registration process. In addition to their existing classifications, these substances are now classified under the CLP Regulation (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008) as "Reproductive toxicant, Category 1B" and labelled with the hazard statement "H360F: May damage fertility".

Due to this reclassification, epoxy resin products containing these reactive diluents must now be assigned to GHS CODE RE90. In addition, a new GHS CODE category, RE95, has been introduced, making it possible to distinguish between solvent-containing and low-solvent epoxy resin products.

At the initiative of WG 5.1, the DGNB Criteria for Sustainable Construction, which are based on GHS CODE classifications, were amended accordingly and are reviewed regularly to reflect further developments.

BG BAU initiated a series of simulation measurements, with the Measurement Technology Department developing a dedicated analytical method for the determination of glycidyl ethers in air using SPME-GC/MS technology. Further details are available on the specialised BG BAU construction portal referenced below.

BG BAU has also published a comprehensive article addressing the revised labelling requirements for epoxy resin products resulting from the reclassification of certain reactive diluents, including 1,6-hexanediol diglycidyl ether (CAS No. 16096-31-4 or 933999-84-9) and C12/C14 monoglycidyl ether (CAS No. 68609-97-2).



In response to these developments, WG 5.1, together with members of the Product Stewardship Committee, prepared an information note entitled "Changed classification of reactive diluents and impact on epoxy resin products". The document is currently being revised to take account of the latest scientific findings.

STATUS REPORT

In December 2022, WG 5.1 completed the third edition of the status report "Epoxy resins in the construction industry and the environment", which was published on the DBC website. The status report is complemented by a checklist and an information sheet supporting the safe handling of epoxy resin products. An English-language edition of the status report is expected to become available shortly.

MMA RESINS

UPDATE OF MODEL EPDs FOR MMA

The validity of the Model EPDs for MMA products expired in spring 2025. Preparatory work for their update had therefore begun at the end of 2023.

The Model EPDs were updated in accordance with EN 15804+A2. In addition to incorporating additional life cycle assessment indicators and the revised calculation methodology, the underlying datasets were also updated.

Data preparation and assessment were carried out by an experienced LCA consultancy. At an early stage of the project, it was decided to renew only three of the four existing Model EPDs for MMA products. By January 2025, the review of the background data, the update of the substance list and the recalculation of the common formulations had been completed. The accompanying EPD texts were subsequently revised and updated.

Verification of the updated data was completed in September 2025. The third generation of verified Model EPDs with a validity of five years are now available in English and have been published on the Deutsche Bauchemie website.

Technical debate HARMONISED CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING

At the beginning of 2019, the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) submitted a proposal for a new harmonised classification of MMA as a respiratory sensitizer (Resp. Sens. Cat. 1, H334). In early 2020, industry comments and position papers from several European associations were discussed, and a number of member companies represented in WG 5.3 submitted comments during a second consultation phase. In October 2020, the Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) of ECHA generally supported the proposed classification, and an initial RAC Opinion was published in spring 2021.

The proposed classification was not included in the 21st ATP. The European Commission indicated that additional scientific publications and further information had become available and that a renewed assessment by RAC was therefore required. In September 2023, a request was submitted to RAC to review its earlier Opinion on the harmonised classification of MMA and to take the new information into account.



In March 2024, RAC renewed its recommendation to classify MMA as a respiratory sensitiser. The corresponding written justification (“final” RAC Opinion) was published in mid-September 2024 and became available in full at the beginning of October 2024.

The renewed assessment was prompted by extensive documentation prepared by the Cefic Methacrylates Sector Group (MSG) and submitted to representatives of the European Commission in summer 2023 challenging the assessment basis underlying the previous RAC Opinion from March 2021.

Since RAC Opinions are not legally binding, the proposed classification must subsequently be considered within the CARACAL process. During its most recent assessment in 2024, RAC accepted parts of the industry’s arguments, which, among other outcomes, led to the reduction of the number of asthma cases deemed relevant to the evaluation from six to four. Ahead of the CARACAL meeting in January 2026, the MSG sector group submitted additional publications and statements. Deutsche Bauchemie member companies strongly support the position presented by MSG.

The new harmonised classification of MMA was discussed again at the CARACAL meeting in January 2026 but was not included in the 24th ATP at that stage. Further technical discussions took place in mid-March 2026. In spring 2026, greater clarity is expected regarding the future implementation and the possible additional harmonised classification.

WG 5.3 will continue to monitor these developments closely.

STATUS REPORT “RESINS BASED ON METHYL METHACRYLATE”

In April 2023, the third, extensively revised edition of the status report “Resins based on methyl methacrylate in the construction industry and the environment” was published.

The revision was necessary to reflect new statutory and technical rules and classifications. An English-language version of the status report is currently being prepared and is expected to be published in the near future.

POLYURETHANE RESINS

Occupational safety

GISCODES FOR PU SYSTEMS

In cooperation with BG BAU, experts from WG 5.5 and WG 5.7 worked over an extended period on the revision of the GISCODE classification system for PU systems. The revised GISCODEs were adopted at the beginning of 2023 and published for the first time. Compared with the previous classification scheme, new designations and additional groups with different levels of VOC content were introduced in the revised GISCODE system. The revision also incorporated the requirements arising from the REACH Restriction on Diisocyanates. During 2023 and 2024, further questions raised by BG BAU regarding the water and solvent contents of polyurethane systems were clarified and the relevant guidance documents were updated once again.

The transition period for the previously applicable GISCODE classification remained in place until approximately mid-2025. Throughout this period, WG 5.5 regularly reviewed the

classification catalogue “GISCODE for polyurethane systems in construction” in order to assess whether further amendments or refinements were required. The following link leads to the portal:



DIISOCYANATE-CONTAINING MIXTURES

WG 5.5 continued to monitor the implementation of the REACH Restriction on diisocyanate-containing mixtures, which are used in virtually all polyurethane systems.

Under the restriction, suppliers of diisocyanate-containing mixtures are required to ensure that appropriate training materials and training courses are available to their customers in the relevant official language(s) of each Member State. To support member companies in complying with these obligations, Deutsche Bauchemie collaborated with the Association of the European Adhesive & Sealant Industry FEICA and the manufacturers’ associations ISOPA and ALIPA in implementing the requirements of the restriction.

The enforcement authorities of the German federal states responsible for chemicals legislation coordinate their activities through the Working Group on Chemicals Safety (BLAC), with the aim of ensuring uniform enforcement of chemicals legislation. At the end of 2023, BLAC published a new “Guideline on training for the safe use of Diisocyanates pursuant to Annex XVII of the REACH Regulation”, which outlines a range of training formats that may be used to meet the requirements of the restriction. The BLAC training formats require direct interaction with a trainer. As a consequence, the training platform established by ISOPA and ALIPA, with the involvement of FEICA and DBC, with its different e-learning modules for sealant and construction chemical applications, is not fully aligned with the requirements of the guideline. Further developments of the ISOPA and ALIPA training platforms therefore continue to be closely monitored.

In parallel, under European Directive 98/24/EC on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work (CAD), a Binding Occupational Exposure Limit Value (BOEL) for diisocyanates is being established. At the beginning of 2024, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union adopted the corresponding amendment to Directive 98/24/EC, which entered into force 20 days later. Following its entry into force, Member States must transpose the new BOEL for diisocyanates into national law within a period of two years.

National standardisation

SOIL INJECTION PRODUCTS

Since 2021, DIN 19631 “Percolation method for investigating the leaching behaviour of soil injection products”, which can be used, among other applications, to assess the leaching behaviour of PU-based soil injection products, has been under revision. In 2024, an interlaboratory comparison test was carried out and evaluated. The findings served as the basis for finalising the draft standard. The revised document includes, among other improvements, more detailed provisions on sample preservation and storage prior to chemical analyses.

The draft standard was published in March 2025 and subsequently underwent the formal objection procedure. The final revision of the standard was completed in June 2025; however, the revised DIN 19631 has not yet been published.

Together with the other stakeholders involved, members of WG 5.1 and WG 5.5 contribute their expertise to the evaluation of the release of relevant substances.



Building authority approvals

RELEASE OF AMINES

Over recent years, four technical discussions have taken place with DIBt concerning the release and analysis of amines from polyurethane-based construction products. These consultations began in 2017 and initially focused on PU soil injection products. In the meantime, the scope has been extended to include injection products and sewer pipe repair systems based on epoxy resins. The topic has therefore been addressed both in WG 5.1 and WG 5.5.

These discussions led to further exchanges with DIBt aimed at simplifying the analytical procedures currently required for the approval of EP and PU construction products. A bilateral expert meeting between DBC and DIBt took place in mid-2025 and was followed, at the beginning of 2026, by a fifth technical expert discussion. The objective of this meeting was to examine criticisms relating to the analytical method and the associated measurement results together with technical experts.

At the end of October 2025, the IBP published its research reports on the “Analysis of amines in an interlaboratory comparison using the inverse column test”. The reports can be accessed under the following link:



National standardisation

WATERPROOFING OF BUILDINGS

The standards for waterproofing of buildings (DIN 18195 and DIN 18531 to DIN 18535) constitute a central national set of technical rules for the application of established waterproofing products for structures. They also regulate construction methods using liquid applied waterproofing systems. As part of the periodic review process, the standards provided an opportunity to incorporate new findings and experience gained over the years. Following completion of the revision process, the updated draft standards, with the exception of DIN 18535, which was not revised, were published for comment. After the comments had been reviewed and discussed in the subsequent objection meetings of the responsible standards committees, developments differed across the individual standards:

DIN 18531 (Parts 1 to 5), DIN 18532 (Parts 1 to 6), DIN 18534 (Parts 1 to 6) and DIN 18195 were published from mid-2025 onwards. However, objections submitted against the draft versions of DIN 18531-2 and DIN 18531-5 resulted in a formal

conciliation procedure. During the conciliation hearing, all parties agreed to the proposed settlement. A key outcome of the conciliation process was the confirmation that, in principle, a new product group cannot be excluded from a standard if the applicant demonstrates practical suitability and long-term experience using the revised evaluation form. In the specific case under discussion, this related to the inclusion of liquid-applied waterproofing systems based on silane-modified polyurethanes (SMP) and polyethers as a distinct product group.

The situation regarding the publication of DIN 18533 remains different. Due to ongoing discussions within NA 005-02-13 AA “Waterproofing of below-ground elements” and NA 005-05-10 AA “Ground; drainage of buildings” concerning interpretative authority and the definition of the Water Exposure Classes introduced in 2017, publication of the standard has been delayed. Although the standards committee approved the manuscript for publication at the end of October 2025, the revised standard had not yet been published by the editorial deadline of this annual report (see also TC 4 report, page 48). This delay also affects the revision of the Guideline for Liquid-Applied Waterproofing Systems.

Particular importance is attached to DIN 18531, which governs roof and balcony waterproofing using liquid applied waterproofing systems. While the standards committee retained the overall systematic approach and structure of the standard, the revision focused on improving content-related aspects and making it more comprehensible. Important preparatory work was undertaken by a dedicated working group established by the standards committee, with active involvement from the Chair of WG 5.7 as the representative of Deutsche Bauchemie.

Among the key changes introduced in DIN 18531 are the removal of the former application classes K1 and K2, as well as the previous exposure classes relating to mechanical and thermal exposure levels, with the aim of simplifying the standard and improving readability. The provisions governing planned falls were also revised and supplemented by explanations, which are now included in a separate informative Annex A to DIN 18531-1. Moreover, new planning principles were introduced for door and window connections with connection heights of less than 5 cm. Such construction methods had previously been regarded as special constructions. The revised standard describes the fundamental boundary conditions for durable and safe execution while deliberately refraining from overly detailed application specifications in order to accommodate project-specific circumstances of construction projects, particularly by considering the construction of adjoining elements. In these applications, the standard describes connections in which liquid-applied waterproofing systems are primarily used.



A provision concerning minimum dry film thickness and the measurement tolerance for individual measured values in a subsequent verification test was taken into account. Deviations of up to 20 % are now accepted for local shortfalls in individual values, which corresponds to common construction-site practice while still ensuring the waterproofing function. This permissible tolerance is expected to be incorporated into building regulatory requirements from the MVV TB 2026/1 edition and onwards.

DIN 18532, which regulates liquid-applied waterproofing systems for waterproofing trafficable concrete surfaces, was also revised. One notable new feature is the removal of OS 8 systems from the standard as waterproofing systems due to their insufficient crack-bridging properties. With the exception of highly stressed traffic areas, such as delivery zones and fire brigade access routes in multi-storey car parks, other OS systems regulated in the standard are available for all other traffic areas for which OS 8 systems could previously be used. Regardless, OS 8 systems continue to be recognised as proven surface protection systems and may still be used in accordance with other sets of technical rules, including the DIBt Technical Rule for the Maintenance of Concrete Structures.

As with the revisions of DIN 18531, members of WG 5.7 are actively involved in the standards committees responsible for building waterproofing (DIN 18532 to DIN 18535), where they represent the interests of Deutsche Bauchemie and manufacturers of liquid-applied waterproofing systems. Continuous close coordination with WG 5.7 and systematic mirroring of committee activities are therefore essential.

Revision of the DBC publication

GUIDELINE FOR LIQUID-APPLIED WATERPROOFING SYSTEMS

As part of the revision of the building waterproofing standards, the DBC Guideline for Liquid-Applied Waterproofing Systems “Planning and execution of waterproofing with liquid-applied waterproofing systems for roofs and pedestrian and trafficable surfaces according to DIN 18531 and DIN 18532” also requires revision. For this purpose, WG 5.7 has established its own dedicated Task Group 5.10, which, in close coordination with WG 5.7, has taken a number of fundamental decisions regarding the future structure and content of the guideline. One of the key objectives is to expand its scope to include the normative use of liquid-applied waterproofing systems in accordance with DIN 18533 (waterproofing of wall bases and earth-covered slab surfaces), particularly for the joint waterproofing of water-impermeable concrete elements not covered by DIN 18533. Consequently, this broader scope will be reflected in the planned revision of the title, which is intended to be more concise. The current working title is “Guideline for the planning and execution of liquid-applied waterproofing systems according to DIN 18531, DIN 18532 and DIN 18533”. With regard to content, the structure of the existing guideline will largely be retained, but the newly covered application areas will be integrated, and the new requirements and content from the underlying standards will be reflected accordingly. The Task Group has also placed particular emphasis on streamlining the previous scope without compromising the necessary substantive statements of the guidance. However, because the revised Guideline is intended to include DIN 18533, its completion is directly linked to the publication of that standard (see above and TC 4 report, page 48). As of March 2026, the revision of the Guideline is almost complete, with the exception of the DIN 18533 scope of application. Together with WG 5.7, a decision therefore remains to be taken on whether the Guideline should be finalised and published in the short term without the DIN 18533-related scope of application, or whether publication should be postponed until DIN 18533 has been published.

FURTHER TOPICS

- Work programme of the CPR Acquis Expert Group for the period 2026 – 2029
- Publication of the revised CPR and its implications for ETAs
- Activities of the CPR Acquis Subgroup Flooring (SG 19)
- Further developments of national building regulations and their impact on liquid-applied waterproofing systems



Technical Committee 7 CONSTRUCTION SEALANTS

Active committee bodies

WG 7.1 Public Relations Construction
Sealants

TG 7.7 Education and Training
for the Grouting Craft

Technical Committee 7 “Construction Sealants” brings together manufacturers of construction sealants as well as suppliers of raw materials used in these products. The committee’s scope covers not only gun-applied sealants but also cold- and hot-applied joint sealants for road construction. TC 7 addresses all key topics relevant to this product sector with a number of Working Groups and Task Groups focusing on specific complex technical questions relating to gun-applied construction sealants in different technologies and application fields. These groups also address requirements in the areas of current occupational safety and environmental protection, thereby supporting the safe use of construction sealants. Moreover, TC 7 represents the sealants sector at national level and contributes its technical expertise to standardisation activities at national, European and international level. In addition, the Committee supports the further qualification of sealant applicators through workshops and the development of training and educational materials.

Joint sealants

STANDARDISATION

TC 7 continuously monitors the standardisation activities of DIN, CEN and ISO that are relevant to manufacturers of joint sealants. Experts from TC 7 participate in the corresponding national, European and international standardisation bodies, actively helping to shape the content of standards for this product sector.

In 2017, CEN/TC 349 “Sealants for joints in building construction” began with the revision of the EN 15651 series of standards. However, following the general standstill in the development of harmonised standards for construction products after the James Elliott judgment of the European Court of Justice, this work was suspended. As a result, CEN/TC 349 has temporarily suspended the activities of WG 1, WG 3 and WG 4 pending completion of the revision of the EN 15651 series, which will take place following the conclusion of the ongoing Acquis process (see below).

In the field of joint sealants for road construction, TC 7 closely monitors the work of CEN/TC 227/WG 3 “Materials for concrete roads”, which is responsible for the development of EN 14188 product standards and the associated EN 13880 series of testing standards. Similar to the situation in CEN/TC 349, work has been largely suspended until the relevant CPR Acquis process has been concluded.

In addition, TC 7 closely follows the international developments within ISO/TC 59/SC 8 “Sealants”.

Construction Products Regulation

CPR ACQUIS PROCESS

In December 2025, the European Commission published the first CPR work programme for the period 2026–2029. According to this programme, the CPR Acquis process for the revision of the EN 15651 series of standards is scheduled to begin in 2027. The objective is to develop and issue a standardisation request to CEN in 2029. Once the standardisation request has been published, CEN/TC is expected to have three years to revise and develop the commissioned standards. Following their adoption through an implementing act, a one-year transition period will apply before CE marking under the revised CPR becomes mandatory. Consequently, mandatory application of the revised standards is not expected before 2032 at the earliest.

Within the CPR framework, the cold- and hot-applied joint sealants for road construction are assigned to the product family of road construction materials. The Acquis process for this product family commenced in February 2026. TC 7 is closely following the process. Through FEICA, it was possible to secure direct participation for Deutsche Bauchemie as an observer in the process. In parallel, contact was established with the Federal Highway Research Institute (BAST), which contributes Germany’s national requirements to the Acquis process. This helps ensure that the interests of manufacturers and users of joint sealants are effectively represented from the perspective of the Member State.



Chemicals regulation

RESTRICTION ON CYCLIC SILOXANES (D4, D5, D6)

A REACH Restriction on the cyclic siloxanes D4, D5 and D6 entered into force in 2024. TC 7 closely monitored the regulatory process leading to the restriction, as these substances are important starting materials in the manufacture of silicone-based sealants. Due to exemptions granted for industrial uses, it is currently assumed that the restriction will have no direct impact on manufacturers of silicone sealants.

In parallel with the REACH restriction, however, the European Commission is considering proposing the cyclic siloxanes D4, D5 and D6 for inclusion as Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) under the Stockholm Convention. Such a designation could have far-reaching implications for the availability and use of organosiloxanes and might therefore lead to considerable difficulties for manufacturers of silicone-based products. Against this background, DBC supported a number of initiatives undertaken by the European industry association Silicones Europe. These activities included a position paper submitted as part of a REACH consultation process, a joint association letter addressed to the then Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate

Action, Dr Robert Habeck, to DG GROW and DG ENV of the European Commission, as well as to the Federal Ministry for Housing, Urban Development and Building (BMWSB). Thanks to these intensive coordinated efforts, the European Commission's plans to propose cyclic siloxanes as POPs have been suspended until further notice.

Occupational safety

GISCODE FOR POLYSULPHIDE SEALANTS

In cooperation with BG BAU, a coding system was developed for the systematic classification of construction sealants according to their potential health hazards and the protective measures required during their application. GISCODEs for most construction sealants were introduced in December 2022. At the time, no specific GISCODE was foreseen for polysulphide sealants. Subsequently, however, BG BAU initiated the development of a dedicated GISCODE for this product group. TC 7 supported this process by providing technical evaluation, by commenting on an initial proposal prepared by BG BAU, and supplying additional information for inclusion in the GISBAU hazardous substances information system. Implementation of the new coding system in BG BAU's WINGIS online platform has not yet been completed.

Practical expertise in sealant technology:

At the Workshop for Sealant Applicators 2026, participating manufacturers provided attendees with extensive theoretical and practical knowledge on sealant technology.

Event

WORKSHOP FOR SEALANT APPLICATORS 2026

Task Group 7.7 "Education and Training for Sealant Applicators" organised another Workshop for Sealant Applicators in 2026. The purpose of this event format is to provide sealant applicators with a solid understanding of the theoretical and practical aspects of sealant technology. A key element of the programme was the practical part; through a series of themed stations, participants received hands-on demonstrations of correct sealant application techniques. For the first time, the 2026 workshop featured five dedicated application stations, covering facades, natural stone, sanitary applications, windows and floor joints. The workshop took place on 4 February 2026 in Karlsruhe (see page 15).

Sustainability

UPDATE OF THE DGNB CRITERIA

The criteria catalogue of the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB) includes an assessment of sealants under the topic area "Ecological Quality", within the criterion "Risks to the Local Environment". In this framework, sealants are assigned to four quality levels based on their emission characteristics. In the 2023 version of the catalogue, several inconsistencies were identified in relation to certain sealant types, making it difficult to classify some products appropriately. In addition, other sealant categories were not covered by the criteria catalogue and could therefore not be assessed. To address these issues, TC 7 prepared a proposal

for revising the criteria matrix used to evaluate emission characteristics and submitted it to DGNB. The proposal was taken into consideration and subsequently incorporated into the revised criteria catalogue. In addition, TC 7 developed further proposals for minor amendments aimed at integrating sealants with GISCODEs in the 30 series into the DGNB assessment methodology allowing a broader range of mould-resistant sealants to be evaluated from a sustainability perspective. Implementation of these additional proposals by DGNB is still pending.

European association work

COOPERATION WITH FEICA

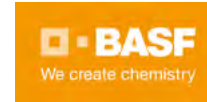
TC 7 maintains close cooperation and coordination on current topics with the Association of the European Adhesive & Sealant Industry FEICA, which represents sealant-related interests at European level. Representatives of TC 7 participate in regular technical exchange with the relevant FEICA committees. During the reporting period, new EPDs for polysulphide-based sealants and for butyl-based sealants, including sealing tapes, were developed in a joint project between DBC, FEICA and Industrieverband Klebstoffe (IVK). The new EPDs were published in September 2025.

FURTHER TOPICS

- Consultation on the impact of the EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) on the sealants sector
- Discussions on options for the recycling of sealant cartridges and support for a related research project
- Evaluation of regulatory developments relating to additional starting materials and constituents of sealants, including:
 - Proposals for the harmonised classification and labelling of synthetic amorphous silica (SAS) and talc under the CLP Regulation
 - The future regulatory approach for the assessment of particle properties

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W = Wood preservatives manufacturer
R = Raw material supplier to C and/or W

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gcpat.de

C+R



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58239 Schwerte
hermes-technologie.com

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heveasol.de

C



HEYEN Bauchemie GmbH
26639 Wiesmoor
heyenbauchemie.de

C



HOBUM Oleochemicals GmbH
21079 Hamburg
hobum.de

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Huntsman Advanced Materials
(Deutschland) GmbH
59192 Bergkamen
huntsman.com

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C+R



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imerys.com

C+R



ipox chemicals GmbH
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49413 Dinklage
kaubit.de

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kemper-system-global.com

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Beschichtungen GmbH
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klb-koetzthal.de

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Knauf Gips KG
97346 Iphofen
knauf.de

C



Koch & Schulte GmbH & Co. KG
57629 Linden
kochundschulte.de

W



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92224 Amberg
korodur.de

C



KÖSTER BAUCHEMIE AG
26607 Aurich
koester.eu

C



KRAHN Chemie Deutschland GmbH
20457 Hamburg
krahn.eu

C+R



Kurt Obermeier GmbH
57319 Bad Berleburg
obermeier.de

C+W



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50679 Köln
lanxess.com

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49808 Lingen
liesen.com

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lugato.de

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malekigmbh.com

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mapei.com

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master-builders-solutions.com

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46238 Bottrop
mc-bauchemie.de

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mc-bauchemie.de

C



MUREXIN GmbH
2700 Wiener Neustadt, Österreich
murexin.com

C



MUREXIN GmbH
63165 Mühlheim
murexin.de

C



NKF Dichtstoffe eG
28309 Bremen
nordsil.de

C



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07973 Greiz
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24976 Handewitt
omnicon.com

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Osmo Holz und Color GmbH & Co. KG
48231 Wardorf
osmo.de

W



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eurogrout.de



PAGEL Spezial-Beton GmbH & Co. KG C
45355 Essen
pagel.com



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70499 Stuttgart
bauder.de



SAKRET Bausysteme GmbH & Co. KG C
41460 Neuss
sakret-bausysteme.de



SAKRET GmbH C+R
37431 Bad Lauterberg
sakret.de



SAKRET Trockenbaustoffe Sachsen GmbH & Co. KG C
09236 Claußnitz
sakret-sachsen.de



PCI Augsburg GmbH C+R
86159 Augsburg
pci-augsburg.eu



PCT Performance Chemicals GmbH C+R
71106 Magstadt
pct-chemie.de



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53902 Bad Münstereifel
peter-greven.de



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31061 Alsfeld
sappi.com



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32760 Detmold
schomburg.com



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49090 Osnabrück
sievert.de



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44867 Bochum
ppg.com



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proof-tec.com



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8162 Steinmaur, Schweiz
rascor.com



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70439 Stuttgart
deu.sika.com



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63533 Mainhausen
silikal.com



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sirius-spezialbaustoff.de



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remmers.com



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sitpolymer.de



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65203 Wiesbaden
sopro.com



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rhein-chemotechnik.com



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64295 Darmstadt
roehm.com



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53340 Meckenheim
romex.de



Soudal N.V. C
2300 Turnhout, Belgien
soudal.de



Steuler-KCH GmbH C
56427 Siershahn
steuler-kch.de



Sto SE & Co. KGaA C+W
79780 Stühlingen
sto.com



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25421 Pinneberg
rowa-group.com



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09350 Lichtenstein
ruberstein.de



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impra.de



StoCretec GmbH C
65830 Kriftel
stocretec.de



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86165 Augsburg
team-deco.com



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06886 Lutherstadt Wittenberg
korrosionsschutz.rema-tiptop.de



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Deutsche Bauchemie e.V.



Troy Chemie GmbH
30173 Hannover
arxada.com

R+W



UZIN UTZ SE
89079 Ulm
de.uzin-utz.com

C



Vandex Isoliermittel-Gesellschaft mbH
21493 Schwarzenbek
vandex.de

C



VELOSIT GmbH & Co. KG
32805 Horn-Bad Meinberg
velosit.de

R+C



VIACOR Polymer GmbH
72108 Rottenburg a. N.
viacor.de

C



W. SCHROER jun.
59229 Ahlen
schroer-ahlen.de

C



Wacker Chemie AG
81671 München
wacker.com

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22885 Barsbüttel
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wedi.de

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76547 Sinzheim
wolman-gmbh.de

W



Worlée-Chemie GmbH
22113 Hamburg
worlee.de

R



YOU Solutions Germany GmbH
50829 Köln
arxada.com

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Zeller + Gmelin GmbH & Co. KG
73054 Eisingen
zeller-gmelin.de

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Zement- und Kalkwerk Otterbein GmbH & Co. KG
36137 Großenlüder
zkw-otterbein.de

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MC-Bauchemie Müller GmbH & Co. KG

Dr. Martin Klatt
BASF SE

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Celanese Services Germany GmbH

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- NA 005-02-96 AA Abdichtungssysteme auf Beton für Brücken und andere Verkehrsflächen
- NA 005-07 FBR Lenkungsremium Fachbereich 07 – Beton- und Stahlbetonbau
- NA 005-07-01 AA Bemessung und Konstruktion
- NA 005-07-02 AA Betontechnik
- NA 005-07-05 AA Prüfverfahren für Beton
- NA 005-07-06 AA Schutz, Instandsetzung und Verstärkung
- NA 005-07-10 AA Spritzbeton
- NA 005-07-17 AA Fasern für Beton
- NA 005-07-23 AA Betonzusatzmittel
- NA 005-09-75 AA Estriche im Bauwesen
- NA 005-09-82 AA Keramische Fliesen und Platten
- NA 005-10-07 AA Materialien für Betonstraßen
- NA 005-13 FBR BIM – Building Information Modeling“
- NA 005-51-07 AA Windenergieanlagen
- NA 005-51-07-05 AK Bemessung und Ausführung von Verbindungen zwischen Stahl und Beton
- NA 005-51-07-07 AK Wiederkehrende Prüfungen
- NA 005-53 FBR Fachbereichsbeirat KOA 03 Hygiene, Gesundheit und Umweltschutz (SpA zu CEN/TC 351, CEN/TC 351/WG 3, CEN/TC 351/WG 4 und CEN/TC 351/WG 5)
- NA 005-53-01 GA NABau/NAW Boden und Grundwasser
- NA 005-53-02 GA NABau/KRdL Innenraumluft
- NA 005-59-01 AA Nachhaltigkeitsbewertung (SpA zu ISO/TC 59/SC 17 und CEN/TC 350)
- NA 005-59 FBR Fachbereichsbeirat KOA 09 Nachhaltigkeit von Bauwerken
- NA 042 BR Beirat des DIN-Normenausschusses Holzwirtschaft und Möbel (NHM)
- NA 042 BR-02 SO Beirat Querschnittsthemen zur nachhaltigen Ressourcennutzung
- NA 042-03-01 AA Holzschutz Grundlagen
- NA 042-03-02 AA Baulicher Holzschutz
- NA 042-03-03 AA Vorbeugender chemischer Holzschutz
- NA 042-03-04 AA Bekämpfender Holzschutz
- NA 042-03-06 AA Dauerhaftigkeit von Holz und Holzprodukten (SpA zu CEN/TC 38)
- NA 119-05-37-02 UA Mörtel für Neubau und Sanierung von Entwässerungssystemen außerhalb von Gebäuden
- NA 119-08-05-05 AK Bodeninjektionsmittel
- NPF Pigmente und Füllstoffe

DAfStb – Deutscher Ausschuss für Stahlbeton

- AG Digitaler Betonbau durch additive Verfahren
- AK Betonbau bei höheren Temperaturen
- AK Frischbeton
- Forschungsbeirat
- TA Betontechnik
- TA Nachhaltigkeit
- TA Schutz und Instandsetzung von Betonbauteilen
- AK Oberflächenschutz (AK OS)
- AK Mörtel
- AK Planung
- AK Riss
- UA Alkalireaktion im Beton
- UA Freisetzung von gefährlichen Stoffen aus Beton
- UA Grundsätze
- UA Stahlfaserbeton
- UA Trockenbeton
- UA Ultrahochfester Beton
- UA Vergussbeton und Vergussmörtel
- Vorstand

DIBt – Deutsches Institut für Bautechnik

- vAK AbP für Abdichtungen im Verbund (AIV)
- AK AbP für Bauwerksabdichtungen mit Flüssigkunststoffen
- AK AbP für Fugenabdichtungen in Bauteilen aus Beton mit hohem Wassereindringwiderstand
- AK AbP für mineralische Dichtungsschlämmen (MDS) und flexible polymermodifizierte Dickbeschichtungen (FPD) für die Abdichtung von Bauwerken
- SVA Bauwerks- und Dachabdichtungen
- SVA Beschichtung und Kunststoffbahnen
- SVA Betontechnik
- SVA Dichtkonstruktionen in LAU-Anlagen
- SVA Gesundheitsschutz
- SVA Umweltschutz

FGSV – Forschungsgesellschaft für Straßen- und Verkehrswesen

- AG 8.2 Baustoffe
- AK 8.1.1 ZTV / TL / TP Beton
- AK 8.2.7 Luftporenbeton

UBA

- AG Zementgebundene Werkstoffe in Kontakt mit Trinkwasser
- FG Kunststoffe und andere nicht metallene Materialien im Kontakt mit Trinkwasser

VCI – Verband der Chemischen Industrie

- AK Biozide
- AK Digitalisierung
- AK Gefahrstoffinformation
- AK Innenraumluft

- AK Ländertisch Bildung
- AK REACH-Politik
- AK REACH-Umsetzung
- AK SCP
- AK Zirkuläre Wirtschaft
- Fachausschuss Arbeitssicherheit und Gesundheit
- Fachausschuss Produktsicherheit
- Fachausschuss Sustainable Finance
- Fokusgruppe DPP
- Geschäftsführerkreis
- Hauptausschuss
- Koordinierungskreis FV/LV Chemikalienstrategie
- Nachhaltigkeitsboard
- TF Mikrokunststoffe
- TF Partikeleffekte
- TF Polymere
- TF PPWR
- Thementisch

ECO Platform

- Advisory Group (AG)
- Standardisation Working Group (STAWOG)
- Technical Working Group (TEWOG)

Other bodies

- ADIV – Allgemeiner Deutscher Industriebodenverein e.V.
- AK Bau Brüssel
- AK Innovation und Technologietransfer – Bauwirtschaft und Bauchemie des BMWI
- Arbeitskreis Epoxidharze der Berufsgenossenschaften
- Ausbildungsbeirat Abdichtung beim ZDB
- Ausbildungsbeirat Beton beim DBV
- Ausbildungsbeirat Holzschutz am Bau beim DHBV
- Ausbildungsbeirat Sachkundiger Planer für die Instandhaltung von Betonbauteilen beim DPÜ
- Ausbildungsbeirat Schutz und Instandsetzung im Betonbau beim DBV
- buildingSMART Deutschland e.V. Arbeitsraum Produktdaten
- Bundesgüteausschuss BGib
- Fachausschuss Holzschutz beim IHD
- Gesprächskreis Bitumen
- NIK-AG des Ausschusses zur gesundheitlichen Bewertung von Bauprodukten (AgBB)
- Messebeirat Messe Bau
- PG Innovationen (Baustoffindustrie)
- QDB Fachausschuss zur Sicherung der Unparteilichkeit
- Runder Tisch Ressourceneffizienz im Bauwesen des BBSR/BBR
- Sensorik-AG des AgBB
- Subgroup EU-LCI values“ der Europäischen Kommission
- VAEG Vorbereitender Ausschuss EG-Harmonisierung des BMI
- Vorstand BGib
- Vorstand GDCh-Fachgruppe Bauchemie

CITED STANDARDS AND TECHNICAL RULES

DAfStb-Planungshilfe	Nachhaltig bauen mit Beton	DIN EN 252	Freiland-Prüfverfahren zur Bestimmung der relativen Schutzwirkung eines Holzschutzmittels im Erdkontakt
DAfStb-Richtlinie	Schutz und Instandsetzung von Betonbauteilen (Instandsetzungs-Richtlinie) Teil 1: Allgemeine Regelungen und Planungsgrundsätze Teil 2: Bauprodukte und Anwendung Teil 3: Anforderungen an die Betriebe und Überwachung der Ausführung Teil 4: Prüfverfahren	DIN EN 350	Dauerhaftigkeit von Holz und Holzprodukten – Prüfung und Klassifizierung der Dauerhaftigkeit von Holz und Holzprodukten gegen biologischen Angriff
DAfStb-Richtlinie	Herstellung und Verwendung von Trockenbeton und Trockenmörtel (Trockenbeton-Richtlinie)	DIN EN 480	Zusatzmittel für Beton, Mörtel und Einpressmörtel – Prüfverfahren
DAfStb-Richtlinie	Herstellung und Verwendung von zementgebundenem Vergussbeton und Vergussmörtel	DIN EN 934	Zusatzmittel für Beton, Mörtel und Einpressmörtel Teil 1: Gemeinsame Anforderungen Teil 2: Betonzusatzmittel Teil 3: Zusatzmittel für Mauermörtel Teil 4: Zusatzmittel für Einpressmörtel für Spannglieder Teil 5: Zusatzmittel für Spritzbeton Teil 6: Probenahme, Bewertung und Überprüfung der Leistungsbeständigkeit Teil 7: Schwindreduzierer
DIBt Technische Regel	Instandhaltung von Betonbauwerken (TR Instandhaltung):2020-05 Teil 1: Anwendungsbereich und Planung der Instandhaltung Teil 2: Merkmale von Produkten oder Systemen für die Instandsetzung und Regelungen für deren Verwendung	DIN EN 1504	Produkte und Systeme für den Schutz und die Instandsetzung von Betontragwerken – Definitionen, Anforderungen, Güteüberwachung und Beurteilung der Konformität Teil 1: Definitionen Teil 2: Oberflächenschutzsysteme für Beton Teil 3: Statisch und nicht statisch relevante Instandsetzung Teil 4: Kleber für Bauzwecke Teil 5: Injektion von Betonbauteilen Teil 6: Verankerung von Bewehrungsstäben Teil 7: Korrosionsschutz der Bewehrung Teil 8: Qualitätskontrolle, Bewertung und Überprüfung der Leistungsbeständigkeit (AVCP) Teil 9: Allgemeine Grundsätze für die Anwendung von Produkten und Systemen Teil 10: Anwendung von Produkten und Systemen auf der Baustelle und Qualitätsüberwachung der Ausführung
DIN 820	Normungsarbeit; Beiblatt 3: Hinweise und Informationen für das Erstellen, Veröffentlichen und Anwenden von Normen		
DIN 1045-2	Tragwerke aus Beton, Stahlbeton und Spannbeton Teil 2: Beton – Festlegung, Eigenschaften, Herstellung und Konformität – Anwendungsregeln zu DIN EN 206-1		
DIN 18157	Ausführung von Bekleidungen und Belägen im Dünnbettverfahren Teil 1: Zementhaltige Mörtel Teil 2: Dispersionsklebstoffe Teil 3: Reaktionsharzklebstoffe		
DIN 18195	Abdichtung von Bauwerken – Begriffe		
DIN 18200	Übereinstimmungsnachweis für Bauprodukte – Werkseigene Produktionskontrolle, Fremdüberwachung und Zertifizierung	DIN EN 12004	Mörtel und Klebstoffe für keramische Fliesen und Platten Teil 1: Anforderungen, Bewertung und Überprüfung der Leistungsbeständigkeit, Einstufung und Kennzeichnung Teil 2: Prüfverfahren
DIN 18531	Abdichtung von Dächern sowie Balkonen, Loggien und Laubengängen	DIN EN 12037	Holzschutzmittel – Freilandprüfung zur Bestimmung der relativen Wirksamkeit eines Holzschutzmittels ohne Erdkontakt – Verfahren mit horizontaler Überblattung (Lap-Joint)
DIN 18532	Abdichtung von befahrenen Verkehrsflächen aus Beton		
DIN 18533	Abdichtung von erdberührten Bauteilen	DIN EN 12390-16	Prüfung von Festbeton Teil 16: Bestimmung des Schwindens von Beton
DIN 18534	Abdichtung von Innenräumen		
DIN 18535	Abdichtung von Behältern und Becken	DIN EN 13501	Klassifizierung von Bauprodukten und Bauarten nach ihrem Brandverhalten
DIN 19573	Mörtel für Neubau und Sanierung von Entwässerungssystemen außerhalb von Gebäuden	DIN EN 13813	Estrichmörtel, Estrichmassen und Estriche – Estrichmörtel und Estrichmassen – Eigenschaften und Anforderungen
DIN 19631	Elution von Bauprodukten – Perkulationsverfahren zur Untersuchung des Elutionsverhaltens von Injektionsmitteln	DIN EN 13888	Fugenmörtel für Fliesen und Platten – Anforderungen, Konformitätsbewertung, Klassifikation und Bezeichnung
DIN 68800	Holzschutz, Teile 1–4		
DIN EN 206	Beton Festlegung, Eigenschaften, Herstellung und Konformität	DIN EN 13948	Abdichtungsbahnen – Bitumen-, Kunststoff- und Elastomerbahnen für Dachabdichtungen – Bestimmung des Widerstandes gegen Wurzelpenetration

DIN EN 14188-2	Fugeneinlagen und Fugenmassen Teil 2: Anforderungen an kalt verarbeitbare Fugenmassen	M/102	Mandat der Europäischen Kommission an CEN/ CENELEC: Execution of Standardisation Work for Harmonised Standards on Membranes
DIN EN 14889-2	Fasern für Beton Teil 2: Polymerfasern – Begriffe, Festlegungen und Konformität	M/112	Mandat der Europäischen Kommission an CEN/ CENELEC: Execution of Standardisation Work for Harmonised Standards on Structural Timber Products and Ancillaries
DIN EN 14891	Flüssig zu verarbeitende wasserundurchlässige Produkte im Verbund mit keramischen Fliesen- und Plattenbelägen – Anforderungen, Prüfverfahren, Bewertung und Überprüfung der Leistungsbeständigkeit, Klassifizierung und Kennzeichnung	M/128	Mandat der Europäischen Kommission an CEN/ CENELEC: Execution of Standardisation Work for Harmonised Standards on Products related to Concrete, Mortar and Grout
DIN EN 14915	Wand- und Deckenbekleidungen aus Massivholz – Eigenschaften, Anforderungen und Kennzeichnung	M/366	Mandat der Europäischen Kommission: Development of Horizontal Standardised Assessment Methods for Harmonised Approaches Relating to Dangerous Substances under the Construction Products Directive
DIN EN 15651	Fugendichtstoffe für nicht tragende Anwendungen in Gebäuden und Fußgängerwegen Teil 1: Fugendichtstoffe für Fassadenelemente Teil 2: Fugendichtstoffe für Verglasungen Teil 3: Dichtstoffe für Fugen im Sanitärbereich Teil 4: Fugendichtstoffe für Fußgängerwege Teil 5: Bewertung und Überprüfung der Leistungsbeständigkeit, Kennzeichnung und Etikettierung	Merkblatt LP Beton	FGSV-Merkblatt für die Herstellung und Verarbeitung von Luftporenbeton
		prEN 15431-1	Klebende Dichtstoffe Teil 1: Klebende Dichtstoffe für Glaskonstruktionen
DIN EN 15804	Nachhaltigkeit von Bauwerken – Umweltproduktdeklarationen – Grundregeln für die Produktkategorie Bauprodukte	RIP 3.2	(RIP = REACH Implementation Projects) TGD on Preparing the Chemical Safety Report
DIN EN 15814	Kunststoffmodifizierte Bitumendickbeschichtungen zur Bauwerksabdichtung – Begriffe und Anforderungen	RIP 3.5	TGD on downstream user Requirements
DIN EN 16516	Bauprodukte – Bewertung der Freisetzung von gefährlichen Stoffen – Bestimmung von Emissionen in die Innenraumluft	TL-BEL-B	Teil 3: Technische Lieferbedingungen für Baustoffe zur Herstellung von Brückenbelägen auf Beton mit Dichtungsschicht nach ZTV-BEL-B, Teil 3
DIN EN 16637	Bauprodukte – Bewertung der Freisetzung von gefährlichen Stoffen Teil 1: Leitfaden für die Festlegung von Auslaugprüfungen und zusätzlichen Prüfschritten Teil 2: Horizontale dynamische Oberflächenauslaugprüfung Teil 3: Horizontale Perkulationsprüfung im Aufwärtsstrom	UBA KTW-BWGL	Bewertungsgrundlage für Kunststoffe und andere organische Materialien im Kontakt mit Trinkwasser
EAD 030295-00-0605	Flexible polymer modified mineral thick coatings	W 347	DVGW-Arbeitsblatt “Hygienische Anforderungen an zementgebundene Werkstoffe im Trinkwasserbereich – Prüfung und Bewertung”
EAD 030350-00-0402	Liquid applied roof waterproofing kits	ZTV-ING	Zusätzliche Technische Vertragsbedingungen und Richtlinien für Ingenieurbauten
EAD 030352-00-0503	Liquid applied watertight covering kits for wet room floors and/or walls	ZTV-W	Zusätzliche Technische Vertragsbedingungen – Wasserbau (ZTV-W) für Wasserbauwerke aus Beton und Stahlbeton
ISO 13007	Ceramic tiles – Grouts and adhesives		
ISO 21265	Dichtstoffe im Hoch- und Tiefbau – Prüfmethode zur Bestimmung des Pilzwachstums auf Dichtstoffoberflächen		
ISO 22095:2020	Chain of custody – General terminology and models		
ISO 16000-28	Indoor Air – Determination of odour emissions from building products using test chambers		

THE TEAM

Secretariat and the Brussels Office



Ina Hundhausen
Director General
ina.hundhausen@vci.de



Martin Ludescher
Executive Director
Regulatory & Government Affairs
Brussels Office
martin.ludescher@vci.de



Ariadni Dimitrakopoulou
Manager Sustainable Construction
ariadni.dimitrakopoulou@vci.de



Jana Duden
Assistant
jana.duden@vci.de



Dr. Tim N. Gieshoff
Head of Regulatory Affairs
tim.gieshoff@vci.de



Dr. Inga Hohberg
Technical Officer Maintenance of
Concrete Structures/Mortar Technology/
Environmental Assessment
inga.hohberg@vci.de



Dr. Gerrit Land
Technical Officer Concrete Technology/
Construction Sealants
gerrit.land@vci.de



Christine Neumann
Assistant to the Director General
christine.neumann@vci.de



Dr. Peter Reißer
Technical Officer Wood Protection/
Sealing Technology (FLK, PMBC, FPD)
peter.reisser@vci.de



Marieke Seitz
Technical Officer Digitalisation/
Communication
marieke.seitz@vci.de



Karin Stanzel-Storms
Data Management/Support Accounting
karin.stanzel-storms@vci.de



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Deutsche Bauchemie e.V.
Mainzer Landstraße 55
60329 Frankfurt am Main
Phone +49 69 2556-1318
deutsche-bauchemie.de

Editorial Team

Ina Hundhausen V.i.S.d.P.
Martin Ludescher
Ariadni Dimitrakopoulou
Jana Duden
Dr. Tim Gieshoff
Dr. Inga Hohberg
Dr. Gerrit Land
Christine Neumann
Dr. Peter Reißer
Marieke Seitz
Karin Stanzel-Storms

Design

Annette Schindler Grafikdesign
grafikdesign-schindler.de

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Deutsche Bauchemie e.V.

Mainzer Landstraße 55
60329 Frankfurt am Main

P: +49 69 2556-1318

E: info@deutsche-bauchemie.de

deutsche-bauchemie.com