

Confidence in Steel for Concrete Construction



CARES Product Certification

- Verified compliance with British Standards
- Assurance of on-going compliance of every delivery
- No need for further testing
- No need for certificates
- Avoid unnecessary site delays
- Full traceability of steel from steel mill to site
- Full backing of CARES in cases of complaints to suppliers

or High Risk

- That non-CARES approved steel will not have been fully assessed to the British Standards
- That traceability of steel from source to site is non-existent
- That the steel will not consistently meet the requirements of the British Standards
- That processing of non-conforming steel may result in damage to personnel or the structure

Why take the RISK?



For further information about CARES and an up-to-date list of manufacturers and suppliers holding CARES certification please consult the CARES website: www.ukcares.com

Alternatively, contact the office:-
UK Certification Authority for Reinforcing Steels,
Pembroke House, 21 Pembroke Road,
Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1XR

Telephone - 01732 450000
Fax - 01732 455917
E-mail - general@ukcares.com



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CARES is a UK based, internationally recognised certification body fully accredited and operating independently for the benefit of all key sectors of the supply chain for construction materials and products. The key products covered by CARES are reinforcing steels, prestressing steels and associated products, for their manufacture, processing and stocking and distribution including installation against defined product standards and design codes. The CARES certification schemes ensure that products supplied to the construction industry consistently satisfy the customer's requirements.

Compliance with product standards

All products covered by the CARES schemes are tested against product standards or specifications both by the manufacturer and at intervals for verification by CARES. The efficient use of constructional steels is dependent on these having the specified product properties and also being properly processed and installed.

The importance of the CARES approved processor or installer

The CARES approved processor or installer is the vital link between the steel producer and the construction site and ensures that:

- The steel or the construction product satisfies the customers requirements and therefore of the product standard or specification.
- The steel and associated products are not damaged during processing or installation.
- Traceability has been maintained and all steel and products used are from a CARES approved supplier or those acceptable to CARES.
- Processing or installation are performed by suitably trained and qualified personnel.

Traceability

A key element of the CARES certification schemes is traceability of the manufacturer and of the product and processing details. CARES approved manufacturers and processors must keep records of material and products used and when required these can be produced. As a result it is not necessary for contractors to

require additional testing of material or products or for copies of test certificates to be sent with products to site.

Avoidance of site delays

Contactors receiving material from a CARES approved processor or stockist can use the materials or products with confidence and therefore do not need to carry out further tests in order to ensure compliance. Alternatively, failure to specify CARES approval places the onus of compliance fully on the shoulders of the purchaser which in turn may result in further testing resulting in the addition of significant cost and often site delays. Material that does not comply with the standard or specification in all respects increases the risk that the structures in which they are used will not perform as specified.

Monitoring of Scheme performance

The CARES certification schemes require that records of complaints relating to compliance of the product made against approved firms are properly addressed and that details of these complaints are returned to CARES at regular intervals. Further action may be taken by CARES against the approved firm if required. CARES acts as a point of reference when the performance of one of its approved firms casts doubts on the effectiveness of the relevant certification scheme.

CARES list of approved firms

CARES regularly updates a list of approved firms which is maintained on the CARES website (www.ukcares.com). Each firm's entry gives the scope of the CARES certification as well as other key details of the firm. Occasionally firms make spurious claims regarding CARES approval. This may relate to approval of the firm itself or of the products and services for which they might hold approval. If there are any doubts concerning the approval status of a firm, then the CARES list of approved firms should be consulted or alternatively the CARES office should be contacted for verification.

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