

Pembroke House 21 Pembroke Road Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1XR United Kingdom

### Our Ref: CC10744LM

4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

#### To: Whom it may concern

#### Reinforcing Steel and CE marking under the Construction Products Regulations

CARES has received numerous requests regarding the potential impact on the status of CARES product approvals and those covering reinforcing steel following our departure from the EU on 1st January 2021 with the conclusion of the recent Brexit negotiations.

The Construction Products Regulations (CPR) state that CE marking can only be applied to products with either a harmonised standard or those covered by an appropriate European Assessment Document (EAD), together with corresponding European Technical Assessment (ETA) for product supplied by customers.

Following the introduction of the UKCA and UKNI mark on 1st January 2021 under the Construction Products Regulations (CPR) (as amended for the UK following Brexit), I can confirm that the above statement continues to remain valid.

Reinforcing steel (rebar) in its numerous forms are supplied in accordance with various standards as detailed below, which are not regarded as harmonised standards or an EAD. They are therefore not covered by the CPR, hence a CE / UKCA / UKNI mark cannot be applied.:

- BS4449: Steel for the reinforcement of concrete. Weldable reinforcing steel. Bar, coil and decoiled product
- BS8666: Scheduling, dimensioning, bending and cutting of steel reinforcement for concrete. Specification
- BS4482: Steel wire for the reinforcement of concrete products
- BS4483: Steel fabric for the reinforcement of concrete

There are currently no European standards covering reinforcing steel products which are regarded as harmonised, or covered by an EAD, hence the validity of BS standards remain unaffected.

This relates to any rebar, whether it is supplied from the UK, Europe or any other country.

CARES not only certifies steel produced in the UK, but also certifies product manufactured in member states across the European Union and many other important steel markets globally.

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UK Certification Authority for Reinforcing Steels, company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No. 1762448, registered office as above. The use of the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) accreditation mark indicates accreditation in respect of those activities covered by the accreditation certificate number 0002.





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CARES is accredited by UKAS (accreditation no 002); any accreditations issued directly by UKAS or UKAS-accredited organisations are recognised internationally through UKAS' membership of the European co-operation of Accreditation (EA); the International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). These memberships have not changed following Brexit, please use the following link for the latest information from UKAS.

Continuing recognition of UKAS accreditation across Europe - UKAS

In summary, CARES approval for reinforcing steel or any CARES Technical Approvals are not affected following Brexit as the schemes reflect recognised product standards, which are not covered by the CPR.

This also applies to CARES schemes covering ISO9001, ISO14001, ISO 45001, BES6001 and the CARES Sustainability Scheme - SCS and CARES certificates remain valid following the departure from the EU on 1st January 2021.

We trust this information is helpful, in the meantime if you have any further questions please contact the relevant CARES manager (below) for additional information:

- Mr Lyn Morgan Scheme Manager for Construction Products
- Mr Matt Palmer Scheme Manager for Steel
- Mr Ian Bell UK & Ireland Operations Manager
- Mr Bahadir Karadayi Scheme Manager for Sustainability

J.A. May

Lyn Morgan Scheme Manager, Construction Products

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