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| <p>GNB-CPD AG</p> | <p>Guidance from the Group of Notified Bodies for the Construction Products Directive 89/106/EEC</p> | <p>NB-CPD/AG/03/005 Issued: 01 July 2003 APPROVED – GUIDANCE</p> |
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The use of manufacturer's testing facilities by notified testing laboratories and witness testing.

In general, all testing laboratories approved for initial type tests for systems 1, 1+ and 3 and audit testing (1+) should perform their testing using their *own* testing apparatus and personnel. In justified exceptional cases these testing laboratories may reasonably use the manufacturer's testing facilities, ie personnel and equipment, for testing in the framework of conformity attestation.

Such a justifiable case is where very heavy specimens have to be transported over long distances to the testing laboratory for testing (eg large format concrete pipes). In this type of case the use of the manufacturer's testing facilities is dependent on the following conditions:

- a) the manufacturer's facilities for testing are calibrated,
- b) the tests at the manufacturer's test facilities should be performed in strict conformity with the testing procedure of the relevant test standard, and
- c) a competent representative of the notified body shall **actively** monitor the tests in the manufacturer's laboratory carried out by the manufacturer's staff.

The use of the manufacturer's testing facilities does not mean any sub-contracting as is described in Guidance Paper A. The use of the manufacturer's testing facilities does not give it the status of a notified body.

To ensure transparency and equivalence of operation, no NB should use a manufacturer's testing facilities **unless** the SG has first written a position paper describing the circumstances around the use of a manufacturer's testing facility and informing Advisory Group and the CEN/TC of this.