



CE Marking made easy by Window Warehouse

CE Marking for windows and doorsets becomes mandatory on 1 July 2013. To comply with the new regulations it doesn't have to mean any major changes for installers but there are some things companies will have to do. This quick guide explains what is required from installation companies in order to comply with CE Mark legislation from 1 July and how Window Warehouse makes CE Marking easy.

WHAT CE MARKING LEGISLATION MEANS TO INSTALLERS

From 1 July 2013 it will be compulsory for most external windows and doorsets to be CE Marked under new European Standards.

The company or person that brings the product to market is responsible for ensuring the product has a valid CE Mark. Business owners are personally liable for any failure to comply. Anyone caught not complying with the law could be prosecuted personally under Trading Standards. The individual as well as the company found guilty may be fined and because the law covers safety restrictors, the consequences for the business owner if things go wrong could be very serious. CE Marking is a self-declaration and does not have to be audited by a third party.

There are 2 main options for an installer to ensure they sell windows and doors with a valid CE Mark:

Option 1 - Buy in a complete CE Marked product from Window Warehouse

For example a glazed window or composite door.

Option 2 - CE Mark products themselves

For example buy a window frame and glass unit separately and bring them together to produce the complete window.

WHAT INSTALLERS HAVE TO DO TO CE MARK PRODUCTS

For most installation companies who source window frames and glass or doors and panels separately there are three main parts to providing a CE Mark:

- 1. Declaration of Performance (DoP)** - The DoP is the document where the company issuing the CE Mark states in writing how the product will perform. It contains the traceability details of the window or door including the manufacturers contact information. The DoP also lists the performance characteristics (specification) of the product - thermal transmission, dangerous substances (COSSH) and the load bearing capability of safety devices. The person signing the DoP accepts liability for the accuracy of the information contained on it. This document has to be kept in the public domain.
- 2. CE Mark labelling** - This has to be supplied to the end user with the windows or door, either as a label on the product or in the documentation supplied to the customer. Every product needs its own CE Mark. However the DoP works on a 'worst case scenario' so most installers will only need one CE Mark for each window and door type they sell.
- 3. Factory Production Control system (FPC)** - This documents how the installer obtains the frame and glass and what checks are in place to ensure that the components (frame, glass or door panels) satisfy the specification detailed on the DoP to produce a product that is CE Marked.



HOW WINDOW WAREHOUSE CAN HELP YOU CE MARK YOUR OWN COMPLETE WINDOWS AND DOORS

Window Warehouse is already CE Mark compliant to BS EN14351 and is accredited to ISO9001. So all of our finished products will be CE Marked. This also means we can make it easy if you want to continue buying your glass units and door panels from existing suppliers.

Here's how it works:

1. Window Warehouse supplies CE Mark ready frames

Our window and door frames are manufactured in accordance with all the requirements to produce a CE Marked window. Our fabrication process complies with BS EN 14351.

2. We give you the Declaration of Performance (DoP)

Window Warehouse will provide you with a template **Declaration of Performance (DoP)** for each product type. The exact specification for the whole window (glass and frame) or door (panel/glass unit and frame) will already be filled in on the DoP document.

The DoP has to be completed and signed by the installer and is a legal document, so it is important to ensure that the glass unit or panels you fit with the frame will achieve the product specification declared on the DoP.

3. You source the glass unit or panels from your chosen suppliers

As long as you fit a BS EN1279 certified glass unit that meets the minimum U-value specification as detailed on the DoP the whole window or door is then CE Marked. Door panels must ensure the whole door can achieve the U-value as declared on the DoP.

4. Store your DoP documents

The DoP is also a public document so has to be stored safe where customers can access it. You can keep a scanned copy on your website, the website link has to be shown on the CE Mark labelling. Your DoPs will be based on Window Warehouse's own versions, these are stored on Window Warehouse's website at www.window-warehouse.co.uk/technical-downloads.

5. We supply the CE Mark labels

Window Warehouse will supply you with a template CE Mark label ready to be sent out with the complete window or door. To make the CE Mark valid all you have to do is ensure the window or door meets the specification on the DoP (correct glass units or panels).

6. We'll help you with your Factory Production Control (FPC) document

Installation companies must have a documented process in place to prove they are taking all the steps necessary to ensure the products they sell and install are correctly CE Marked. This is called a Factory Production Control (FPC). It must be kept up to date and be freely available for inspection.

Window Warehouse can provide a free template FPC and simple guidance notes to help you to complete it easily.

7. Everything is on the Window Warehouse website

You can download all the CE Mark documents you need to CE Mark your own windows and doors on our website, including template DoPs, CE Mark labelling and Factory Production Control. go to www.window-warehouse.co.uk/technical-downloads.



A note about the glass unit - because the CE Mark works on a worst case scenario it is possible to fit a higher performance glass unit (IGU) and still comply. This will be useful when upselling windows to a better U-value or Window Energy rating.

For example: The DoP may state the frame and IGU will achieve a U-value of $1.6\text{W/m}^2\text{K}$ using an IGU specification - planitherm inner pane/aluminium spacer/argon gas/float outer pane. The installer could choose to change the spacer bar to warm edge and increase the U-value to $1.4\text{W/m}^2\text{K}$ or possibly an 'A' energy rating and still comply with the CE Mark.

A note if you doors with an emergency opening device - these doors will require additional test evidence. Buy the complete door from Window Warehouse and we can supply the CE Mark for these products.