



Looking Back on a Forward-Looking Year

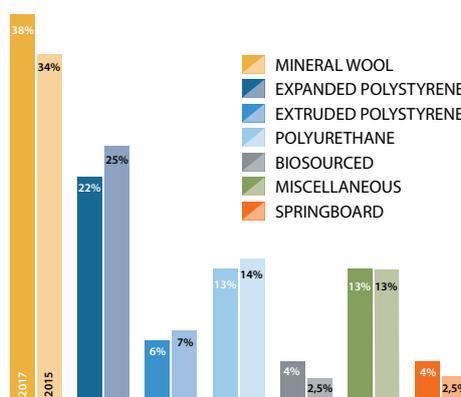
More certificates issued, new product categories, new search mode based on the intended use of certified products, and participation in key events. Objective: Facilitate the specification of certified insulation, support the development of standards and contribute to innovation. In this issue, we look back over the past year.

Ever-improving outcomes

- 143 **factories** manufacturing certified products (77 in France and 66 in the rest of Europe), an increase of ↗ 3.6%. Last year, 138 factories of which 62 outside France.
- 837 **products covered** (816 in 2016), up ↗ 2.6%.

Categories of insulating materials: stability and new entries

The distribution of certificates, across major product categories, remains stable: mineral wool (38%), expanded polystyrene (22%), polyurethane (13%), biosourced material (13%), extruded polystyrene (6%), other insulation products (4%) and products assessed under the Springboard (Tremplin) standard (4%). Springboard covers a wide range of new insulation materials that can, thanks to its fast procedure, receive ACERMI recognition for thermal performance. This year, ACERMI validated new testing programs for certificates in new categories, including thermal breaks, rafter-type and vacuum insulated panels, insulating sandwich panels, perforated expanded polystyrene, aerated concrete, polyester wadding, insulated formwork blocks with an insulation shuttering subcategory, expanded polystyrene beads blown with binder, and others.



Certification in touch with the market

Since its creation in 1983, the Association pour la CERTification des Matériaux Isolants has evolved to meet the needs of the market.

Joint interview with two ACERMI presidents, Etienne Crépon, president of the CSTB, and Thomas Grenon, president of the National Metrology and Test Laboratory (LNE), to get their perspectives on what distinguishes ACERMI.

What makes ACERMI certification special?

Etienne Crépon (EC): ACERMI certifies all insulation materials and products, known and standardized, as well as emerging and innovative products, such as biosourced and vacuum insulation.

Thomas Grenon (TG): Thomas Grenon (TG): ACERMI ensures that the certified values remain the same over time. Its certification goes beyond standards because it associates a usage with the product characteristics, something that CE marking does not do.

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ACERMI en BREF



The ACERMI quality certification is awarded by the Association pour la CERTification des Matériaux Isolants, a French non-profit organization (association loi 1901) established in 1983 by the CSTB and LNE. The certification enables insulation professionals to demonstrate the performance of their products following a testing, inspection and auditing procedure.

A new search mode thanks to the usage appendix

ACERMI launched its new specification service for choosing insulation based on its intended use.

As part of the renewal of its certificates, ACERMI added an appendix with product usage for manufacturers that need it. Thus, when a user searches for a product to insulate a roof space, wall or floor, the system displays insulation materials for each specific use. This is a new decision support tool for specifiers who can now use the online service for free. The service complements searching by thermal performance, type of material and manufacturer.



International Vacuum Insulation Symposium (IVIS) september 2017



This was the first time that ACERMI participated in an international symposium. On September 20 and 21, 2017, More than 200 experts gathered at IVIS to take stock of progress in vacuum insulation. It was a great opportunity for ACERMI to present the certification and its benefits at a dedicated conference.

ACERMI certifications eligible for Energy Savings Certificates (CEE)

The decree of December 22, 2017, amending that of December 22, 2014, defines standardized operations for saving energy. On an information page of its website (www.acermi.com/documents-reference/referentiels-acermi), ACERMI lets project managers know that ACERMI certification of insulating materials meets the thermal resis-

“ ACERMI
Certification
=
eligibility
for a tax credit ”

tance conditions required to be eligible for Energy Savings Certificates. ACERMI-certified products comply with the

test conditions stipulated in certification standards that explicitly mention European assessment standards (NF EN 12667 or EN 12939 NF) for the thermal resistance of insulation materials.

A letter to raise awareness among stakeholders about the new challenges in thermal performance

In response to the needs of insulation manufacturers and buyers of certified products—businesses, artisans and distributors—the “ACERMI & Pros” newsletter was created in 2014 and is distributed to its entire network. The newsletter is a forum for stakeholders and partners in ACERMI certification.



Batimat november 2017

ACERMI was present at the CSTB stand for this exhibition. Its representatives greeted clients and introduced a beta version of the new search mode by usage, which visitors had the opportunity to try. ACERMI also promoted its services by distributing 10,000 bags in the ACERMI colors at the entrance of Hall 6.





Etienne
Crépon
President
of the CSTB



Thomas
Grenon
President
of the LNE

EC: It's a valuable technical aid for architects, designers and the companies performing the work.

TG: It gives both architects and contractors a technical guarantee regarding thermal performance and product durability.

Once a product receives ACERMI certification, what are the advantages?

EC and TG: It reassures all construction industry stakeholders about the durability of the certified performance.

How does ACERMI certification boost innovation?

TG: By certifying new insulation products, ACERMI promotes all insulation materials and therefore all technologies.

EC: Through the Springboard standard, innovative products get certification that encourages their entry and recognition on the market.

What does ACERMI certification bring to the national and international market?

TG: As an independent third party, ACERMI offers "technical authenticity." In some European countries, such as Belgium, the Czech Republic and Italy, insurers, project owners and laboratories demand ACERMI certification, which is recognized in their countries. They trust this certification and its value.

The Springboard standard enables emerging products to gain certifications that facilitate their recognition on the market.

How effective has this standard been so far?

EC: We implemented the Springboard standard so that we could keep pace with the market and act accordingly to meet its needs. The figures speak for themselves: since its launch in November 2013, ACERMI has issued 31 Springboard certificates distributed in 16 categories.

This is the first phase during which ACERMI certifies only thermal performance before certifying other product characteristics at the request of industrial companies, like mechanical and acoustic properties.

Your wrap-up?

EC: With this year's launch of search by usage on the ACERMI website, it is now very easy for individuals, including professionals, to find the insulation material that is appropriate for a given usage. The easy-to-use tool enables all those involved in the sector to search for insulation material more conveniently.

Previously, to find insulation material for cladding, an ACERMI website visitor had to enter something like this: "I am searching for semi-rigid O2 L2 insulation." Thanks to the usage appendix, the query can be formula-

All ACERMI stakeholders!

- Architects/project managers for design
- Funders, professionals and project developers, as well as individual owners
- Companies performing work
- Industrial companies manufacturing insulation materials for the market
- Insurers needing technical guarantees for products to insure buildings

ted differently: "I'm looking for insulation for built-up cladding." Our users gain clarity and efficiency!

TG: As Etienne said, ACERMI tracks the market and its users. It develops tests to meet the needs of industrial companies that innovate, and it creates standards to certify the performance of insulation materials, and compliance with European standards.



Insulation & Uses

Insulation material under rainscreen cladding

Whether new or rehabilitated, external wall insulation systems with built-up cladding is increasingly used for its thermal performance and the variety of skins that it offers project owners for esthetic considerations (metal, terra-cotta, wood, resins).

Insulation material under rainscreen cladding is an external wall insulation system applied on the flat vertical walls of new and existing buildings. It consists of an insulation material, a timber or metal frame attached to structural work and external rainscreen cladding on its reverse side.

The most commonly used insulation products are panels or mineral wool rolls, although other types of insulation products are allowed (polystyrene, polyurethane, etc.). Insulation thicknesses commonly used vary between 100 and 150 mm.

The thermal insulation performance of the system depends on the thermal resistance of the insulation material and the fixing system that passes through the insulation (anchors, vertical racks, lugs, brackets, etc.). ACERMI certifies the thermal resistance of the insulation material.

Rules to follow

Panels/rolls of insulation material must be well joined to ensure continuity of the insulation.

Insulation can be installed as one or two superimposed layers with offset joints: one laid vertically and the other horizontally. In all cases, it is important to make sure that the thickness of the ventilated air space to the outside is at least 20 mm.

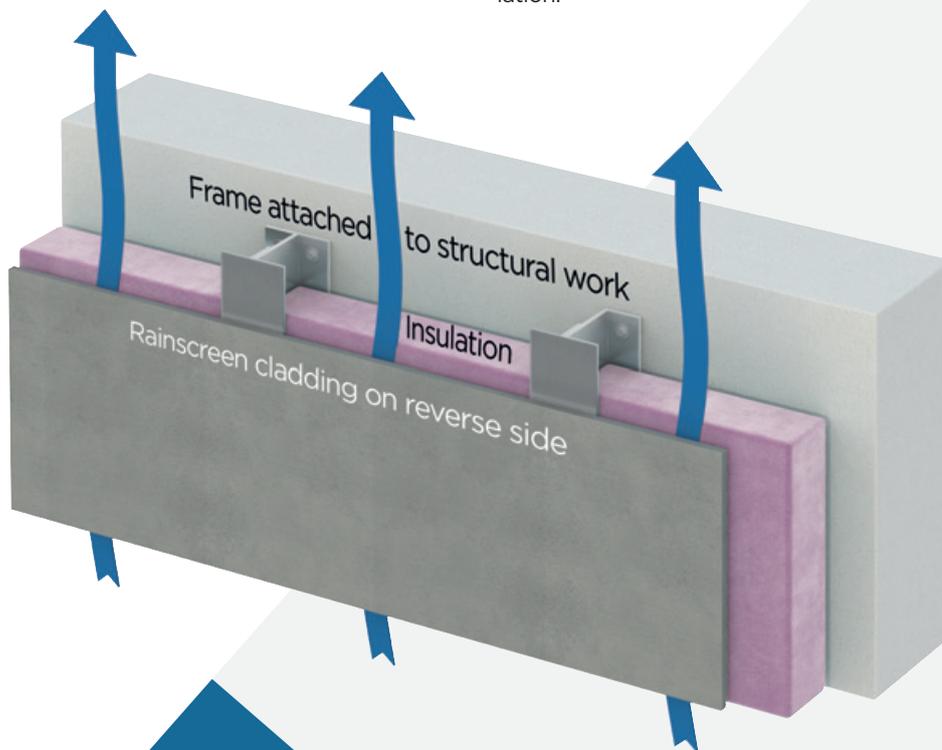
Durability and performance during installation

Insulation material may be exposed to rain during its installation. It must therefore have suitable water resistance. Although it does not affect the mechanical resistance of the system, the insulation material used must support its own weight during installation.

The dimensional variations caused by temperature and humidity must not degrade the continuity of the insulation or obstruct or reduce the thickness of the ventilated air space behind the external cladding.

Finally, unless there is specific justification, the insulation product must not interfere with the spread of water vapor from the inside, so that water vapor reaches the ventilated air space to be released to the outside. To meet all these requirements for rainscreen cladding use, ACERMI-certified insulation materials are classified I1 S1 O2 L2 E1. Currently, 78 ACERMI certificates are available and downloadable from the website for this use.

Once the insulation product has been selected, all that remains is to follow the installation guidance (Building Code of Practice (DTU), Technical Appraisals, etc.) to achieve effective and durable thermal insulation.



EVENT

April 11-12, 2019: CAPEB Forum for Construction Professionals in Nice

LATEST CERTIFICATES

<http://www.acermi.com/isolants-certifies/derniers>

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