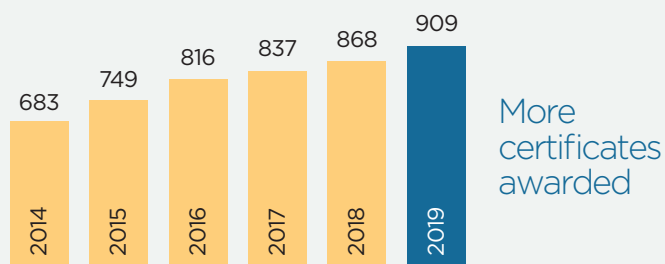


2019  
a very  
good year



## Steady growth in certified companies and plants manufacturing certified products

**140 certified companies** (distributors included), including 46 abroad

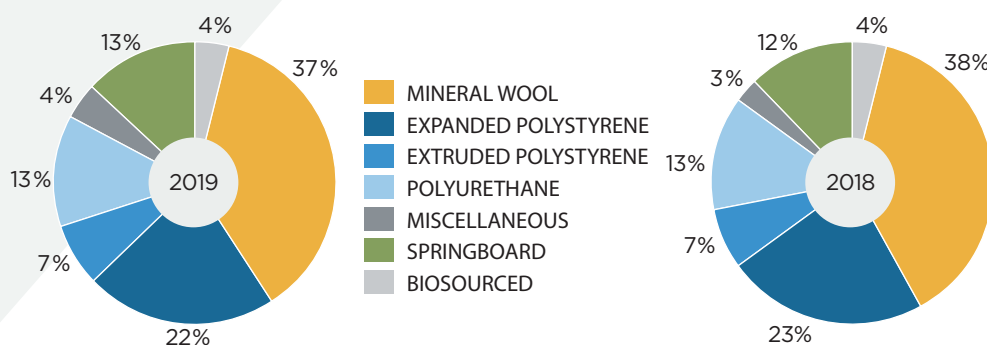
141 certified companies, including 45 abroad in 2018

**147 plants manufacturing certified products**, including 70 abroad

147 plants, including 71 abroad in 2018

## Certified products remain rich in diversity

The Springboard standard diversifies the certification of new product families and addresses the requirements of industrial companies.



## ACERMI took action to maintain its operations during the COVID-19



In response to the global coronavirus health emergency, ACERMI set up remote document audits to meet its customers' needs and ensure the continuity of its work as a certification body.

These audits examine the various procedures, reports and records submitted by certification holders using a list of documents previously established by auditors from the Scientific and Technical Center for Building (CSTB) and National Metrology and Test Laboratory (LNE). Photos can also be submitted for analysis. *Continued on page 2...*



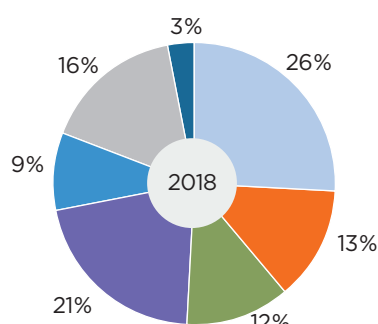
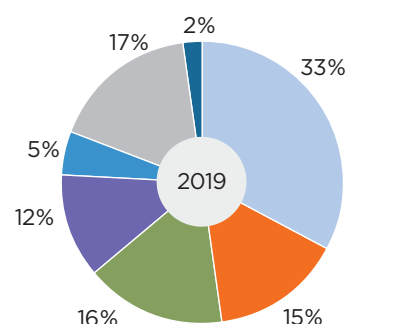
The ACERMI quality certification is awarded by the Association pour la CERTification des Matériaux Isolants, a French non-profit organization (association loi 1901) established in 1983 by the CSTB and LNE. The certification enables insulation professionals to demonstrate the performance of their products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

## Enhancement of Search by Intended Use: 402 certificates with this criterion in 2019 compared with 372 in 2018

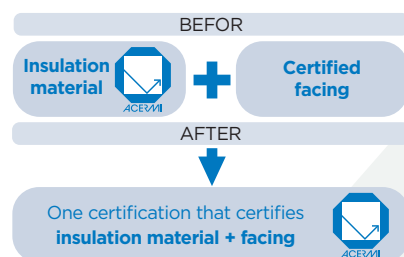
Since March 2018, manufacturers can declare to ACERMI the specific uses of the insulation materials they manufacture.

### 5 actions taken after launching this feature

- Launched intended uses in March 2018
- Creation of G "Uses" Technical Specifications; use matrix put online at [www.acermi.com/en/reference-documents/technical-specifications](http://www.acermi.com/en/reference-documents/technical-specifications)
- Multiyear meetings to update and develop the use matrix
- Update of use matrix in October 2019
- 7 use families and 37 use types (32 in 2018)



- FLOORS AND FLOORING
- EXTERNAL WALLS: INTERNAL THERMAL INSULATION
- EXTERNAL WALLS: EXTERNAL THERMAL INSULATION
- STRUCTURAL INSULATED PANELS
- PARTITIONS
- SLOPED AND FLAT CEILINGS
- FLAT ROOFS



### New in 2019

ACERMI certification of composite insulation materials with integrated single or double facings.

A new certification that simplifies certification of industrial companies.

## Insulation works of attics

NF DTU 45.10 "Insulation works of attics with factory made rollers or board of mineral wool" is now published and available since June 2020. It replaces CPT 3560\_V2. On the other hand, in May 2020, the CSTB published e-Cahier 3815, "Guide

to the provisions and calculation rules relating to water vapor sealing systems for roofs," which supersedes CPT 3647 concerning the calculation method for water vapor condensation risk in roofs.

### Another look at a tailored organizational approach

On March 19, just two days after the start of confinement in France, the CSTB and LNE drew up a special temporary procedure for remote document audits.

ACERMI auditors then met on March 26 by video conference to lay out the procedure, new plans and audit reports.

### A 4-step procedure

- 1 Auditors contact participants to explain the conditions of document audits. They confirm dates and meeting times and take stock of company developments. They analyze and approve the documents received and make requests for additional or missing documentation.
- 2 They organize progress reports and ask for additional information when necessary.
- 3 A final meeting ensures successful completion of the audit.

### Objective: ensure high-quality production in an usual situation

This initiative made it possible to check the certified product features and maintain the certificates of all holders. It also ensured compliance with government directives to avoid shutting down production in the construction sector. To date, 41 document audits have been performed.

*"This is a first for us and ACERMI. Two audits with two auditors so far went well. A straightforward process was set up, with the first audit connecting and presenting documents from both parties. Although the auditor's physical presence for sampling was not possible, the audit conformed to standards. It didn't take us more preparatory time but required our teams to adjust their internal practices."*

**Nadia Meliani, Manager, Laboratory & IsoBox Insulation Quality.**

*"Both audits went very well. The list of documents required in advance was quite comprehensive, making it possible to cover the scope of the audit. Like conventional audits, both auditors remained open to discussion, and scheduling other meetings (two in Poland and three in France) gave us the time to answer their questions.*

*ACERMI was responsive and attentive. For example, to facilitate the process, we asked*

that the audit for Poland be led by an auditor who knows the site, and it was accepted. Most of the usual contacts were available so there was no communication problem. Why not mainstream this approach? One yearly audit in person and one in the field. It saves on time and travel, among other things."

**Benoit Lambert, QHSE Manager,  
STEICO Casteljaloux, manufacturer of  
wood fiber.**

"We are proud to have implemented this initiative despite a very tight time frame. It shows that ACERMI is capable of finding ways of adapting to exceptional situations while developing new skills."

**Salem Farkh, Division Head  
Hygrothermal Analysis at the CSTB.**

## Testimonials

Specifiers, project managers, prime contractors, wholesalers.  
**What do they expect of ACERMI?**



François Michel

**National Specialist in Sealing, Coverings and Cladding,  
Technical Department, Bureau Veritas Construction (BVC).**

Member, Building Code of Practice (DTU) for series 40, 41 and 43, President, GS5.1 "Coverings," Commission Responsible for Issuing Technical Appraisals (CCFAT), former President, GS5.2 "Sealing" and GS20 "Special insulation material," member, GS2.2 "Built-up cladding," GS2.3 "Sandwich panels" and GS21 "Photovoltaics." BVC is an approved Technical Inspection company, a subsidiary of Bureau Veritas.



"The construction industry is subject to numerous regulations, including the French Spinetta Law of January 4, 1978, concerning the assumption of liability of contractors (architects, businesses, project managers, technical inspectors) to the prime contractor when violating common law. They have an obligation to implement resources and produce outcomes. A company buys from manufacturers or their product distributors to perform the work for which it is responsible. There is a transfer of the liability of the manufacturer or distributor to the company, which is the prime contractor's sole contact. If there is a defect, the company must prove that it performed the work properly. If there is doubt about the material or product, it's the company's problem. It can take action against the manufacturer or distributor but must demonstrate that the product delivered is defective. Mission impossible! The company, as well as the architect and technical

inspector, needs technical reassurances about products specified and delivered.

CE marking, in accordance with harmonized standards, is notoriously insufficient in this regard.

ACERMI certification gives professionals genuine trust in the consistency of the technical quality of insulator manufacturing, commitments to claimed performance, and, finally, performance reviews by panels of dedicated independent experts. This principle of certainty in the materials and products delivered to building worksites is fundamental. The traditionalization of some techniques for finishing works must not lead to erroneously believing that CE marking of insulation is enough. The professionals I mentioned, as well as trustworthy manufacturers, must continue to use certification that guarantees the fitness for purpose of the insulation materials and products used in common structures.

There was a time when, to have reliable and

relevant information, you had to get hold of many documents, read them and take ownership. The work was laborious, but the skilled professional knew what was credible: DTUs, Technical Appraisals and certifications by independent third parties like ACERMI. Now, with just a few clicks, you can access a wealth of information, as much reliable as flimsy. It becomes difficult to objectively determine the performance of a particular product, even if you have an acute sense of judgement.

In this changing and uncertain world, including the construction industry in France, a country with the very specific Spinetta Law, technical certainties are fundamental. This is what ACERMI offers. Just visiting its website gives you ready access to reliable and useful information."







Baudoin de La Bretesche



**Director, Structural Work Unit, Public Works, Interior Design and Joinery, Point P**

Expert in the construction trade, Saint-Gobain Distribution Bâtiment France brings together 2000 sales outlets distributed among 10 main brands, including Point.P, with its network of 900 outlets and 9 specialist brands: PUM, Asturienne, Cedeo, Clim+, SFIC, Dispano, Décocéram, CDL Elec and La Plateforme.

Point.P operates throughout metropolitan France. With more than 240,000 customer accounts (20% individuals), Point.P provides all construction materials for new buildings and renovation projects and offers a

full range of solutions for home energy performance, as well as many services to improve the performance of our "Artisan Generation" customers.

*"For us, ACERMI certification is imperative for two reasons: technical and administrative. Technical because it assures our customers of thermal performance and therefore the intrinsic quality of each insulation material Point P offers. Administrative because it triggers attainment the Energy Savings Certificate (CEE) and the associated tax credit. This process impacts all our codification processes, ACERMI certification being a vital part of energy savings.*

*We know that insulation products from the main industrial companies in France will be ACERMI stamped. On the other hand,*

*we are always vigilant about foreign products sold in France. We make sure that the process of certification by ACERMI was followed.*

*ACERMI is focusing on the thermal resistance of certified products. It would be worthwhile for it to expand its area of influence to, for example, the product life cycle as part of E+C- Experimentation (E+ for positive energy, C- for carbon reduction), which will play a central role in French Environment Regulation 2020 (RE2020).*

*Today, the ACERMI website is particularly well thought-out and complete, as it includes*

*financial assistance and performance by nature of product and type of application. And, the latest certificates awarded are displayed, which was not the case a few years ago. The Search feature is very well designed. It is extremely useful for new products, such as biosourced materials. We even published a brochure on these products using the website.*

*In conclusion, I would say that the annual gain related to energy savings, the criterion for receiving a CEE, and thermal performance of insulation materials make ACERMI indispensable, but it can go even further."*



**Testimonial of a new international holder**

Haimo Krainer,

**Manager, Thermofloc Department, Peter Seppele Gesellschaft m.b.H,  
Austrian manufacturer of cellulose wadding**

*"Peter Seppele Gesellschaft m.b.H is already operating in more than 18 countries. We also wanted to have a presence in France, which is the second largest market for cellulose insulation in Europe. We just received ACERMI certification for our Thermofloc F product. It recognizes the quality of our insulation, which is of prime importance to specifiers and consumers."*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

You can view certificates on worksites on tablets and smartphones. The ACERMI website employs responsive design to scale to the size of your screen. This enables you to access certificates on your tablet or smartphone, so you can make the checks you need on-site.

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