

3M CE Marking - Frequently Asked Questions

1. I only make temporary signs; do I need to CE mark?
NO, these are not covered by the standard.
2. I make stop signs for supermarket car parks; do I need to CE mark?
YES, signs that give guidance to road users on public or private land are included.
3. I make gantry signs; do I need to CE mark?
NO, these are not covered by this BS EN 12899-1:2007 but are covered by separate regulations.
4. I only sell sign faces, someone else makes the complete sign do I need to CE mark?
NO, you are unable to CE mark sign faces as there is no section in Annexe ZA that covers sign faces, however you must supply a Certificate of Conformance.
5. I buy in CE marked posts and sign faces and sell them as a sign, do I need to CE mark?
YES, buying in multiple CE marked components does not guarantee performance of the finished product and as you are placing the finished sign onto the market you are the manufacturer. Note that provided you have some form of quality management system in place it should not be difficult to become CE marking accredited.
6. My post supplier does not supply posts that are certified to BS EN 12899-1:2007 can I use them as part of my sign?
YES, however you will need to prove that these posts conform to the performance required within the standard including the testing that this would involve. It is much simpler to use CE marked components wherever possible.
7. I install finished signs; do I need to CE mark?
NO, this directive only covers the performance of road traffic signs
8. I install road traffic signs but I buy the sign assembly from one supplier and posts from another, do I need to CE mark?
YES, if you purchase the components of a traffic sign and then sell them as a complete unit you become the manufacturer.
9. I buy a finished sign from my supplier but I want to use my own label, is this possible?
YES it is possible to do this **BUT** you will need to be accredited to do so by a notified body, you cannot simply remove another supplier's CE label and replace it with your own.
10. I have been accredited to affix a CE mark, but my supplier has a new product that I want to use, what should I do?
You should contact your notified body and advise them on what you wish to do. Provided the new component is CE marked it should be a simple paperwork amendment.

11. What is a notified body?

CE marking requires third party verified testing rather than self assessment. There are three notified bodies in the UK & Ireland who can undertake this audit. They are:

- BSi www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/our-services/product-certification/ce-mark/
- SGS www.sgs.co.uk/en-GB/Local/UK/Events/2012/11/SGS-Are-you-ready-to-CE-mark-your-Construction-Products.aspx
- LRQA www.lrqa.com/default.aspx

Key Terms & Definitions

ITT Initial Type Testing

CUAP Common Understanding of Assessment Protocol

ETA European Technical Approval

FPC Factory Production Control

DOC Declaration of Conformity

DOP Declaration of Performance

CPD Construction Products Directive

EOTA European Organization for Technical Approvals

CPR Construction Products Regulation