

Question for written answer E-001049/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Philippe Juvin (PPE)

Subject: Regulations governing anchor devices in Europe

The European regulations governing anchor devices for protecting against falls from a height are being interpreted differently from one Member State to the next. These discrepancies are a source of legal uncertainty for the manufacturers operating in the sector, and are preventing the market from becoming truly harmonised.

France has filed a formal objection against the scope of application of standard EN 795 (revised in 2012), in order to distinguish the anchor devices covered by the 'Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)' Directive from those covered by the 'Construction Products' Directive, the key safety requirements of which appear to be more appropriate. As a result, the anchor devices covered by the latter Directive in France cannot obtain the CE mark showing that they comply with the requirements of the PPE Directive, unlike in the rest of the EU, and this is distorting competition.

1. In light of France's objection, do the Commission and the European Committee for Standardisation regard the splitting-up of standard EN 795 as a solution that could be applied across the EU, in order to end the current impasse?
2. During the discussions concerning the Proposal for a Regulation on personal protective equipment of 27 March 2014, how did the Commission seek to improve the functioning of the single market for anchor devices, in order to guarantee user safety?