

ERFMI press release
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Press Release ERFMI – 3 important messages from ERFMI's November meeting in Brussels.

1. Prevent growing complexity (and costs) by harmonisation of test methods

ERFMI is considering it as vital to develop more harmonised test methods to ensure the maintenance of high quality standards in the whole floor covering industry.

Therefore, ERFMI will stimulate and support new initiatives on harmonisation of test methods. A consistent set of harmonised technical test methods for modular floating floor covering panels with a locking system is missing up to now.

As the present harmonised standard for the CE mark (EN14041) is long overdue, we see countries introducing new national legislation on essential requirements. These requirements are not covered in the present European standard, but foreseen in the revised one. The consequence of the development of new national requirements is a growing complexity of the required labelling system and costly additional external testing.

ERFMI is inviting all parties to work together to speed up the process of finding mutual standards to avoid unnecessary further complexity and to build a harmonised and cost-effective set of standards for testing together.

2. Close cooperation on taxation issues pays off

Close cooperation between various industries pays off. It has stopped the planned taxation on PVC floor coverings in Sweden. However, we stay alert: new taxation barriers in Turkey are a new target and ERFMI successfully got full attention for the case by the European Commission. Members of ERFMI are informed and we hope that the General Direction in charge will reach a positive outcome for our industry.

3. Membership of ERFMI

Dickson Constant, producer of woven vinyl flooring is a new member of ERFMI per 1st January 2016. Dickson Constant fulfils all the conditions in the present articles of the ERFMI association. These articles are very restrictive and prevent many companies that already expressed their wish to become a member from joining ERFMI. Therefore, the plenary of ERFMI is considering a change of conditions that opens up ERFMI to these and other valuable entrepreneurs in our industry.