



1 Introduction

The Eurocodes comprise a set of harmonized technical rules for the structural design of construction works. Since 1989 CEN (European standards body) has taken responsibility for the development of Eurocodes as European Standards (EN).

There are 10 Eurocodes, comprising of 58 individual parts, covering 10 design areas. Possible differences in geographical or climatic conditions, ways of life as well as different levels of protection that may exist at national, regional and local level can be taken into consideration at national level through specific design parameters which are identified in each Eurocode part as Nationally Determined Parameters (NDP's). Therefore Member States have choices within the codes in respect of levels of safety, including aspects of durability and economy that may pertain within their territory.

The National Eurocodes Advisory Committee holds the responsibility for coordinating the national programme for determining appropriate choices for the NDP's listed in each Eurocode part and for the development of related Irish national annexes for each of the Eurocode parts as required.

2 Scope

To provide commentary on drafts of proposed Eurocode Standards (EN) and amendments

To provide representation, where appropriate, to the European Standards Body Technical Committee TC 250 and Subcommittee

To draw up National Annexes / National Forewords to Eurocode standards where such may be required

3 Highlights 2010

NSAI completes development of all required Irish National Annexes for the implementation of Eurocodes in Ireland.

With the deadline for the national implementation of Eurocodes by member states set for March 31st 2010, NSAI successfully completed on the publication of all of the required Irish national annexes to enable the use of the codes in Ireland. Of the 58 Eurocode parts available, Irish national annexes were required for 44 parts, for the remaining parts the Eurocode recommended values may be used.

4 Developments 2011

1 National maintenance of Eurocodes / Irish National Annexes

During 2010 and continuing in 2011 a large number of corrigenda and amendments to Eurocodes have been published or are planned. This will require ongoing examination by the NEAC to ensure both published Eurocode standards and Irish National Annexes are kept up to date.

2 Further development of Eurocodes

Significant work has already been undertaken and will continue for years to come in further developing Eurocodes. Again this will require the ongoing review and participation, where required, of the NEAC. Areas for further development include

Maintenance

- correction of errors;

- technical amendments with regard to urgent matters of health and safety;
- technical and editorial improvements;
- resolution of questions of interpretation;
- elimination of inconsistencies and misleading statements.

Further harmonization

- the reduction of NDP's in the EN Eurocodes resulting from different design cultures and procedures in structural analysis;
- the reduction of NDP's and their variety through the strict use of recommended values;
- the gradual alignment of safety levels across Member States.

Evolution of Eurocodes

The need for updating and completion is strongly recognised so that an improved second generation of the EN Eurocodes can evolve, ensuring that the most up to date information, in terms of recent proven innovations and improvements in construction technology is incorporated in the Eurocodes. Areas currently being considered include the use of structural glass and fibre reinforced plastic (FRP).

5 International Participation

During 2010 NEAC members attended a number of CEN TC 250 subcommittee meetings dealing with individual Eurocodes.

6 Committee Membership 2010

National Eurocodes Advisory Committee

Jim Harrington	Committee Chairman , EC5 Liaison Engineer
Jim Mansfield	Liaison Engineer Group Chairman Kavanagh Mansfield & Partners, EC0, EC1 Liaison Engineer
Barry Smith	Technical Secretary NSAI, Standards Development
Dr. Brian Broderick	TCD , EC8 Liaison Engineer
Fergal Cahill	NRA
Eamon Cannon	TCD, EC2 Liaison Engineer
Paul Devine	O'Connor Sutton Cronin, Industry rep
Dr. Eric Farrell	TCD, EC 7 Liaison Engineer
John Gallagher	OPW
Noel Kane	Thomas Garland & Partners, EC6 Liaison Engineer
Brian Kavanagh	Engineers Ireland rep.
Sarah Neary	Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government
Dr. Dermot O'Dwyer	TCD, EC4 Liaison Engineer
Dr. Trevor Orr	TCD, EC7 Liaison Engineer
Dr. Sean Raftery	UCD rep
Colin Short	Colin Short & Associates, EC3 Liaison Engineer
John Wickham	Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government