



NSAI

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

**NSAI TIMBER STANDARDS
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

(NSAI/TC 008)

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1 Introduction

The Timber Standards Consultative Committee (TSCC) currently monitors and maintains national standards relating to the Timber sector. It also contributes to the work of several Technical Committees and working groups within CEN. The TSCC covers a wide range of standards, from timber used in a structural context, to timber fencing and preservatives.



The industry currently has 7 experts involved in international work

At European level, CEN/TC 124 "Timber structures" is the main area of interest for NSAI/TC 008. The work programme of CEN/TC 124 is currently focused on the preparation of standards for the structural use of timber covering solid timber, glued laminated timber, glued solid timber, cross laminated timber and other timber and structural wood-based components.

Some of the main benefits, recognised both nationally and at European level, of standardisation in the structural timber area include:

- Standards are expected to remove technical barriers to trade and open markets throughout Europe by leading to the trade of CE marked wood products;
- Standards are answering to relevant safety, health or environmental concerns in the area of European Construction Regulation by supporting structural Eurocodes;
- Standards provide input values required by the European structural design standard EN 1995. Approximately 41 European Standards are now available for use of timber in structural applications.

During 2020, Ireland has had national experts contributing directly to four areas under CEN/TC 124, namely, test methods (WG 1), solid timber (WG 2), connectors (WG 4), and (WG 6).

Key activities undertaken in 2020 include the continuation of work to a revise I.S. 440:2009+A1 2014 - *TIMBER FRAME CONSTRUCTION, DWELLINGS AND OTHER BUILDINGS*, and the revision of I.S. 436: 2007 - *FARM FENCING - TIMBER POST AND WIRE*

2 Scope of TC

NSAI/TC 008 "Timber Standards Consultative Committee" provides a representative and strategic forum for the timber industry in Ireland through which participation in European and international technical committees concerned with standards relating to timber for structural and other uses is co-ordinated. Additionally, this committee affords an opportunity for interested parties to participate in the development and review of national standards.

NSAI/TC 008 has, as one of its main roles, the function of advising NSAI on standard developments relating to the timber industry at national, European and international levels.

Through the work of NSAI/TC 008 a number of CEN and ISO committees and associated Working Groups are monitored.

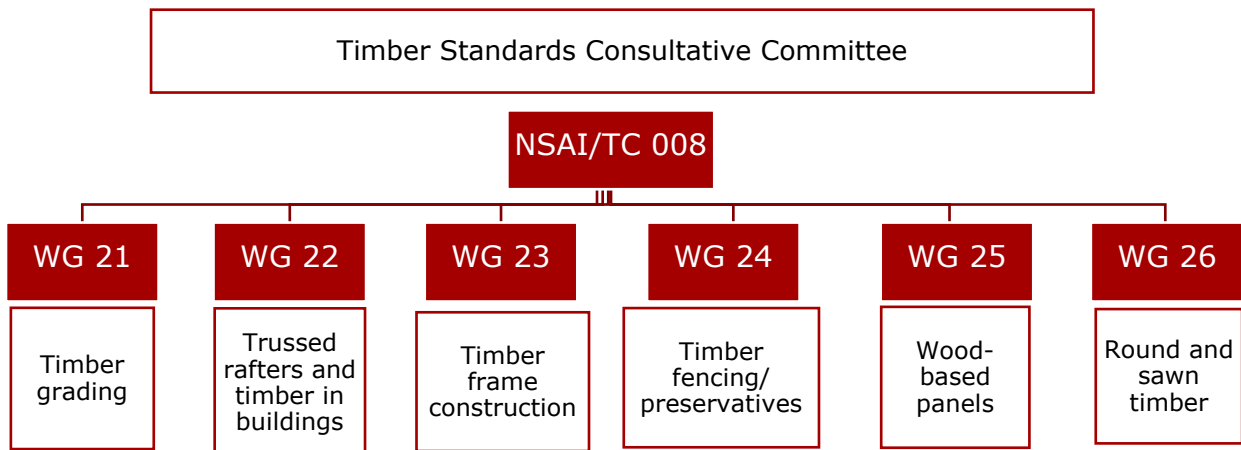
The committee mirrors the following international committees:

Committee name	Committee Title	NSAI Mirror Committee	NSAI Committee Title
CEN/TC 124	Timber Structures	TC 008	Timber Standards Consultative Committee
ISO/TC 165	Timber structures		
ISO/TC 287	Sustainable processes for wood and wood-based products		
ISO/TC 89	Wood-based panels		
CEN/TC 124/WG 2	Solid Timber	TC 008 WG21	Visual Strength Grading
CEN/TC 124/WG 4	Connectors	TC 008 WG22	Trussed rafters and timber in buildings
CEN/TC 124/WG 5	Prefabricated wall, floor and roof elements	TC 008 WG23	Timber frame construction
CEN/TC 38	Durability of wood and wood-based products	TC 008 WG24	Timber fencing/preservatives
CEN/TC 112	Wood-based panels	TC 008 WG25	Wood-based panels
CEN/TC 175	Round and sawn timber	TC 008 WG26	Round and sawn timber

3 Structure and Membership

3.1 Structure

The Figure below illustrates the structure of the Committee:



3.2 Membership

There are a total of 23 committee members, including NSAI Secretariat. The below organisations are represented on the committee.

Organisation	Role
Timber Design Services	Member
Trussed Rafter Association	Member
DHLGH	Member
TFM	Member
NUI Galway	Member
NSAI, Certification	Member
DAFM	Member
Glennon Brothers	Member
Coillte	Member
NBCO	Member
Homebond	Member
ITFMA	Member
NSAI	Secretariat

4 Summary of 2020 Activities

4.1 National

4.1.1 Meetings

Committee members attended the following national meetings in NSAI as follows:

Meeting No.	Date	Location
1	30 July 2020	Virtual
2	08 December 2020	Virtual

4.1.2 National Work

NSAI/TC 008 is currently engaged in:

- A review of standards for timber products which have been published for more than 5 years;
- Continued monitoring of ballots from CEN/TC 124 "Timber structures" as well as CEN/TC 112 "Wood-based panels" & CEN/TC 175 "Round and sawn timber";
- On-going monitoring of work by its active Working Groups;
- Recruitment of experts to CEN Technical Committees in the timber area; and
- Recruitment of new members to NSAI/TC 008.

4.2 International/Regional

4.2.1 Meetings

Committee members attended CEN committee Plenary meetings as follows:

Committee Name	Location	Date	No. of Attendees
CEN/TC 124 Plenary	Virtual	December 2020	1

4.2.2 International/Regional Work

Members of NSAI/TC 008 participate actively in the work of CEN counterparts. NSAI/TC 008 Committee members participate on CEN/TC 124 and CEN/TC 175, including sub-committees and working group of those committees.

NSAI/TC 008 committee members have also been monitoring the development of the 2nd generation Eurocodes closely through participation in NSAI/TC 015, and CEN/TC 250.

4.2.3 International/Regional Standards Reviewed

The committee did not carry out any systematic review of current international standards in 2020.

4.2.4 International/Regional Voting Results

NSAI/TC 008 members voted on the following International and Regional ballots in 2020;

Ballot Reference	Result	Owner
ISO 12460-5:2015 (Ed 2) Actions on this ballot	Abstention	ISO/TC 89
ISO 21581:2010 (vers 2) Actions on this ballot	Confirm	ISO/TC 165
ISO 6891:1983 (vers 7) Actions on this ballot	Confirm	ISO/TC 165
ISO 9087:1998 (vers 4) Actions on this ballot	Confirm	ISO/TC 165
ISO/CD 24323 Actions on this ballot	Abstention	ISO/TC 165
ISO/DIS 22156 (Ed 2) Actions on this ballot	Approved	ISO/TC 165
ISO/FDIS 12460-3 (Ed 3) Actions on this ballot	Abstention	ISO/TC 89
EN 1075:2014 Actions on this ballot	Abstention	CEN/TC 124
Decision C469 confirmation of EN 15228 after SR Actions on this ballot	Abstention	CEN/TC 124
Decision C470 confirmation of EN 15497 after SR Actions on this ballot	Abstention	CEN/TC 124
Decision C471 confirmation of EN 15737 after SR Actions on this ballot	Abstention	CEN/TC 124
Decision C472 Approval of revised business plan of CENTC 124 Actions on this ballot	Abstention	CEN/TC 124

4.3 Regulatory Development/Update

Currently, NSAI/TC 008/WG 23 "Timber frame construction" is engaged in the revision of I.S. 440:2009+A1:2014 "Timber frame construction, dwellings and other buildings" which is referenced in Technical Guidance Document A (Structure), and Technical Guidance Document B Volume 2 – Dwelling Houses (Fire Safety) published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

5 Irish Publications/Reviews

5.1 Publications

The Committee published I.S. 436:2020 *Farm fencing - Timber post and wire - Requirements* this year.

5.2 Reviews

The Committee reviewed the following Irish national deliverables:

I.S. 127:2015 STRUCTURAL TIMBER - VISUAL STRENGTH GRADING - SAWN SOFTWOODS WITH RECTANGULAR CROSS-SECTION

The result was to confirm the standard.

6 Work programme for 2021 onwards

6.1 National work

- Continue to support the attendance of national experts at CEN Technical Committee and Working Group meetings;
- NSAI/TC 008/WG 23 to further work on the revision of I.S. 440:2009+A1:2014 "*Timber frame construction, dwellings and other buildings*";
- NSAI/TC 008/WG 24 to undertake a review of I.S. 437 "*Horse and stud fencing - Timber post and rail*";
- NSAI/TC 008 will complete a review of I.S. 158:1987 "*Closed string wood stairs*".

6.2 International work

NSAI/TC 008 will continue to input as necessary to the work of CEN/TC 124 .