



PRESS RELEASE
European
Quality Association
for Recycling e.V. (EQAR)

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The Technical Committee of EQAR for the first time held its meeting in Bozen

The increasing use of recycled construction materials supports a sustainable and careful use of natural raw materials. In spite of the highest quality and exacter testing of the processed residual construction masses there are still many reservations to their use in most of the European countries. This became apparent at the meeting of the Technical Committee of EQAR held recently for the first time in Bozen. Members of the Technical Committee are representatives of the following nations: Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Great Britain.

The European Quality Association for Recycling e.V. (EQAR) is the European roof organization of national quality protection organizations and producers of quality-controlled recycled construction materials from the EU member countries. As a representative of Italy the Consortium Construction Rubble seated in Bozen belongs to EQAR.

„The meetings of EQAR held periodically are important to us to see how other countries proceed in the field of recycled construction materials. Solely in South Tyrol about one million tons of construction rubble are produced a year the disposal of which is costly or which may be re-used”, according to Andreas Auer, President of the Consortium Construction Rubble.

The member associations of EQAR make joint efforts on EU level to reach a recognition of quality-secured recycled construction materials as high-quality construction products. The product status for recycled construction materials is indispensable for increasing the acceptance and reaching high construction material recycling rates, as Dipl.-Ing. Martin Car, Chairman of the Technical Committee and General Manager of the Austrian Construction Materials Recycling Association (BRV) pointed out.

Unfortunately, there is an extremely heterogeneous picture as regards the recognition of quality-controlled recycled construction materials as products in the EU member states.

To reach the target of the EU Commission to achieve a rate of recycling and utilizing mineral construction wastes by 70 % up to the year 2020 intensified efforts will have to be made. Only by practicable regulations and a resolute use of recycled construction materials the recycling rate may be increased in the member states, thus valuable resources will be protected.

EQAR demands uniform targets for recycled construction products in Europe and to consider environmental compatibility criteria in the relevant construction product standard harmonized on European level.

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