



Comparability of Testing and Certification in Europe

In February 2018 ECB performed one of the most extensive comparison tests in the secure storage industry. The laboratories Istituto Giordano and Applus+ performed type tests on products, which were already certified on the basis of a test of a third laboratory. The comparison test did not only include the use of the tools, but also the test planning, identification, evaluation and documentation.

After this successful first step, we would like to organise ECB-independent comparison tests, where **any** laboratory and **any** certification body can participate. As already presented at a meeting of the manufacturers association "eurosafes" in May 2018 the planning of the comparison tests shall also be done together with manufacturers, insurers and all other interested parties.

Main focus points of the group shall be:

- The Group shall be open to every laboratory. It does not matter, if it is related to CER-TALARM, ECB, EFSG or another group.
- From the start of the test, it does not matter, whether a laboratory is "accepted" or "unknown". The test shall not be of the kind that "accepted" laboratories check "unknown" laboratories. All laboratories shall have identical preconditions and take part in identical comparison tests.
- The comparison test shall be holistic and not only focused on one tool.
- In addition to testing, the comparison test shall also check possible differences in testing philosophies, interpretation of the European standard and laboratory procedures and harmonize these where needed.
- The group shall include all relevant parties.
- The rules set shall be transparent and accessible to the market.
- The group shall also discuss, how results shall be presented, so that the construction tested is kept confidential.

The initial meeting shall take place in September or October 2018. In case the topic is of your interest and you are willing to actively participate in the initial meeting, please inform us by **31 July 2018**.