

National Members News

ALPI

- Fire safety engineering: a useful tool also for evaluating the fire performance of products



CSI, an IMQ Group company, is developing Fire Safety Engineering services.

The service makes extensive use of analytical and numerical models, some of which are developed internally, intended for evaluating the fire performance of products.



Thanks to the experience gained in testing, and the knowledge acquired on the products, CSI can be a reliable partner of companies that develop products with characteristics of Fire Resistance and Reaction to fire.

The approach does not also exclude the use of experimental activity which involves the use of test benches from the CSI laboratories which have a large list of accredited tests and

technicians with proven experience.

Where product certification is present, it is also possible to assist companies in the process of certification through test plans aimed at covering the many construction variants envisaged for the product.

This activity, partly regulated at the normative level in the CEN TC 127 technical committee, allows, in many cases, to evaluate the impact on fire performance of the products following modifications made without resorting to experimentation.

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- Ambiente spa designs and develops the first Circular economy project management system certified by Bureau Veritas in Europe

Circular Economy has become an essential asset for all Organizations that promote environmental sustainability and who still want to maintain

competitiveness in the current market. In the context of the European Green Deal, the taxonomy for sustainable investments (EU Regulation 2020/852 18th June 2020) identifies the transition towards a circular economy amongst the six key objectives for identifying an economic activity as sustainable from the environmental point of view.

According to Patrizia Vianello, founder of ambiente spa: "Putting in place a transition of the ways for producing towards the circular economy is certainly a driving force for business developments; we strongly believe that in order to embark on this path it is necessary to have effective and transparent technical tools for all the stakeholders ". For this reason, 3 years ago, from an intuition of Dr. Vianello herself, a Working Group dedicated to the circular economy was created in Ambiente spa.



Ambiente spa's Circular Economy Working Group constantly collaborates with the main sectoral Italian institutional entities (UNI, ICESP, etc.) and has developed a proprietary protocol for measuring the circularity of an Organization based on the international standard BS8001: 2017 (Framework for implementing the principles of the circular economy in organizations). Based on this protocol, it is possible for ambiente spa Partners to prepare a Circularity Report able to demonstrate to third parties their commitment in the transition towards the Circular Economy for a specific Project or for the entire Organization. Some of the Circularity Reports developed by ambiente spa have also been sworn by Third Party Accreditation Bodies, confirming the alignment of the criteria contained in the BS8001 standard.

More recently, to respond to specific requests from its Partners, ambiente spa has identified the new AFNOR XP X30-901: 2018 standard (Circular

economy project management system - Requirements and guidelines) as an additional tool to support Circular Economy. The AFNOR standard is currently the only international certifiable standard for the management of circular economy projects. According to David Giraldi, Head of the Circular Economy Working Group at ambiente spa: "The AFNOR XP X30-901: 2018 standard makes it possible to implement Circular Economy in the Company Management System, allowing it to be certified by third parties."



The implementation of the AFNOR standard for Circular Economy is even more immediate if the Organization already has an Environmental Management System compliant with the UNI EN ISO 14001: 2015 standard; in this regard Andrea Steri, Expert Technician of the Circular Economy Working Group of ambiente spa: "If you reflect on the circular economy, on the role it plays in relation to the business context, if you consider its importance in terms of communication and the close link with the life cycle of products and services, it can be concluded that the management systems of the circular economy constitute the natural integration of the environmental management systems".

With these premises, ambiente spa has been able to implement and make certifiable the Management System for Circular Economy Projects of its Partner San Colombano Costruzioni spa: San Colombano Costruzioni has recently obtained from Bureau Veritas, a leading multinational company in the certification sector, the first AFNOR XP X30-901 certificate issued in Europe! A success that defines the short-medium term prospects for all Organizations wishing to welcome the Circular Economy within their Company System.

ASCOLAB

- ASCOLAB IS THE WINNER OF THE BEST PERFORMING MS-NLA SADC REGIONAL LABORATORY ASSOCIATION AWARDS 2019



At the 12th General Assembly meeting of the SADC Regional Laboratory Association (SRLA) held virtually on May 27th, the winner of the first-ever SRLA Award for the 2019 Best Performing Member State National Laboratory Association (MS-NLA) was announced. This new initiative recognizes the level of support given to laboratories in the Member State.



The 2019 Best-Performing MS-NLA Award was awarded to the Association Congolaise des Laboratoires (ASCOLAB). ASCOLAB promoted to food, water and medical testing laboratories the benefits of accreditation to international standards as a way to reduce trade costs and ensure foreign market access. ASCOLAB also offered training courses to improve the knowledge and skills of technical and managerial laboratory personnel, to enhance the reliability of test results supplied by Congolese conformity assessment bodies.



The Margaret Ngobeni Floating Trophy for the Best Performing MS-NLA is sponsored by the South African National Laboratory Association and named after Mrs. Margaret Ngobeni, who has played a prominent role in the SRLA Secretariat