Comments received during the BSI Eurocodes - Evolution and Ease of Use event on Monday 12 November 2018

Question number	Comment from / Company	Question / Remark
1)	Robin Whittle	Language: The Eurocodes have been drafted by people of many different European countries. Inevitably there are inconsistencies in the use of the English language. When CP110 was converted to BS8110 a special attention was given to improve the consistency of the language and one person was appointed with this responsibility. It would be in the interest of the UK to have a similar exercise carried out with respect to the Eurocodes.
2)	Robin Whittle	Design clauses within Structural Product Standards: At present most of the structural product standards contain design clauses. In principle all design clauses should be within the Eurocodes. However it would be detrimental to both the Eurocodes and the product standards if this were to be strictly enforced. The size of the Eurocodes would increase, including clauses only appropriate to the specific product standards. The ongoing research activity, which is taking place in relationship to particular products (e.g. hollowcore units), would be severely curtailed. Two essential requirements would help to resolve the issue: **a)** The definition of a design clause in this context should be made clear. One proposal for this is that 'Wherever there is a clause within the Product Standard which relates to a detail or subject covered by clauses within the Eurocode, this should be considered as a design clause.' **b)** Each design clause in the product standards should meet with the approval of the Design Committee. In my opinion the Liaison Group, prior to 2018, has not achieved this. The existence of EN 13369 'Common rules for precast concrete products', which is neither a code nor a harmonised standard causes further anomalies in the code/standard structure. Maybe this could be developed to harbour all the product standard design clauses and become an Annex to EC2, or become a separate Technical Specification to which the product standards refer.
3)	Robin Whittle	CPR and CE Marking: All European harmonised product standards are coupled with the CPR. Each has a ZA annex which states the requirements for achieving CE Mark status. Apart from the existence of a number of fundamental difficulties of achieving a sensible system within the EU it is unclear how BREXIT will affect the situation for the UK. If the system remains within the UK then there remains some much needed rationalisation, certainly for the structural precast concrete product standards. I have already made many comments concerning this problem to B/525/2.
4)	Robin Whittle	EN 10080 – Steel for the reinforcement of concrete and EN 10138 – Prestressing steels: ECISSS has been developing these harmonised standards since the mid 1990s. Neither is finalised. Both standards are essential for the design and construction of concrete structures with in a European system. At present all European countries rely on their National Standards. There still does not appear to be specified date by which time publication will take place.
5)	Chris Danilewicz Jacobs	EN 1993-5: Will the revised EN 1993-5 give better guidance on durability of buried steel components?

6)	Austen Evans WSP	Complexity of the Codes: There has been a lot of concern, and correspondence in The Structural Engineer, regarding the complexity of the Eurocodes. Concerns include the time needed to understand and apply codes correctly; and the potential for errors from misinterpretation of clauses. There are PD's, Manuals and 'Concise' versions of the Codes – which add to an already large library of technical information in the 58 parts of the Structural Eurocodes. Is there opportunity to make the revised Codes easier to understand & apply?
7)	Andrew Frye Fortis Engineering Ltd	Are there any examples of penalties for breaching any requirements against the structural Eurocodes?
8)	Charles Goodchild MPA -The Concrete Centre	EN 1990: Regarding EN 1990 and the proposed partial safety factors for loads, will the beta factor (or factors of safety) across lightweight and heavyweight materials be equal?
9)	Sakdriat Kaewunruen University of Birmingham	Experts are not fully engaged... why? Are the selection based on relationship?
10)	Neil Loudon Highways England	Linkages between Eurocodes and related product standards, depending on deal or no deal Brexit. What happens to CE marking of products via harmonised European standards and EADs.
11)	Neil Loudon Highways England	Change logs to support the updating of existing Eurocodes.
12)	Neil Loudon Highways England	What is the status regarding retaining the information supporting the establishment of new Eurocodes?
13)	Neil Loudon Highways England	Setting up an issues log over 'legacy' areas not covered in the second generation of Eurocodes.
14)	Neil Loudon Highways England	What happens to product standards linked to Eurocodes?
15)	Neil Loudon Highways England	Updating NCCI such as DMRB and MCHW – coordination of publication.
16)	Mark Palmer Rhdhv	Steel Bridges - subject not question provided.
17)	Mario Theofanous University of Birmingham	Are there any plans to harmonise Eurocodes with other international design standards? Can other standards be used in case where a similar level of reliability can be attained by following other design approaches? My question relates specifically to the use of the Direct Strength Method for the design of cold-formed steel members.
18)	Ian Smith Atkins	Despite the challenges, I would suggest that design standards are developing too slowly. Mindful of the significant quantum of investment in new construction technology/construction practice, is the corresponding investment in developing supporting design codes still too low to adequately sustain the further development and adoption of the Eurocodes? a. We all note the ever-increasing drive for optimising speed of construction, through Contractor-led construction processes including pre-manufacture and adoption of new technologies like headed bars.

		b. Because issues of rigour and safety in codes are paramount, the rate of development of codes understandably lags such new developments in construction practice and technology; considerably in the case of Eurocodes. c. So, how will the suite of Eurocodes stay sufficiently dynamic and progressive to meet this demand?
19)	Ian Smith Atkins	Is there a place for professional committees, codes with embodied commentaries, and levies on industry to fund research?
20)	Hideo Takano Highways England	What is the current situation regarding drafting of the Eurocodes for assessment?
21)	No name on the comment form	I notice other (non EC) countries are adopting Eurocodes, to what extent do they influence future developments of the codes?
22)	Bill Smith Galvanising Association	If a positive vote is given at enquiry, are we bound to vote positively at final vote stage?
23)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	FRB classes need to be updated, but won't be covered in this round of Eurocode updates ECs.
24)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	Eurocodes are reliant on product and execution standards, but there are concerns on how they are made, supported & implemented.
25)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	One of the reasons to revisit the Eurocodes was the consistency of English.
26)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	Has CE marking been considered in Brexit talks?
27)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	EN 1992 – problems with reinforcement products committee still not resolved after a very long time.
28)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	US standards have commentaries & explanations to cut down on scope for mistakes/misuse – is this possible for Eurocodes?
29)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	The interface between product & design standards can sometimes be blurred.
30)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	Is there some assistance in looking at degradation of material? This can be complex, especially as there are many unknowns in some cases.
31)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	Load factors include KFI, but this was previously a recommendation only.
32)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	Will the bridges content in EN 1990 be integrated into EN 1992?
33)	During the discussion – no name recorded.	There are many contradictions between Eurocode clauses. Will this change in the next versions?