

# Pathways Between the EU and UK Markets – a European Perspective with EOTA

Peter Sumpton – Marketing Consultant (Host)

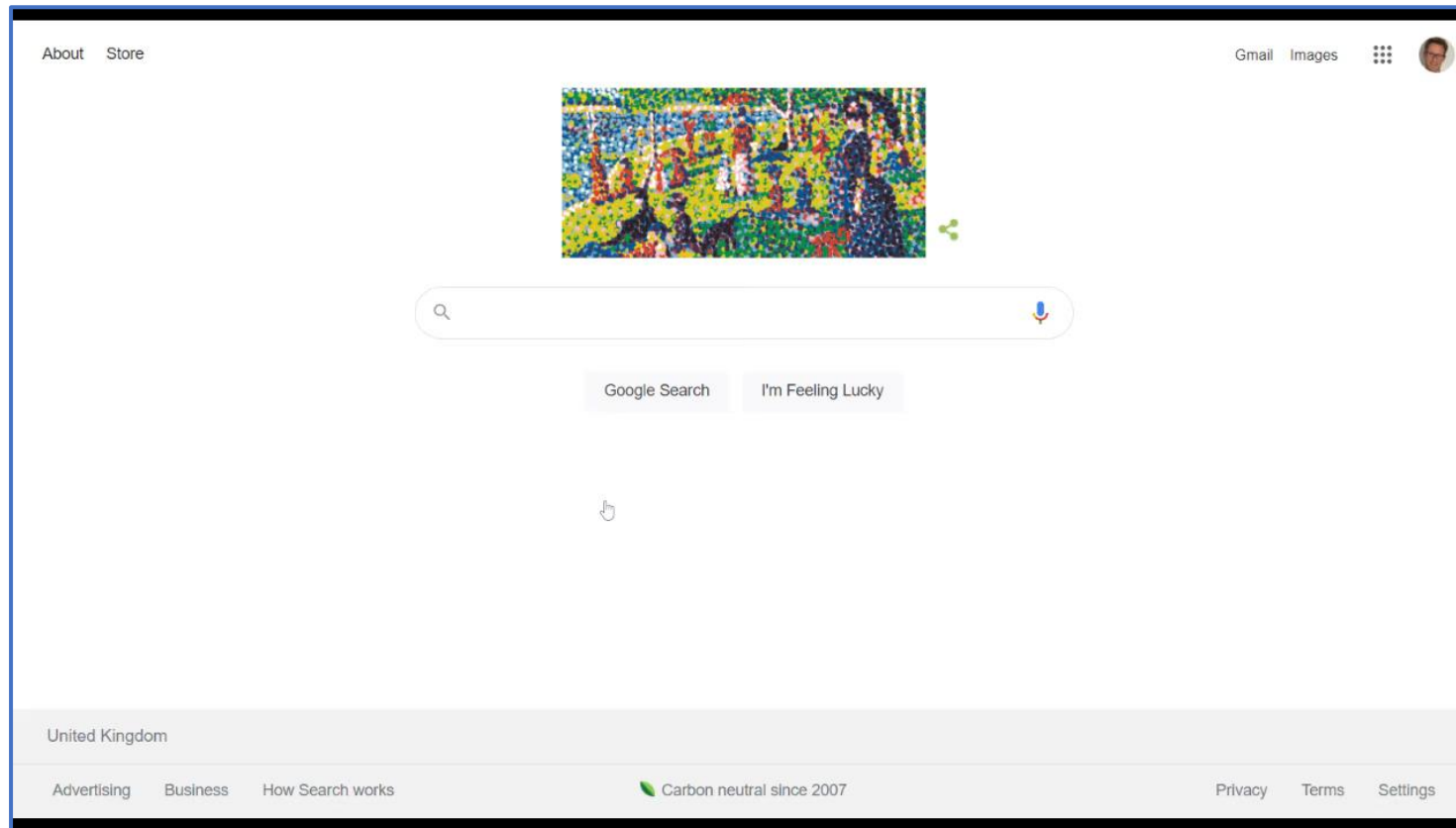
Sebastian Wall - EOTA President (Presenter)

February 2022



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For over 50 years, we've been helping the construction and manufacturing industries **build confidence** in the solutions designed, created and implemented **throughout the entire supply chain**.

The BBA develops **long-term partnerships** with clients and associations to enable **continued growth in both the UK and Global marketplaces**, while remaining reassuringly impartial.

As a for-profit organisation Limited by Guarantee, the BBA looks **to reinvest in the industry as a whole** for the benefit of all stakeholders.



# What we do



## **Product Approval Certification**



BBA Agrément Certification



Reproduction Certification



HAPAS



## **Testing**



## **Audit and Inspection**



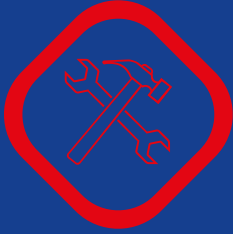
## **Management Systems**



## **UKCA Marking**

# To date

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**6,000+**  
CERTIFICATES ISSUED

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**72+**  
COUNTRIES REPRESENTED  
by CLIENT BASE

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**170+**  
BBA PEOPLE

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**50+**  
YEARS IN BUSINESS

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**400+**  
TESTING METHODOLOGIES

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**8,000+**  
ANNUAL INSPECTIONS AND ASSESSMENTS

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## What we'll cover;

- EOTA: who we are and what we do
- Brexit and what it means for the industry
- Pathways into the EU
- Pathways into the UK
- Drawing conclusions and an outlook to the future
- Q&A





# EOTA and the ETA route

Bridges and pathways between the  
EU and UK markets – a European perspective

Sebastian Wall  
EOTA President

*BBA Webinar Series ■ 22nd February 2022*

# My topics today

- EOTA – who we are and what we do
- Brexit and what it means for the industry
- Pathways into the EU
- Pathways into the UK
- Outlook



# EOTA

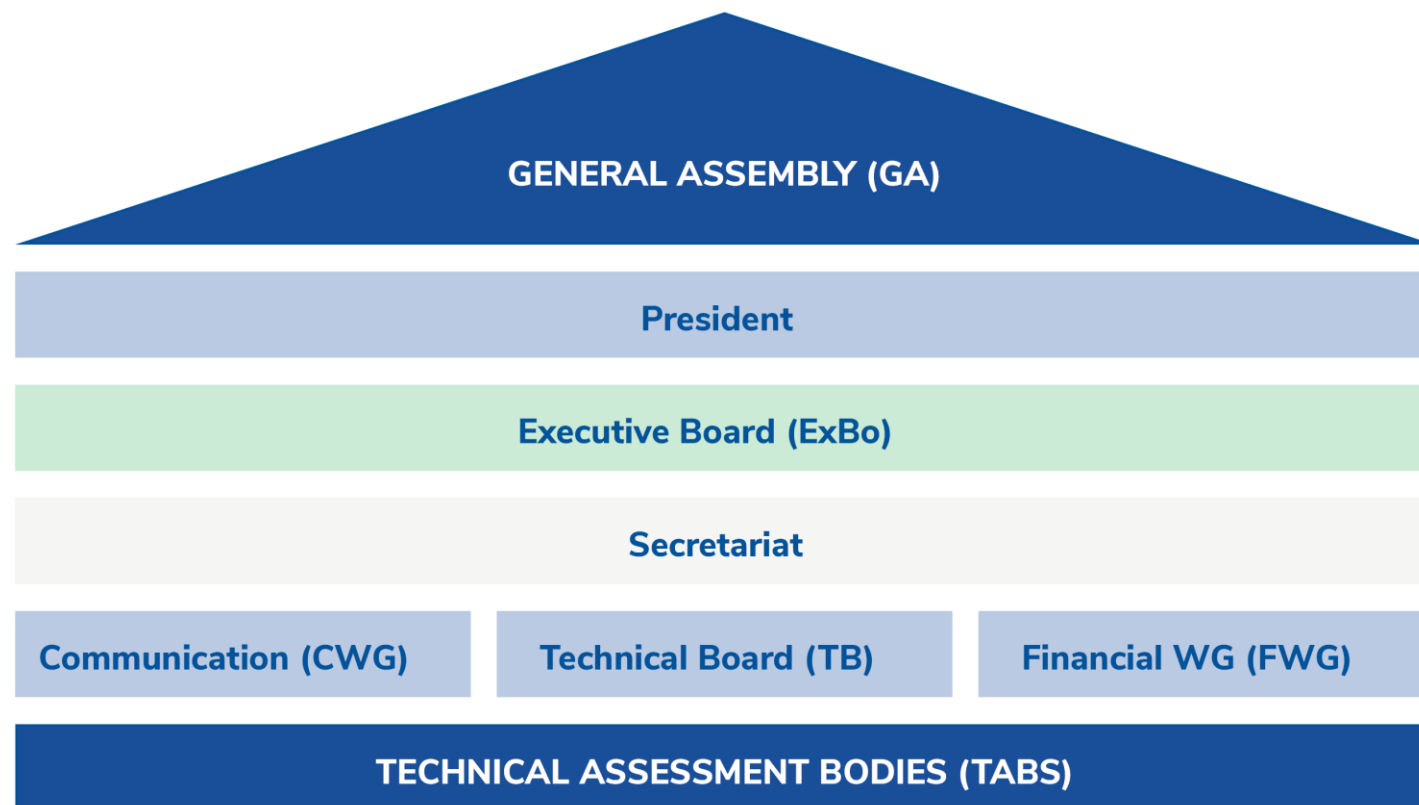
- Founded in 1990 under the **Construction Products Directive (CPD)** as the **European Organisation for Technical Approvals (EOTA)**
- Continued as of 2013 under the **Construction Products Regulation (CPR)** as the **European Organisation for Technical Assessment**
- EOTA is the organisation behind the **ETA route to CE marking**
  - **links** all EU Technical Assessment Bodies (TABs)
  - 30+ years' experience in providing technical specifications at an EU scale
  - currently represents **46 TABs** designated by Member States (EEA, Turkey and Switzerland) + Observers from **LU, NL, UK, US**
- For ETAs, manufacturers liaise directly with TABs  
[www.eota.eu/tabs](http://www.eota.eu/tabs)

# EOTA's tasks under the CPR

- **Coordinate TABs and stakeholders;**
- **Ensure sharing of best practices;**
- **Develop and adopt European Assessment Documents (EADs) as a basis for ETAs**
- **Coordinate procedures** surrounding development of EADs
- **Inform and advise the EC** about EAD matters and **improvements** based on experience
- **Ensure public availability of EADs and ETAs;**
- ...

(cf. Art. 31(4) of the CPR)

# How we are organised





## VISION

- Promote trust and transparency in the European construction product market
- 



## MISSION

- Create consistent technical specifications for the European construction industry while facilitating product innovation and improvement
- 



## VALUES

- Expertise: EOTA provides knowledge and sound technical judgement to construction industry stakeholders
- Impartiality: Objectivity is at the core of EOTA's activities
- Cooperation: EOTA enhances collaboration and sharing of best practises among technical partners
- Confidentiality: EOTA manages the information you provide with the greatest care

# Brexit – what it means to the industry

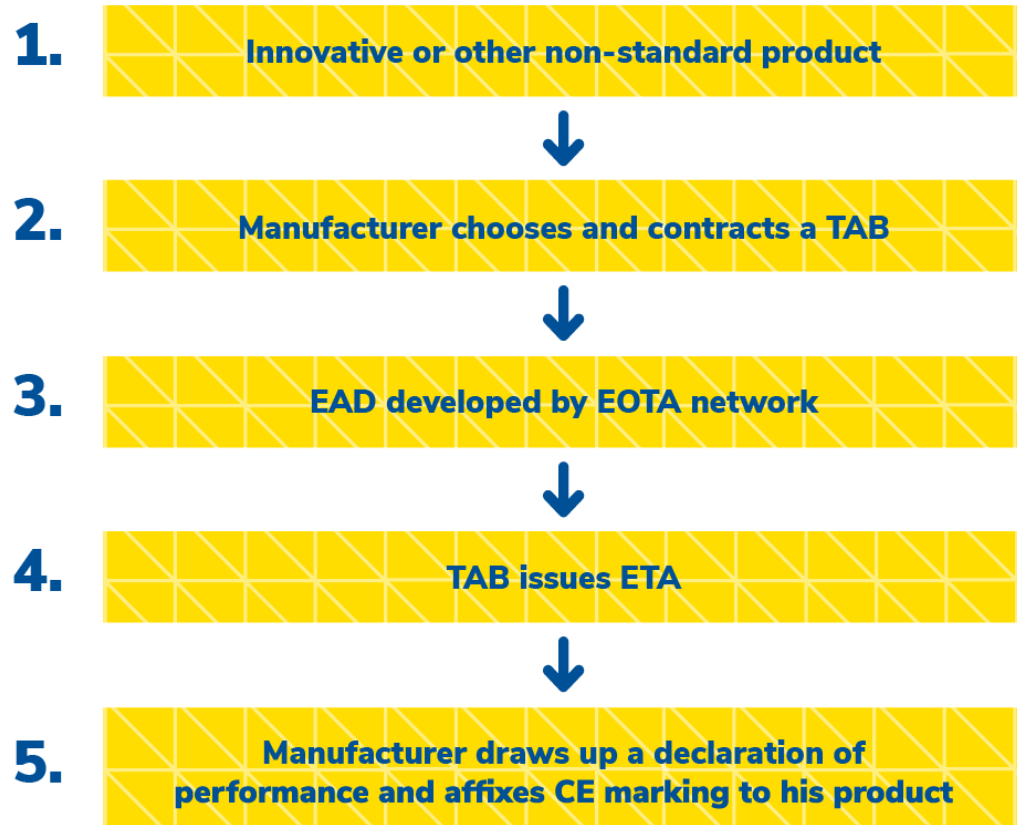
- Settles the question of free circulation of construction products across the Channel
- Huge impact on manufacturers on both sides of the Channel and the TABs/NBs catering to their needs.
- Direction UK > EU
  - No transition rules
  - ETAs and certificates from UK Notified Bodies lost their validity as a foundation for EU conformity procedures and CE marking literally ‘overnight’
  - EOTA had already created a route for transferring ETAs issued by UK TABs to EU TABs based on existing documentation. This route remains open.
  - Total of 440 ETA transfers registered so far. The process is well underway.
  - Very smooth transfer thanks to good teamwork among TABs on both sides of the Channel and EOTA

# Pathways into the EU

- The EU rules have not changed, but the definition of what the EU is has.
- **For standard products**
  - Assessment in accordance with hEN
  - Drawing up declaration of performance
  - Affixing CE marking
  - AVCP
- **For non-standard products**
  - **ETA issued by TAB**
  - Drawing up declaration of performance
  - Affixing CE marking
  - AVCP

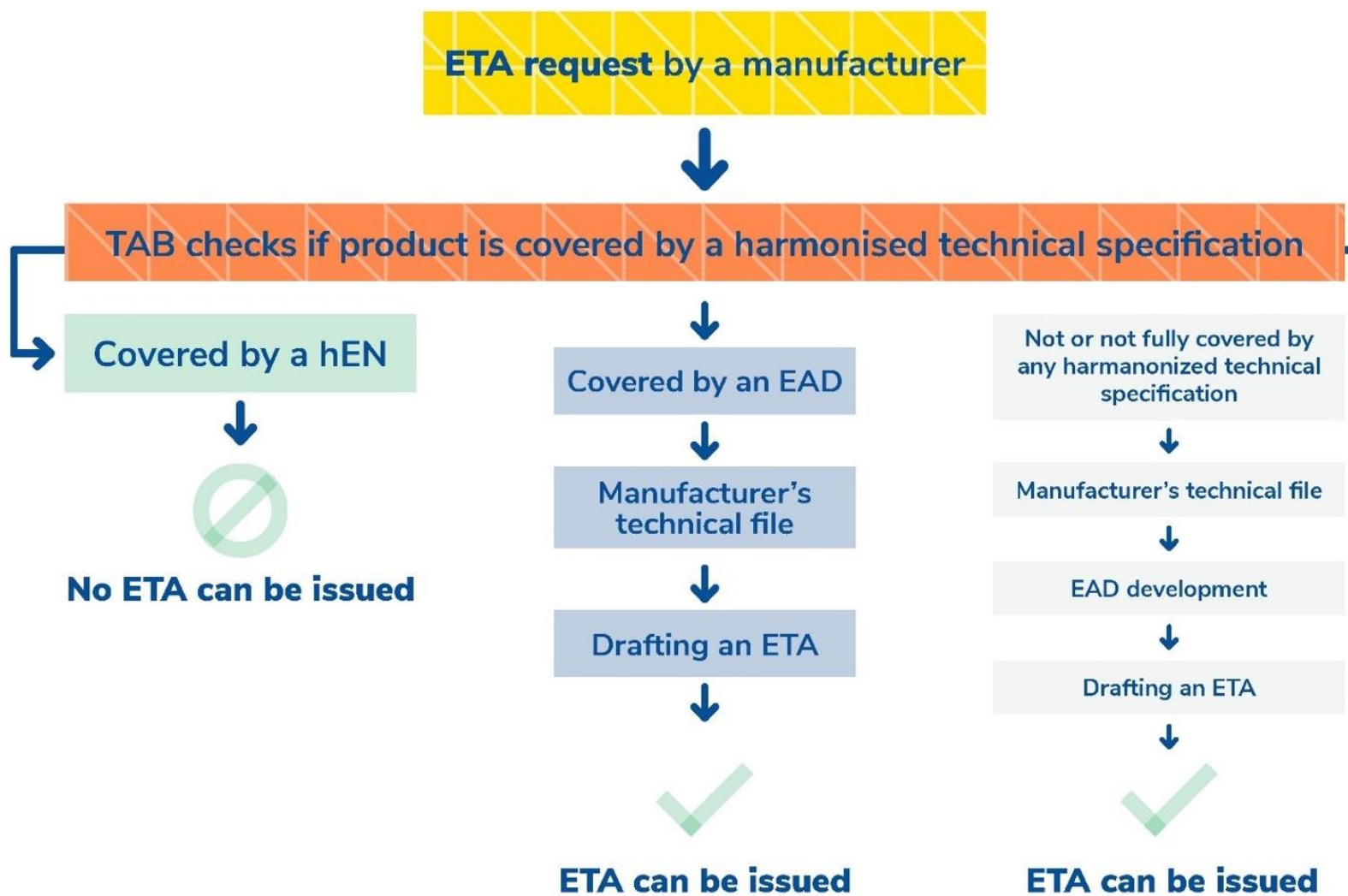


# Pathways into the EU – the ETA route



- Available for all non-hEN products
- Easy route in four to five steps, depending on whether new assessment methods are needed
- Agile and customisable
- Allows integration of
  - innovative products
  - new applications (intended uses)
  - novel assessment methodsin the European harmonisation system
- More information on how to apply: [www.eota.eu/apply-eta](http://www.eota.eu/apply-eta)
- Model for the UKTA procedure







# ETA route benefits

- The ETA is the only route to CE marking and the single European market for non-standard construction products.
- The ETA route is industry-driven. Manufacturers have a lot of influence on the content of the ETA and/or the underlying EAD.
- The ETA route offers short times-to-market as well as
- meaningful, customisable performance assessment solutions for manufacturers.
- The ETA provides value to manufacturers in terms of increased sales, market shares, visibility and recognition.

## WHAT MANUFACTURERS SAY

**69%**

ETA improves  
reputation

**79%**

ETA increases  
market share

**79%**

ETA increases  
sales levels

**87%**

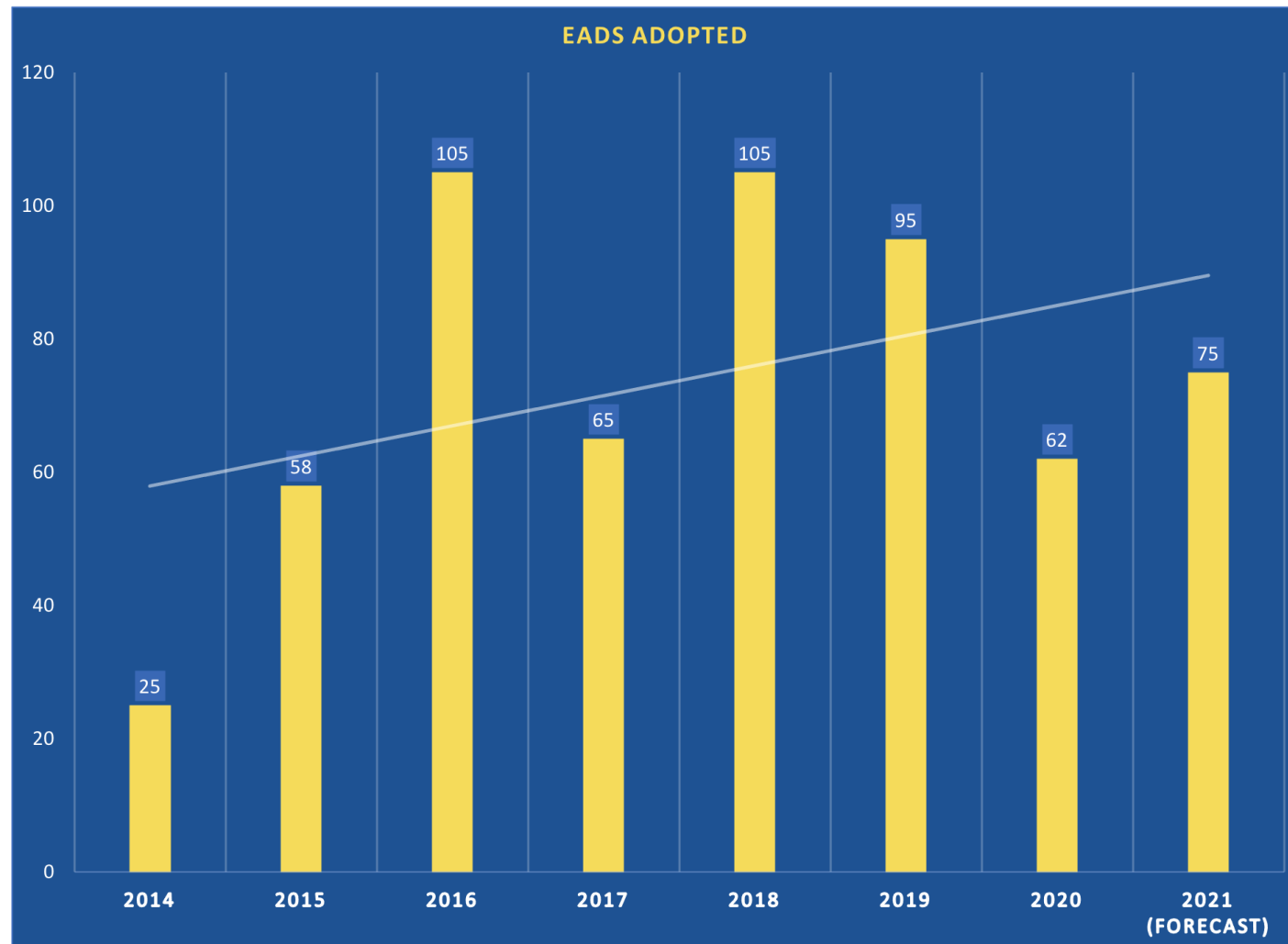
ETA is a recognised  
brand

# ETA route benefits

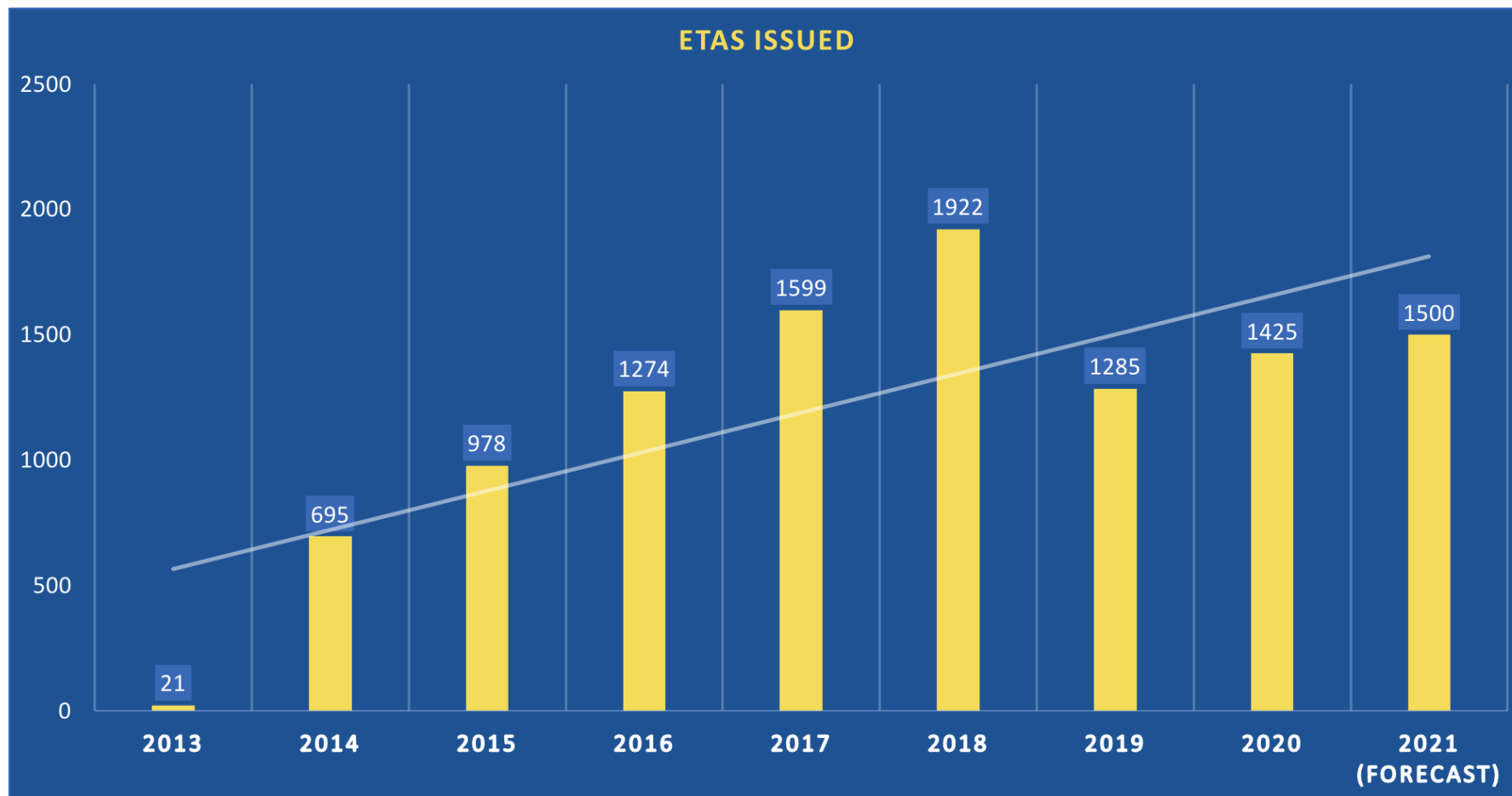
- The ETA responds to the needs of professionals and of the authorities.
- The independent assessment performed by TABs helps **build customer trust**.
- The ETA provides users with **reliable product performance information** that is comparable across Europe.
- ETAs drive **performance-based** competition and foster innovation.
- The ETA will play a key role in bringing innovative **sustainable and smart products** to the internal market quickly.
- With its **high international standing**, the ETA opens doors worldwide and ensures **a** recognition that goes beyond Europe.



# Statistics of EADs in EOTA

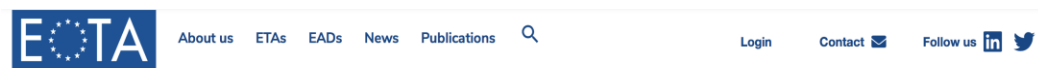


# Statistics of ETAs in EOTA



# EAD and ETA research tools

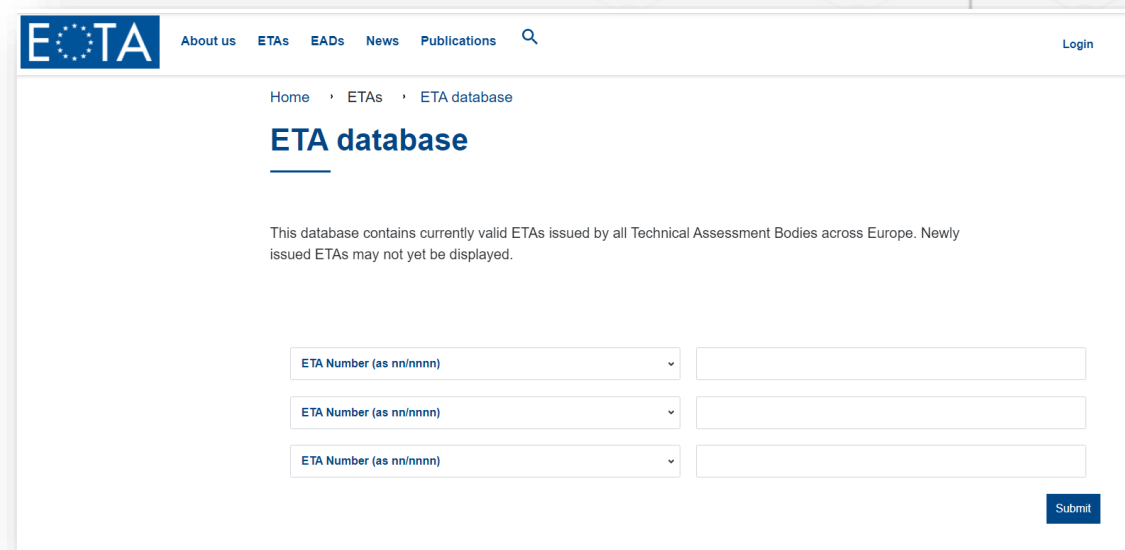
- Full access to cited EADs:  
[www.eota.eu/eads](http://www.eota.eu/eads)



EAD Number	EAD Title	OJEU	Status	Comment
010001-00-0301	Precast concrete composite wall with point connectors <a href="#">Download</a>	2016/C 248/06	Cited	
010003-00-0301	Precast balcony elements made of Ultra High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete (UHPFRC) <a href="#">Download</a>	2018/C 019/04	Cited	
010013-00-0301	Lightweight panel made of mortar of cement and granulated EPS reinforced by a glass fibre mesh and an internal steel railing <a href="#">Download</a>	2018/C 019/04	Cited	
010028-00-0103	Shallow and reusable foundation kit for lightweight structures <a href="#">Download</a>	2018/C 228/03	Cited	
020001-00-0405	Multi-axis concealed hinge assemblies <a href="#">Download</a>	2016/C 054/14	Superseded by 020001- 01-0405	

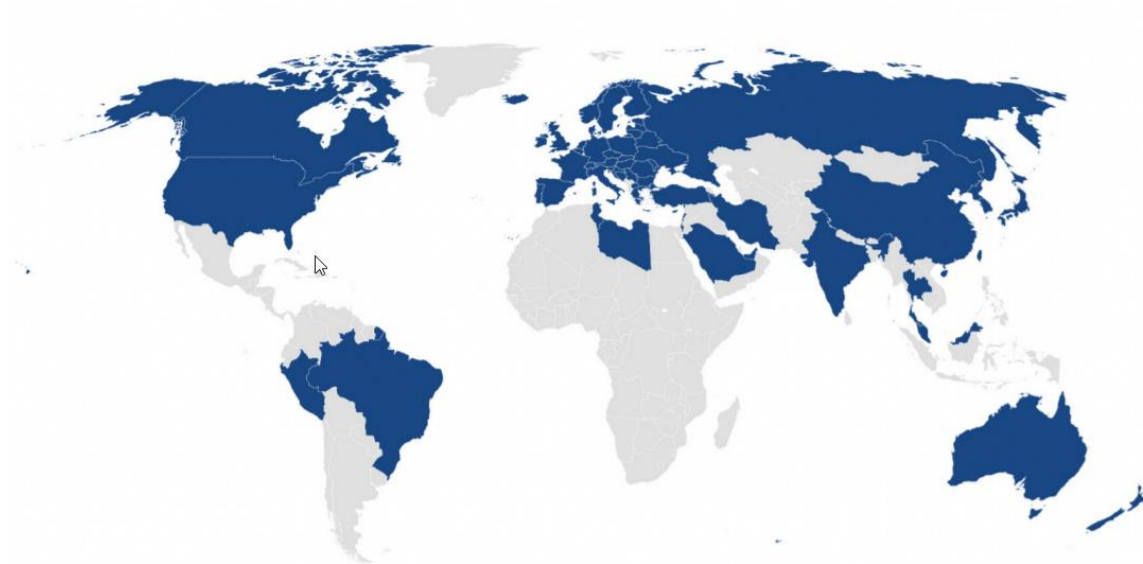


- Database featuring all valid ETAs  
[www.eota.eu/etassessments](http://www.eota.eu/etassessments)



# ETA route overview

- 307 EADs published in the OJEU
- 551 EADs adopted and valid for issuing ETAs
- 305 EADs in development
- More than 60 EOTA TRs (Technical Reports) published
- 10.050 ETAs issued by Technical Assessment Bodies (TABs)



# Pathways into the UK

- ETAs will become **UKTAs** and the CE marking will be replaced by **UKCA** and **UKNI** marking as of January 2023.
- UKTAs can be based on **EADs** cited **before Brexit ... and also afterward.**
- Request from the British government to be able to **continue referencing EADs** cited after Brexit granted by EOTA with the consent of the European Commission
- Prerequisites:
  - EADs need to be cited in the OJEU first (at the request of the EC).
  - UK TABs become EOTA observers and sign Cross Licensing Agreement with EOTA
- The BBA joined EOTA as an observer right after Brexit

# EU/UK pathways – practical aspects

- Close cooperation between TABs on both sides of the Channel, both at EOTA level and bilaterally
- Content of ETAs and related technical documentation can be used as a basis for UKTA. Documentation is often shared between EU and UK TABs.
- If you envisage CE and UKCA/UCNI marking, let your TABs know as early as possible so they can plan ahead.
- AVCP: the BBA is willing to accept existing reports (e.g. data from EU NB) regarding AVCP systems 1+, 1 and 2+ (as far as this practice is accepted by the UK government).
- For CE marking, use of EU27 TABs and NBs is mandatory.
- New assessment methods: the UK currently has no counterpart to EOTA.

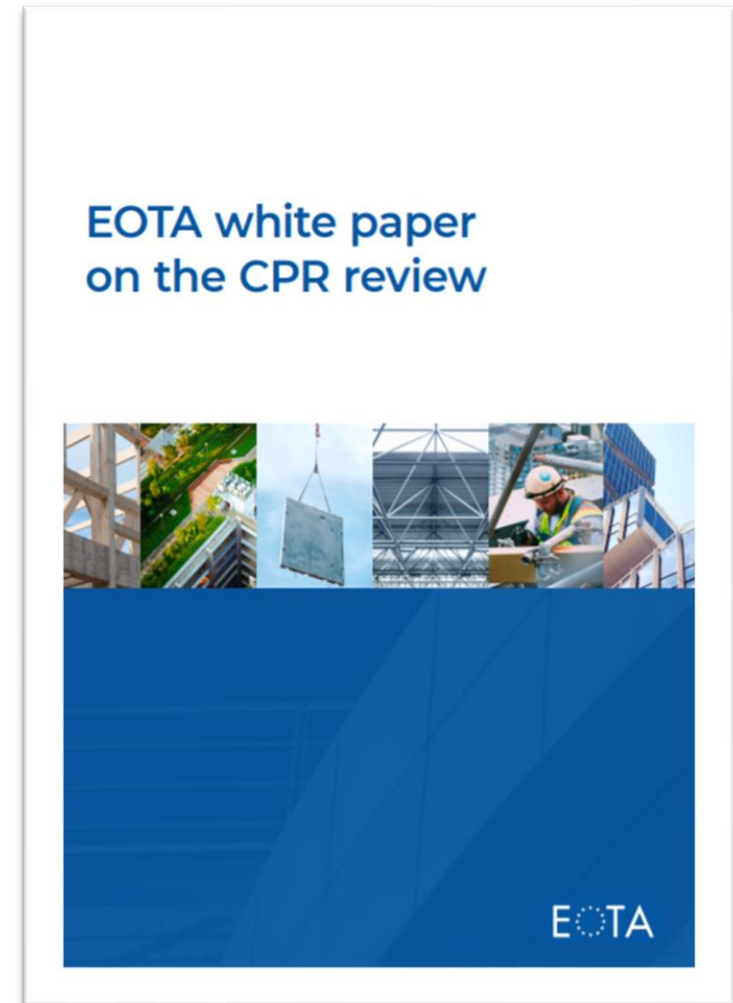


# Outlook

- ETA to UKTA conversion is gaining speed. TABs from both sides of the Channel cooperate closely. Once UKTA is fully operational (2023), we may establish a procedure to convert them into ETAs.
- EOTA is happy to serve as a platform for technical dialogue and exchange between TABs across (the new) EU external borders
- We look forward to strengthening this collaboration and continuing business as before.

# Outlook – beyond Brexit: the CPR review

- **Speed and reliability of EAD delivery**
  - Clear timelines and responsibilities
  - More resources at the EC level
  - Fast availability of NB for new ETAs
  - Legal demands placed on harmonised technical specifications pending citation
- **Consistency of the common technical language**
  - Possibility of horizontal EOTA documents
  - Make confidentiality an optional feature
  - Avoid duplication of information and declaration duties
- **Construction works' safety**
  - Make it easier to include technical minima and recommendations on correct use in EADs and ETAs
  - Start with a technically reasonable set of assessment criteria





# Time for questions ...

[www.eota.eu](http://www.eota.eu)  
[info@eota.eu](mailto:info@eota.eu)

Q&A