How to Protect Your PI: Conforming to CE Marking Legislation

1. **What is CE Marking?**
   A CE mark shows that a product has conformed to a harmonised European Standard (hEN's). This removes any trade barriers and allows the product to be placed on the market in the European Union.

2. **Does CE Marking apply to the stone industry?**
   Yes. On the 1st July 2013, under the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) EU 305/2011, CE Marking became a mandated obligation in the UK and throughout all EU and EEA member states. All stone, irrespective of its country of origin, must be CE Marked when placed on the market in Europe. Many different stone products are required to comply with the requirements of the relevant harmonised Standards: masonry, cladding and lining, slabs for flooring and stairs, wall and floor tiles, external paving, and setts, kerbs and roofing.

3. **Who is responsible for CE marking?**
   CE Marking is the responsibility of the person or company placing the finished product within the European market. The CE Mark shows that the manufacturer takes the responsibility for conformity of the product within its declared performance. The CE Mark shows that the product is fit for its intended purpose.

4. **Who will it impact?**
   CE Marking will impact on the client, architects, designers and specifiers. The Declaration of Performance and the CE Certificates gives the technical performance of the stone measured to European Standards, and is critical to the design and selection of the correct stone on a project. The CE Marking documentation allows for an easy comparison between differing stones because the technical data is presented in a format, common throughout Europe.

5. **What should you ask for?**
   You should ask to see the documents: the CE Certificates and the Declaration of Performance. The Declaration of Performance and the CE Certificates declare the essential characteristics of the product as set out in the harmonised European Standard. The Declaration of Performance confirms that the stone product complies with the harmonised Product Standard, and will have the name and function of the person responsible - this is a legal declaration.