

The Federation of European Tile Fixers' Association (EUF) has been rarely noticed by the established associations and institutions of this industry.

But actually it is the EUF which constantly with media coverage on an European level brings up topics that are of urgent importance to the entire industry. For instance there is an EUF-project working on the packaging and item master data. So far there is no standardization existing in Europe concerning these data. That means a huge amount of differing information randomly arranged during the daily work routines for the tilers and specialist companies. The manufacturers pack the tiles in different packs with differing weights and contents of the palettes. The price lists are similarly individual and manifold. That is the reason why the EUF together with the association of the German tiler specialists (VDF) organized an initiative to set up an European standardization. A joint project study wrote down the different standards and presented a concept for a solution. This contains for instance the proposal to limit the weight of tile packs to 25 kg. An exception would be the XXL-tiles which need to be carried by two people. The EUF also plans to standardize the item master data concerning text- and picture data in consultations with the associations of manufacturers and sustaining members.

It will remain a secret why none of the national associations of manufacturers, craftsmen or trade has not tried up to now to deal with this topic and to re-structure it. The EUF on the other hand is creating a platform for itself to become publicly noticed. Anyway, the more and more well known names of the participants of EUF events confirm this trend.

(Ralf Schanze)