



Standardisation and Certification

The relevance of Standardisation and 3rd party Certification in Europe

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ref: 05/8025

* Dull

* Many meetings in exotic places



* Complex



* Compromise on compromise

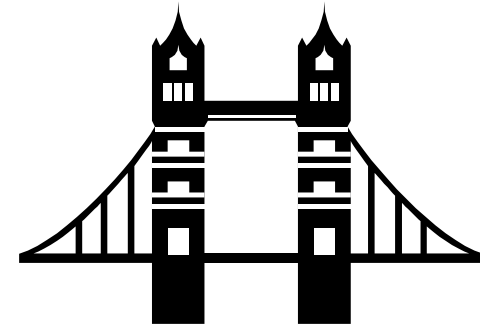
* Only for technicians

* Long, very long process

- Key for the image of our products
- Ensures customers that they get what is promised
- Creates a level playing field amongst competitors
- Will make and keep the plastic pipe system industry creditable



- West European countries have developed local standards
- The EU is developing EN standards
- The Central and Eastern European countries are at the bridge to introduce those EN standards because of the absence of local standards
- We run the risk that customers might see the CE mark as a quality mark, which we all know is nonsense





Third party Certification in Western Europe

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- Through local or European Institutes with a good reputation:

KIWA



CSTB



DVGW



BSI



- Independent with impact.



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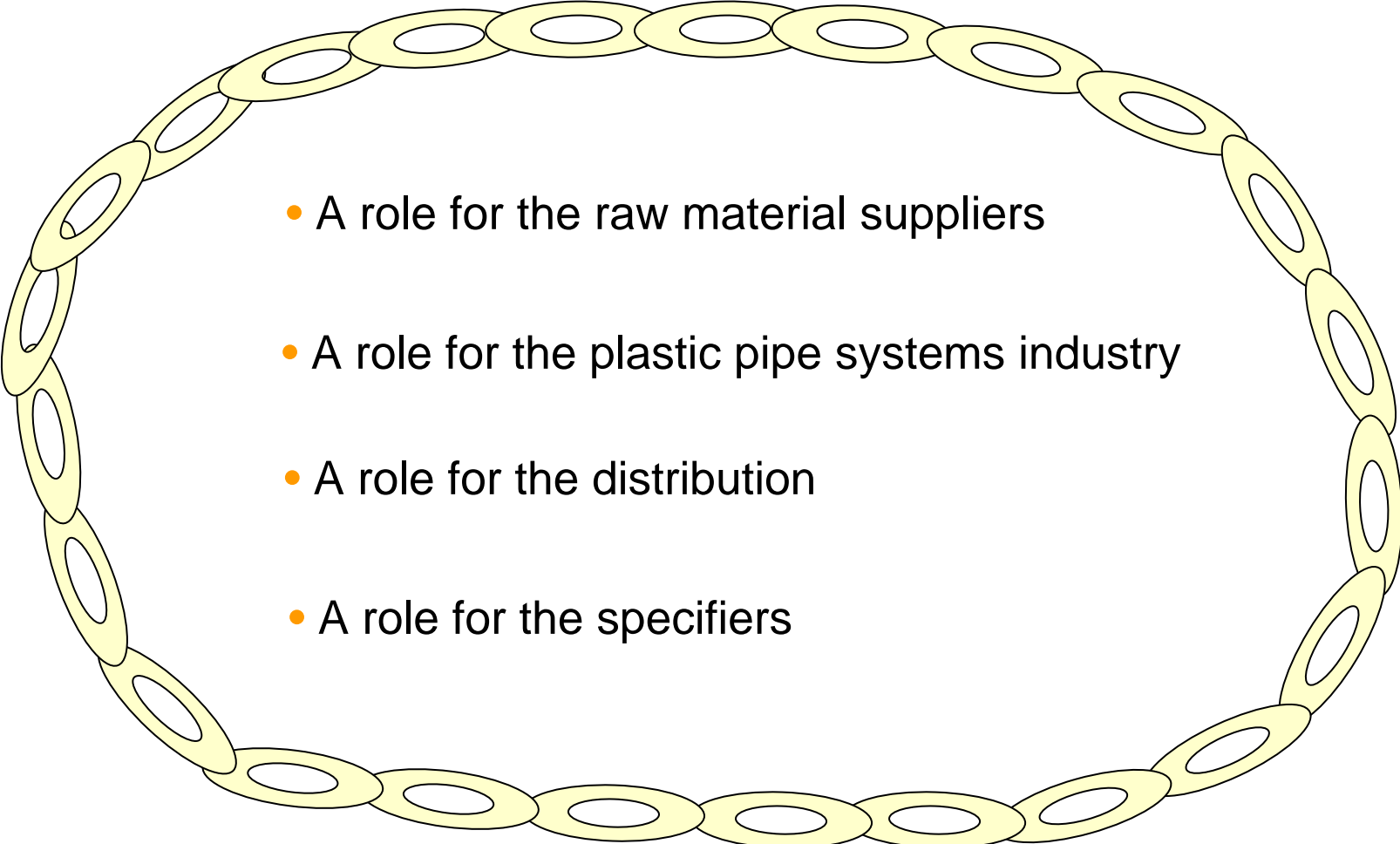
Central and Eastern Europe

- Growing markets
- Local and international players
- Tough competition on commodities at the expense of quality
- Low quality inroads from outside Europe



Quality is the responsibility of the whole chain

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- A large, circular chain of yellow links, resembling a chain of pipe fittings, surrounds the central text. The links are arranged in a circle, with each link overlapping the one next to it.
- A role for the raw material suppliers
 - A role for the plastic pipe systems industry
 - A role for the distribution
 - A role for the specifiers



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The raw material suppliers

- Take an interest in what happens with the materials further in the chain
- Promote and stimulate industry control mechanisms to ensure quality
- Stop supplying customers who dis-credit reliability of plastics



The plastic pipe systems industry

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- Establish national associations
- Support them in introducing local or EN standards
- Assist them to build strong liaisons to 3rd party certification bodies
- Approach national and local authorities to support certification through directives, resp. legislation
- Stop the price quality downgrading process

- Be aware of the quality of the products supplied
- Stop taking products from suppliers with inferior products
- Make quality issues transparent within the industry



Specify standardised and certified products



Do not allow contractors to deviate from the spec's at the expense of quality